JANANI CHINNAM

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⌂ jchinnam

in jananichinnam

📍 Chicago, IL

Languages

Proficient

Python, Java, SQL, JSON, YAML

Familiar

C++, Bash, JavaScript, CSS, XML, HTML

Libraries +

Django, OpenAPI, Dropwizard, Guice, Mustache, Bootstrap

Tools +

NSQ, Relational DBs, MySQL, K8s, Git/GitHub, Copilot, Maven, Docker, Jenkins, CI/CD, Unix, Linux, AWS

Other Interests

Human-computer interaction, behavioral and decision science

Visual design, graphics

Reading fiction, find me at goodreads.com/jchinnam

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sprout Social
Chicago, IL

Senior Software Engineer — Sep 2023 - Present

- Contribute to technical vision across 2 teams; lead initiative refinement processes to build impact matrices and enable leadership to make data-informed prioritization decisions
- Lead the design and development of varied content publishing features, including paid promotions, collaborative posts on Instagram, and publishing documents to LinkedIn
- Partnered with Meta's Threads API team in alpha to integrate full message publishing capabilities, providing key feedback that shaped API iterations; shared insights as a panelist at the inaugural Threads summit
- Formally mentor 3 junior engineers, providing continuous guidance and support to shape their professional development, defining and planning work, and managing their integration and performance over time

Software Engineer — Jul 2021 - Sep 2023

- Developed and maintained backend systems for social message composition and scheduling
- Designed and integrated new capabilities from 8+ social network APIs incl. Twitter/X, Facebook, Instagram, Google/YouTube & more into high-throughput edge and publishing services
- Collaborated with TikTok during the launch of their first API to develop a full suite of content publishing features, including an asynchronous webhook system to receive video upload data
- Served on the board of an employee group supporting underrepresented genders in tech, designing career programming, delivering company-wide presentations, and mentoring junior members to promote growth and inclusion

Goldman Sachs
New York, NY

Software Engineer — Jul 2019 - Jun 2021

- Developed and managed complex Java applications across 200+ firmwide businesses to calculate revenue and generate analysis reports used by senior leadership
- Led onboarding of Marcus profit & loss data flow onto new technical stack, unifying data models and redesigning 50+ calculations to eliminate legacy cross-product complexity
- Launched and supported high-volume retail profit & loss architectures; 6M+ positions across Apple Card, GM Card, Marcus Personal Lending, MarcusPay, and Amazon Lending

Crowds and Machines Lab
Ann Arbor, MI

Reinforcement Learning Research Assistant — Sep 2017 - May 2019

- Applied crowd-sourced human feedback to Atari learning agents to study limitations of reinforcement learning algorithms and role of human biases in supplemented data
- Simulated integration of crowd workers in augmented reality spaces to facilitate collaborative functional on-the-fly prototyping, leveraging Amazon MTurk and Microsoft HoloLens; enabled faster creation of user experiences with real-time manipulation of a 3D scene via synchronization between the system and crowd
- Designed interaction models, user studies and data analysis across 3 research initiatives

PROJECTS

SketchRL Python, OpenAI Gym

- Integrated crowd-sourced feedback into OpenAI Atari agents to study the ability of human feedback in overcoming limitations of reinforcement learning algorithms
- Created structure of crowd-facing hits and user interaction model on 5+ OpenAI Gym games
- Implemented analysis and visualization scripts for crowd sourced data feeds

PUBLICATIONS

J. Herskovitz, **J. Chinnam**, I. Wong, M. Liu, J. Mo, S.W. Lee, W.S. Lasecki. Crowdsourcing for Effortless Creation of Collaborative AR Spaces. In CHI Workshop on Novel Interaction Techniques for Collaboration in VR. Montreal, Canada. 2018.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan College of Engineering
Ann Arbor, MI
May 2019

B.S.E. Computer Science, magna cum laude

Honors: Engineering Dean's Honor List, University Honors, Phi Gamma Nu Business Fraternity