

David Zhan

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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania

May 2026

Masters of Science in Computer Science, Bachelors of Science in Computer Science

GPA: 4.0/4.0

- **Minors:** Mathematics, Data Science
- **Coursework:** Data Structures and Algorithms, Data Systems, Operating Systems, Machine Learning/AI, Natural Language Processing, Computer Vision
- **Involvements** Penn Aerial Robotics (Software Lead), Machine Learning Research @ Penn, Penn Club Soccer (Captain), Penn Club Badminton (Captain), Penn Flux (VP of Finance)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Software Team Lead

August 2024 – present

Penn Aerial Robotics — Python, ROS2, PX4, OpenCV, C++

Philadelphia, PA

- Spearheaded the development of a computer vision payload detection algorithm for UAVs utilizing OpenCV
- Enhanced system robustness with Kalman filters for motion prediction.
- This high-accuracy system will compete in SAE Aero Design 2025.

Software Engineering Intern

June – August 2024

Ventoscipy — Flutter, node.js, Typescript, C++, MongoDB

College Park, MD

- Redesigned cross-platform mobile app using Flutter, achieving 20% faster load times and 30% smaller app size.
- Integrated AI-powered food scanning with 90% accuracy for portion sizes and fiber content analysis.
- Conducted extensive user testing with 100+ external participants implementing over 25 usability improvements, resulting in a 15% reduction in app crash rates.

Frontend Software Engineer

March – May 2024

keep.id — React, node.js, Express, Convex

Remote

- Complete redesign of main landing page, leading to a 60% reduction in user-reported issues
- Decreased average backend document retrieval response time by 23% through SQL query optimizations

Research Intern

June – August 2023

National Research Foundation — Swift, SwiftUI, C++, Arduino

College Park, MD

- Developed a full-stack mobile app for emerging gut-health start up at UMD; pivotal in securing over \$1M in VC funding.

Mobile Developer

Jan – Dec 2023

The Daily Pennsylvanian — React Native, Google Admob

Philadelphia, PA

- Monetized DP+ mobile app for the first time in history, increasing total revenue of the Daily Pennsylvanian by 23%

PROJECTS

Data Labeler — *React, Tailwind, FastAPI, Supabase, MEGA, AWS, Render*

December 2024

- Dense captioning service to be used for training custom image models
- Implemented custom quality control, aggregation metrics; Amazon MechTurk for crowdsourcing data and crowd payment
- Captioned **400+** images, with a **210%** increase in words and **50%** in relevance compared to LLM generated captions

Blip — *Next.js, Tailwind, TypeScript, ConvexDB, Clerk, OpenAI, Cerebras*

November 2024

- Short-form audio social media platform encouraging micro-learning during transition periods of the day
- Out of **500+** participants competing, winner of **PennApps XXV: Best Entertainment Hack**

Part-Of-Speech Tagger — *Python, numpy*

September 2024

- Hidden Markov Model POS tagging implementation using **Viterbi, Beam Search and Greedy** inference methods
- Using English Penn Treebank dataset for training; achieved a **96.3%** accuracy on randomized test set

DavidDocs — *NextJS, TypeScript, Tailwind, liveblocks*

June 2024

- **Real-time** collaboration environment designed to streamline **team productivity** and **document management**
- Implemented live commenting, integrated push notifications, environment sharing; increased user interaction by over **50%**.

AWARDS

PennApps XXV: Best Entertainment Hack

2024

AIME Qualifier

2019-2021

National Merit Scholar

2021

SKILLS

Languages: Python, Java, SQL, C++, Swift, Dart, JavaScript, Kotlin

Frontend Frameworks: React, NodeJS, NextJS, Tailwind, TypeScript, ThreeJS, Bootstrap, Flutter

Backend / Database: FastAPI, Flask, Supabase, Firebase, AWS, Convex, MongoDB

Machine Learning: pandas, numpy, scikit-learn, TensorFlow, HuggingFace, PyTorch, OpenCV