Christian Sparks

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Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, B.S. Computer Science
Class of 2023

- GPA: N/A

Northside College Preparatory High School
Class of 2019

- A Chicago Public Schools selective enrollment high-school
- Weighted GPA: 4.8, Unweighted GPA: 3.8

Extracurriculars: Policy Debate, Coding Club, First Robotics, Investment Club (won $5,000 grant for school), Poll judging

Experience

Intern, Data Analytics & Engineering at Dunn Solutions
June 2019 - August 2019

- Gained experience working with databases, analytics, and enterprise data software in e-commerce
- Prototyped an internal chatbot leveraging the Azure Language Understanding platform and wrote dialog datasets for training intent recognition models
- Designed ETL and database replication jobs with SAP Data Services to move internal time & billing databases away from MSSQL Server 2000
- Analyzed on SAP BusinessObjects training for clients

Co-founder, Executive Officer, Developer at Chicode
December 2017 – June 2019

- Organized events, curriculum, and clubs at Chicode (www.chicode.org, non-profit) to create an inclusive computer science community in Chicago
- Developed websites using static HTML and Elm web applications
- Managed an Elixir backend to help operate events serving hundreds of students

Intern, QA & Software Development at Spokin Inc.
June 2018 – August 2018

- Gained experience working in a fast-paced startup environment as an intern finding bugs in a crowdsourced food review application with over 10,000 users
- Performed backend work using Node.js and Elasticsearch

Project Highlights

Political Polling Analysis and Models
August 2019 – Present

- Creating tools in Python & Pandas to evaluate the accuracy and relevance of polls. Polls are then used to model elections
- Scraping websites and PDFs to get in-depth polling data and crosstabs

Star Explorer Hack Chicago Project
August 2018

- Developed a 3D Three.js web-based visualization of over 120,000 stars in 24 hours
- Utilized k-means clustering to categorize stars into their stellar classification
- Won Nvidia 3D graphics hackathon prize

Skills

Strengths
Web Development/Design, Data Visualization, Startup Experience, Fast Paced Work Experience, Self Guided, Computer Science Education

Technologies
Javascript & Node.js, Java, Python, C#, Elm, SQL, SAP BusinessObjects, Three.js, D3.js