

# Abraham Alpuerto

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Computer and Systems Engineering undergraduate student continuing into the masters program spring 2025 with hand-on research in deep learning, large language models (LLMs), and agent-based systems. Experience in developing and fine-tuning models using PyTorch and TensorFlow. Seeking to apply a strong foundation in ML, data engineering, and hardware-software integration to solve complex problems.

## Education

**Masters in Science in Computer and Systems Engineering | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

2026

**Planned Relevant Coursework:** Algorithm Design & Modern ML, Detection & Estimation Theory, Computer Vision, Stochastic Processes & Modeling

**Bachelors in Computer and Systems Engineering | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

GPA: 3.4/4

**Relevant Coursework:** Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning Data Structures & Algorithms, Computer Architecture, Database Systems, Probability & Statistics, Linear Algebra.

## Experience

**Research Assistant | Columbia Secure FinAI Lab**

January 2025 - Present

- **Authored paper** ("Orchestration Framework for Financial Agents...") **accepted** for poster presentation at a **NeurIPS 2025** (Top AI/ML Conference) Workshop.
- **Engineered** a novel **Retrieval-Augmented Generation** (RAG) agent to autonomously reason over a dynamic **Neo4j knowledge graph**, enabling complex data retrieval and relationship mapping.
- **Architected** and fine-tuned a specialized LLM agent using **LoRA** (PEFT), training on a custom-built dataset of over 25,000 Q&A pairs I generated and curated.
- **Connected** AI Agents within orchestration using **MCP and A2A** protocols to streamline communications between them.

**ML Researcher | Time-Series Forecasting Model**

September 2024 - Present

- **Architected** and backtested a novel time-series forecasting model using **LSTM and Attention** mechanisms to identify and predict price changes.
- **Engineered** a data pipeline to aggregate, clean, and preprocess over a decade of daily time-series data for 50+ equities, performing feature engineering to create 18 distinct predictive indicators..

## Projects

**Comparative Image Classification for Canines**

- **Developed** and benchmarked multiple machine learning models (KNN, GMM, FCNN, and CNN) to perform 3-class image classification on a custom-built dataset of over 2,000 images of my own dogs.
- **Implemented** Principal Component Analysis (PCA) for dimensionality reduction and feature extraction, which enabled a  $k=1$  KNN model to achieve **93.03% test accuracy**. Also trained a custom 5-layer CNN in PyTorch, achieving a **97.02% test accuracy**.
- **Analyzed** model performance, comparing the CNN's high accuracy against the KNN's high efficiency and ease of implementation.

**Image Captioning Transformer**

- **Developed** an end-to-end image-to-text pipeline using Vision Transformer (ViT) encoder and a Transformer decoder, achieving a strong BLEU-4 score on the Flickr8K dataset.
- **Implemented** mixed-precision training to accelerate convergence and reduce GPU memory consumption, developing skills in model optimization for resource-constrained (edge) platforms.

**Smart Wheelchair Fitness Platform - Backend Developer**

- **Developed** a scalable Flask backend to ingest and analyze real-time sensor data from IoT devices, demonstrating software-hardware integration.
- **Designed** a relational MySQL database schema to efficiently manage user profiles, workout sessions, and large-scale time-series sensor readings.
- **Built** secure RESTful API endpoints with JWT-based authentication for user management, bulk data ingestion, and retrieval of analytics, enabling a gamified mobile app experience with leaderboards and progress tracking.
- **Managed** all backend development for a client-facing project, utilizing an Agile framework to present and deploy new features in weekly sprints.

## Skills

**Languages:** Python, MATLAB, C/C++, SQL, JavaScript, Bash, Cypher, VHDL

**Frameworks:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, Transformers, Scikit-learn, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, LLMs (RAG, MCP, A2A)

**Backend & Tools:** Linux, Git, REST APIs, AWS, Flask, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Neo4j, JWT, VirtualBox