

# ALEX ZHAO

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## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Berkeley

*Expected May 2021*

B.S. Electrical Engineering & Computer Science/B.S. Business Administration || GPA: 3.77/4.00

Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology Program

Honors: Regent's & Chancellors' Scholar, Dean's List from 2018-19

## EXPERIENCE

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### RISELab

August 2019 - present

#### *Research Intern*

*Berkeley, CA*

- Perform research on robust adversarial learning to identify fault-tolerant features resistant to malicious attackers.
- Develop online evaluation metrics for recommendation engines as part of Professor Michael Jordan's lab.

### Zalando

June 2019 - August 2019

#### *Research Engineering Intern*

*Berlin, Germany*

- Applied sequence transduction models to customize size and fit recommendations for customers.
- Wrote transformer model in PyTorch based on recent deep learning publications on encoder-decoder architectures and attention-based natural language processing (Vasiwani et al, 2017).
- Finetuned hyperparameters and parallelize algorithm to run across multiple GPUs.
- Conducted research on word embeddings and neural network architectures for weekly presentations to team leads.

### National Geographic

September 2018 - December 2018

#### *Data Science Intern*

*Washington, D.C.*

- Analyzed 14 terabytes of session data on over a million National Geographic customers using Google BigQuery, Apache Spark, and Python libraries such as pandas and scikit-learn.
- Constructed and cross-validated random forests, feed-forward networks, and logistic regression to develop customer segmentation and increase customer retention rates.
- Built collaborative filtering model to recommend articles, outperforming the current baseline in production.

### Pivotal Software

May 2018 - August 2018

#### *Software Engineering Intern*

*San Francisco, CA*

- Pair-programmed daily with small team for 12 weeks on Cloud Foundry, an open source multi-cloud platform.
- Updated & integrated command line interface written in Golang to support new Cloud Controller API.
- Released 3 new command line interface versions (v6.37.0-6.39.0) for general deployment with over a million downloads.
- Gained experience in distributed architecture, test-driven development, and continuous deployment to AWS and GCP.
- Developed continuous integration pipelines to enable agile rapid deployment at scale for component teams.

## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

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### Berkeley Consulting

September 2017 - present

#### *Internal Vice President*

*Berkeley, CA*

*Student-run consulting firm working with Fortune 500 companies, startups, and non-profits*

- Designed and built public-facing website for national non-profit lobbying for CO2 removal.
- Created data visualizations for client's presentation to Senate Environment & Public Works Committee in April 2018.
- Provided recommendations to HSBC's Head of International Banking on customer acquisition and market entry.

## SKILLS

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### Computer Languages

Python, Golang, Java, C/C++, SQL, Lisp

### Interests

philosophy (ethics & language), hiking, Roman history, paddle-boarding, and teaching debate

### Tools

git, PyTorch, test-driven development, tensorflow, Linux, AWS/GCP, Apache Spark, test-driven development, continuous integration & development