# KENTARO TANAKA

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**FriendliAI** — Seoul, South Korea
*Software Engineer Intern (During travels)* — August 2025 - October 2025

- Extended a hand-rolled PEG parser used in the model tool-calling pipeline for AI inference.
- Forked and modified an internal Protobuf library to ensure deterministic serialization in production inference workflows.
- Designed and implemented a role-based access control (RBAC) system for FriendliAI's internal back-office platform, enabling secure access to customer accounts, subscriptions, and internal data across engineering, marketing, and sales teams.

**Five Rings Capital** — New York, NY
*Software Engineer* — October 2020 - April 2025

- **Full-Cycle Ownership:** Led the architecture and long-term technical direction for a mission-critical suite of trading, risk, and compliance systems, evolving them from initial design through years of production scaling.
- **High-Velocity Product Engineering:** Served as the "0-to-1" engineer for rapid-response projects; notably designed and deployed a C++ low-latency valuation engine in under three weeks to meet urgent, high-stakes market requirements.
- **Cross-Functional Collaboration:** Partnered directly with quantitative researchers to translate mathematical models into production-ready automated trading algorithms across diverse markets.
- **Enterprise Platforms:** Designed and scaled internal platforms for trade reconciliation and data pipelines, automating back-office workflows and building real-time monitoring and alerting tools.
- **Technical Leadership:** Acted as the primary point of contact and domain expert for core systems, mentoring junior engineers and coordinating multi-contributor releases in a high-pressure environment.

**Five Rings Capital** — New York, NY
*Software Engineer Intern* — June 2019 - August 2019

- Developed high-performance C++ components for proprietary trading systems

**Designlab** — Remote
*Software Engineer Intern* — June 2018 – August 2018

- Built a Django REST API to decouple content delivery from application logic.

**MIT HKN Honor Society** — Cambridge, MA
*Computer Science Peer Tutor* — September 2017 – May 2018

- Tutored peers in core computer science courses

**MIT Media Lab: Changing Places** — Cambridge, MA
*Undergraduate Researcher* — January 2017

- Implemented Android application that does audio recording, FFT processing, filtering, and automatic data uploads

## EDUCATION

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology** — Cambridge, MA
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science *GPA: 4.9* — September 2016 - January 2020

## SKILLS

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|---|---|
| Languages: | C++, Python, Typescript, SQL |
| Systems / Tools: | Linux, git, bash, vim, tmux |

## PROJECTS

**Fluency**

- Placed 5th out of 4,000+ teams in Microsoft's U.S. Imagine Cup
- Implemented features such as WebRTC-based video chat and real-time messaging

## AWARDS

**5th Place US Imagine Cup National Finals** — Microsoft
Awarded to Fluency — April 2017