Minh Kha Tran

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Website: https://ark.k3k.dev/

Graduate student in Computer Science with hands-on experience in developing scalable, cloud-native applications using Java, Spring Boot, and Kubernetes.

EDUCATION

Western Illinois University

August 2024 - May 2026 Macomb, IL, USA

Master's, Computer Science

• GPA: 4.0/4.0

VNUHCM - University of Science

Graduated Jan 2020

Bachelor's, Computer Science

HCMC, Viet Nam

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Western Illinois University

August 2025 – Now

Teaching Support Assistant

Macomb, IL, USA

• Supported students in understanding core computer science concepts by explaining algorithms, data structures, and debugging strategies, strengthening both teaching and technical communication skills.

NAVER Vietnam Sep 2023 – Jun 2024

Backend Software Engineer

HCMC, Viet Nam

- NAVER Vietnam is a subsidiary of NAVER Corporation, South Korea's leading internet company, known for its innovative services like the NAVER search engine, LINE messaging app, and advanced AI-driven platforms.
- Developed a scalable social platform for Korean idols and fans, supporting ~50K monthly active users.
- Designed and deployed critical features like Calendar and Podcast Management.
- Conducted load tests and optimized APIs to ensure system reliability, handling 10K reads/sec and 1K writes/sec with under 100ms latency per application pod.
- Prepared production environments using Kubernetes and NAVER's cloud platform, meeting stringent security audits.
 - o Stack: Java; Spring Boot; MySQL; Redis; Kafka; Kubernetes; NAVER Cloud; Prometheus; Grafana

MoMo (M_Service)

Apr 2022 – Aug 2023

Backend Software Engineer

HCMC, Viet Nam

- MoMo is Vietnam's leading digital payment platform, providing millions of citizens with seamless financial services and everyday payment solutions.
- Implemented & enhanced over 10 microservices on Google Kubernetes Engine, handling 1000 RPS with 100ms response times.
- Reduced response latency from 1.2s to 100ms via caching strategies, saving thousands in operational costs.
- Improved inter-service communication using Kafka and gRPC and streamlined tools for non-technical users.
 - o **Stack:** Kotlin; Google Cloud Platform; Redis; Kafka; gRPC; Kubernetes

ELCA Vietnam Nov 2020 – Mar 2022

Associate Software Engineer

HCMC, Viet Nam

- ELCA Vietnam is a branch of Switzerland's ELCA Group. It focuses on delivering critical software solutions for both governmental and industrial clients.
- Worked on a migration project to transform a system written in 4GL into one that uses Java 8.
- Identified and resolved defects, enabling 100x faster response time.
- Set up a new Spring module for JMS message processing.
- Handle test execution and maintenance for unit tests and automation tests.
 - o Stack: Java 8; Spring; JUnit; Maven; Selenium; Jenkins; Angular

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS

- Certifications: CS50x AI Certificate, IELTS Academic (8.0 Overall)
- Technical Skills: Java, Spring Framework, Kubernetes, MySQL, Redis, Kafka, gRPC, Python, Go, Svelte, TailwindCSS, Git, CI/CD, Prometheus, Grafana
- Cloud Platforms: Google Cloud, Oracle Cloud, Kubernetes-based systems
- Languages: Vietnamese, English
- Interests: AI and machine learning applications, Kubernetes experimentation, and playing/making RPG games