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Elias Thomas

EDUCATION

California State University, Fullerton | Fullerton, CA   **August 2023 - Present**
Expected Graduation: May 2027
B.S. in Computer Science | GPA: 3.87 / 4.0
Relevant Courses: Software Engineering, Data Structures & Algorithms, Files & Databases, Front End Engineering

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, JavaScript, SQL, HTML/CSS, C++
Technologies: FastAPI, React.js, REST APIs, SQLAlchemy, JWT Authentication
Tools: Git, GitHub, Linux, Vite, VS Code

EXPERIENCE

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) | Fullerton, CA   **June 2025 - Present**
Algorithm Officer
- Collaborate with Algorithm Board members to plan and deliver engaging workshops to other students.
- Lead weekly workshops on fundamental data structures and algorithms for **40+ students.**
- Provide students with LeetCode-style problems to strengthen problem-solving skills and interview readiness.
- Mentor students individually during workshops, providing guidance on debugging, coding practices, and algorithmic thinking.

Starbucks Coffee Company | Ladera Ranch, CA   **Oct. 2023 - Present**
Barista
- Provide exceptional customer service in a fast-paced environment, building meaningful connections with regular customers and serving hundreds per day.
- Effectively communicate with coworkers to streamline operations, manage peak hours, and maintain a positive work environment.
- Stay up-to-date on seasonal promotions and products to inform and upsell to customers, enhancing the customer experience while meeting store goals.
- Accurately process hundreds of daily transactions, maintaining speed, precision, and trust in handling payments.

Formula SAE | Fullerton, CA   **Aug. 2025 - Present**
Data Acquisition Team Member
- Collect and process telemetry from the Engine Control Unit (ECU) to evaluate engine and vehicle performance.
- Build graphs and visualizations with specialized software (PDM Link) to identify trends and support design decisions for suspension, aerodynamics, chassis, and powertrain teams.
- Provide actionable insights to streamline car performance, improve reliability, and guide engineering adjustments.

PROJECTS

Group Chat Web Application | Python, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, React, JWT, Websockets   **Sept. 2025**
- Built a full-stack messaging platform with JWT-secured authentication, group chats, invitations, and user management.
- Designed a PostgreSQL schema (accounts, chats, messages, invites) with SQLAlchemy ORM to ensure persistence, relational integrity, and data validation.
- Integrated a React frontend and implemented WebSockets for real-time chat messaging, enabling live updates across multiple clients.