

Benjamin Rucker

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ERIE INSURANCE *Erie, PA (Remote)*

Software Engineer Intern May 2021 – August 2021

Worked on the Software Change Management team to assist and administer Erie's software development resources. Team tasks included editing CI/CD pipelines and managing platforms access.

- Rolled out new GitLab features to the company by communicating with other teams about what they need, then engineered showcases to onboard them to the new features. Maintained feature usability in GitLab's backend. Examples of features include Merge Request Approvals and Pipeline Artifact Downloading.
- Developed a full-stack license management tool to lower the burden of paperwork for accessing GitLab. It also prevents users from sitting on GitLab licenses without using them. Leveraged internal connections to find the right platform to build upon. The tool is currently in use and saves the company \$42,000 a year, with expected savings of >\$100,000 in the near future. Written in Python, PHP, and JS using the CodeIgniter framework.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH *Pittsburgh, PA*

Undergraduate T.A. Aug 2019 - Present

Undergraduate teaching assistant for the intro course to the Pitt School of Computing and Information for five semesters. Teach students Python, Jupyter, git, the command line, and software ethics—all from zero. Hold office hours to help students one-on-one. Wrote a lecture on how to turn data into beautiful maps using geopandas.

BOSSA NOVA ROBOTICS *Leetsdale, PA*

Remote Robot Technician L2 Jul 2019 - Aug 2020

Monitored autonomous robot performance remotely and guaranteed punctual data delivery for the clients. Performed diagnostic and forensic tasks on robots through secure shell. Was a co-leader of the KB Article task force, responsible for writing or vetting all knowledge base articles. Managed cases through Salesforce.



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

GPA: 3.717 Overall • 3.795 Comp Sci.

(Anticipated April 2022)

University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information

Notable coursework: Algorithm Design • Operating Systems • Deep Learning • Software Engineering

Coursework in progress: Web Programming • Cloud Computing

On the Dean's List each semester.



ONGOING PROJECTS

• Discord Bots

- Written in Python using the `d.py` framework.
- Offers music streaming, community polls, Markov chain text generation, and more.
- Provides text-to-speech accessibility features to users who cannot chat through voice.
- Wrote comprehensive admin tools.
- 3 bots deployed to over 400 daily users.
- Committed over 1,000 changes to the bots.

• Websites

- Developed 3 production websites from scratch.
- Stream video content to 50+ users.
- Designed, wrote, and programmed a "Spotify Wrapped"-like experience for the users.
- Uses modern web paradigms and frameworks.

• Self-Hosted Server Architecture

- Host 2 websites, 3 Discord bots, plex servers, and game servers at home, with plans to expand.
- 3 machines running Ubuntu Server.
- Uses `screen` to manage program instances.
- Wrote bash scripts to ensure 100% uptime.
- Currently migrating to a self-hosted, highly available Kubernetes cluster.



CONCLUDED PROJECTS

• GhostWriter

- Written in Java using the Processing framework.
- Generates new song lyrics based on artists' previous works using statistics.
- Displayed in Frick Fine Arts, Oakland, PA.

• LearningToDraw

- An art project exploring what it means for us to learn and for machines to learn.
- Evolved a neural network to draw circles.
- Wrote an interpreter to convert results to G-code.
- Used a CNC machine to draw results on paper.

• Mindful

- Made a browser extension at Pitt Challenge
- Ranks Google search results based on truthfulness and toxicity



TECH

- Bash, CMD, Powershell, git
- Python, Java, C, x86
- html, CSS, PHP, JS
- SCSS, Vue.js, Bootstrap, Node, Apache
- SQL, pandas, matplotlib, REST
- Clean Code, Agile, Scrum