

JACKSON THETFORD

J.thetford@rice.edu • (469) 534-1011 • github.com/jthet • linkedin.com/in/jackson-thetford

Highly motivated, hardworking, ambitious, and interdisciplinary graduate student with experience in team management, software engineering, data science, and machine learning. Obsessed with financial markets, looking to learn and become a financial expert, leader, and innovator. Community servant with volunteer experience in the North Dallas and Central Austin areas. I am a lifelong learner and stand up for what I believe is right and always look to innovate, challenge ideas, and learn from successes and failures.

EDUCATION

Rice University	Master of Engineering Management and Leadership Focus: Financial Engineering <u>Relevant Coursework</u> : Crypto and Blockchain, Data Science, Economics, Leadership and Management Theory, Quantitative Financial Analysis	Dec. 2025
The University of Texas at Austin	Bachelor of Science in Computational Engineering Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry , Minor in Business <u>Relevant STEM Coursework</u> : Advanced Scientific Computation, Computational Fluid Dynamics, Machine Learning, Probability, Software Engineering & Design, Statistics and Data Science Overall GPA: 3.8/4.0	May 2024

ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE

Generative AI Prompt Engineer – Data Annotation	May 2024 – Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Trained and graded generative AI models in math and programming, 25 hours weekly during school.	
Team Lead, Senior Design Project – Austin, TX	Jan. 2024 – May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Directed a 7-member team in developing UAV precision-guided payloads for emergency aid delivery.Engineered high-frequency trajectory-predicting algorithms and AI-driven image recognition for dynamic target tracking.Containerized bash and Python code with Docker for deployment on an NVIDIA Jetson, enabling real-time operations.	
Software Engineering Intern, Texas Advanced Computing Center – Austin, TX	May 2023 – May 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Created and deployed HPC Python and C++ research applications with Git VC and Docker containerization.Built and maintained a GitHub pages hosted web portal with JavaScript/TypeScript, React.js, HTML, and CSS.Created and researched ML applications using Torch and TensorFlow with TACC supercomputers.Presented work at Academic Conference: “Gateways 2023 Annual Conference” in Pittsburgh, PA.	
Peer Tutor, Cockrell School of Engineering – Austin, TX	Aug. 2022 – Jan. 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tutored undergraduate engineering students in Engineering Foundations and Computation courses.Articulated technical programming and engineering problem-solving techniques in undergraduate students.	

ACTIVITIES

Center for Computational Finance & Economic Systems, Rice University – Member	2024 – Present
Kappa Alpha Order Fraternity, Omicron Chapter – No. XVI Intrafraternal Marshal	2022 – 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Spearheaded academic counsel to support the educational needs of the Texas Chapter.Enforced active members’ academics and implemented academic policies and financial obligations.	
Tau Beta Pi, Engineering Honor Society – Member	2022 - 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Chosen for high academic achievement and commitment to personal and professional integrity.Academically recognized as top 1% of juniors in engineering school.	

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Tech-Stack: Python, JavaScript/Typescript, C++, Bash, Docker, Flask, React.js, Jupyter Notebooks
Data Science and Machine Learning: Scikit-Learn, PyTorch, TensorFlow, Pandas, Seaborn, Matplotlib, OpenCV, Gym
Miscellaneous: Linux, Git, Bloomberg Market Foundations Certificate, University CME Trade Challenge, Hedera’s Hashgraph

AWARDS and INTERESTS

Dean’s Honor List – <i>Cockrell School of Engineering, College of Natural Sciences</i> , UT Austin	Multiple, Fall 2020 – Fall 2023
SGX3 Fellow	May 2023 – Aug. 2023

Interests: Weightlifting, chess (1400), poker, reading, art museums, snowboarding, DJ’ing (House/Techno), hackathons.