Zakariyya Scavotto

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Education

Stevens Institute of Technology, Master of Science in Machine Learning Expected May 2026

Stevens Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (CS) Expected Dec. 2025

GPA: 4.0 | Honors: Pinnacle Scholar, Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society

Graduate Level Courses: Concurrent Programming, Database Management Systems (DBMS) 2, Deep Learning, Machine Learning Fundamentals, Web Programming

CS: Algorithms, Computer Architecture and Organization, DBMS 1, Data Structures, Operating Systems, Principles of Programming Languages, Security Privacy and Society, Systems Programming, Theory of Computation

Other: Intermediate Statistics, Probability, Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, Nonlinear Optimization, Intro. Financial Engineering, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Principles of Accounting, Computers and Society

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, GPA: 4.0 June 2022

Work and Research Experience

Stevens Institute of Technology

Student Researcher (May 2023 - Present)

- Working under Professor Yue Ning on utilizing large language models (LLMs) to help predict stock prices using Meta's LlaMA LLM to process news data about stocks. Using an LSTM/GRU blended ensemble model coded with PyTorch for predictions, achieving an RMSE of 0.00724. Ran LlaMA models on AWS EC2.
- Forecasted changes in U.S. inflation rates (CPI) using random forests, LSTM, GRU, and reversible instance normalization under Professor Yue Ning, achieving an RMSE of 0.34. Writing a paper for conference submission.

Data Structures Course Assistant (Jan. 2025 - Present, Spring 2024)

- Conducting 30 student lab sessions, graded student assignments, and held office hours.

Algorithms Course Assistant (Sept. 2024 - Dec. 2024)

- Conducted 35 student lab sessions, graded student assignments, and held office hours.

Intermediate Stats Class Assistant (Sept. 2023 - Dec. 2023)

- Aided students with questions about stats or their R programs during lectures.

Stevens Student Managed Investment Fund

Factor Model Analyst (Sept. 2023 - May 2024)

- Implemented and backtested a trading strategy based on the accruals anomaly; achieved 18% annualized return.
- Created a model to predict stock EPS from balance and income sheet metrics, achieving 0.4-0.8 R^2.

Factor Model Intern (Jan. 2023 - May 2023)

- Wrote an 8-page step-by-step guide to set up Ubuntu Virtual Machines with VirtualBox on Windows.
- Increased reporting efficiency by creating a Python script to generate a weekly factor model report.

George Mason University

Student Researcher (Jun. 2020 - Nov. 2022)

- Studied EEG-based emotion recognition in music under Dr. Nathalia Peixoto, where we used SVMs to classify emotional responses with 64.6% accuracy. Working paper: mars.gmu.edu/handle/1920/12993.

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, Java, Javascript, HTML, CSS, C++, C, SQL, R, OCaml

Software: GitHub, VS Code, Linux, VirtualBox, WSL Google Drive Suite, Microsoft Office Suite

Certificates: Bloomberg Market Concepts (Dec. 2023), J.P. Morgan Software Engineering Job Simulation (Sep. 2023)

Extracurriculars

Music: Zakariyya Scavotto Music Resume, ZS Scriabin Prelude Op 11 No 22 in G Minor

Stevens: Computer Science Club (VP, 2024-Present), Association of Computing Machinery (President, 2024-2025)