Barak Gila

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Education

University of California, Berkeley *Berkeley, California*

B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science *Aug 2013 - Dec 2016*

- **Coursework:** Data Structures; Algorithms (undergrad and grad); Artificial Intelligence; Machine Learning
- **Scholarships:** Regents' Scholarship, Cal Alumni Organization's Leadership Award
- **GPA:** 3.9

Work Experience

Affirm, Inc *San Francisco, California*

Senior Software Engineer *January 2017 - present*

Full-stack engineer working on Affirm's consumer-facing loan product, which lets users generate a virtual card in the app to use their loan anywhere. The team also builds the underlying virtual card platform which powers more than 20% of Affirm loans.

Languages: Primarily worked on the Python backend (frameworks including luigi, celery, flask) with some javascript, react, redux.

- Designed and implemented, with a teammate, a new backend service to allow Affirm to approve or deny credit network transactions in real time (99.99% within 3s).
  To configure this service, created a webapp used by dozens of colleagues, for example to restrict certain cards to a specific merchant.
  The greater control over transactions was critical for Affirm to expand to enterprise merchants and from ecommerce to physical stores.
- Scaled transaction processing logic as loan volume grew by more than 10x by increasing reliability and robustness.
- Conceived and led an initiative (product, design, engineering) to give customers control over their card processing, such as requesting a refund when done with the card.
  This increased loan volume substantially and reduced customer service contacts by as much as 50% for impacted users.
- Developed a take-home interview programming project that was completed by 1000+ candidates.
  It is more predictive of candidate performance than the previous version, and saves several engineer hours per hire.

EECS Department, UC Berkeley *Berkeley, California*

Undergraduate Student Instructor *Aug 2015 - Dec 2016*

- Served as three-time teaching assistant (TA) for CS 170, the upper-division algorithms course of 500 students.
- In fall 2016, served as head TA: I managed course logistics and helped hire TAs and readers.
- Led discussion sections, designed course materials, and tutored students.

Airbnb, Inc *San Francisco, California*

Software Engineering Intern *May 2016 - Aug 2016*

- Built support for European bank transactions (SEPA) into the company's new payments service.
- The system I built and tested handled a fifth of payouts to hosts, over $1 billion per year.
- Worked with product and accounting teams to smoothly roll out the new system.

Leadership

Diversity & Inclusion at Affirm *San Francisco, California*

Lead, Inclusion & Retention *Feb 2018 - Dec 2018*

- Led the ten-member Inclusion & Retention group at Affirm within the Diversity & Inclusion program.
- Helped grow our Employee Resource Groups from 5 to 13 groups, and oversaw the budget.

HKN (UC Berkeley EECS Honor Society) *Berkeley, California*

Officer *Aug 2014 - Dec 2016*

- In fall 2016, served as recording secretary on the executive team. I planned member events and helped lead the officer team.
- Previously, served as a tutoring officer for two semesters: I organized 20 hours per week of tutoring services, planned and ran review sessions, and developed an EECS course guide.