Ken Lu

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EDUCATION

Binghamton University, State University of New York — Binghamton, NY
Bachelor of Arts in Mathematical Sciences — *Aug. 2020 – May 2024*

EXPERIENCE

Full Stack Ruby On Rails Developer — Oct 2024 – Present
Freelance
- Maintained a large traditional Ruby on Rails codebase, resulting in increased code reliability and scalability
- Enhanced web accessibility using semantic HTML and ARIA roles, resulting in improved user experience
- Collaborated in an agile environment using daily stand-ups and sprint planning, resulting in timely feature delivery

Software Engineer Fellow — Aug. 2024 – Sept. 2024
Headstarter AI
- Built and deployed 5 AI projects in 5 weeks using React JS, Next.js, Firebase, Clerk, and Vercel, following agile methodologies with weekly sprints and incorporated CI/CD practices for iterative deployment
- Worked in a team of 3 to develop an interactive customer support agent using Next.js, integrated a custom RAG pipeline using OpenAI and Pinecone that responds based on a company's knowledge base
- Implemented a web scraper that automatically extracts data and upsert to a Pinecone index, integrated with a RAG pipeline using LangChain and OpenAI GPT-4o to get up-to-date and relevant answers to user queries

Full Stack Software Engineer — July 2024 – Aug. 2024
Freelance
- Designed and developed an eCommerce web application using Ruby on Rails, leveraging Active Record to efficiently manage product listings, user accounts, and transactions, contributing to a 30% increase in online sales
- Integrated secure payment gateways with Stripe API, processing over $500 in sales per month
- Collaborated with client to enhance the user interface and functionality using Hotwire and StimulusJS, which contributed to a 20% growth in the customer base by improving user engagement and experience

PROJECTS

ChatPDF | *Personal Project* — Sept. 2024 – Oct. 2024
- Programmed a RAG-based web app enabling users to upload PDFs and interact with their PDF via an AI chatbot
- Integrated LangChain with Convex to create custom RAG pipelines using OpenAI models, filtering embeddings for independence from other data sources, improving response accuracy by 30% and query relevance to over 85%
- Utilized Convex for serverless queries and mutations to efficiently handle CRUD actions, reducing data retrieval times by 40% and enhancing overall application performance

Flash Prep AI | *Co-Founder — Revenue Project* — Aug. 2024 – Sept. 2024
- Created and launched an AI-powered flashcard SaaS using Next.js, React, TypeScript, OpenAI, Clerk, and Firebase serving 200+ active users facilitating effective learning and retention of any topic of choice
- Engineered a seamless UX by designing an intuitive UI that allows users to create, manage, and review flashcard topics, resulting in 25% increase in user retention and a 30% boost in daily active users within the first month

HACKATHONS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Hiring Hackathon for Rilla | *Finalist — 200+ Teams — 36 Hour Hackathon* — Aug. 2024 – Sept. 2024
- Used Next.js, OpenAI, and Pinecone to build a transcript annotation tool, reducing analysis time by 40% and helping sales teams quickly gain insights from live call data

University Club Match Quiz | *1st Place Winner — 100 Teams — 24 Hour Hackathon* — Jan. 2024 – Feb. 2024
- Built a club match quiz for Binghamton University using Cheerio, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, improving quiz accuracy and user engagement by 30% and helping students find a club that fits them from over 1000+ clubs

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: JavaScript, Ruby, Python, TypeScript, R
Frameworks/Libraries: React, Rails, Nextjs, Convex, Material-UI, NumPy, RSpec, Jest
Technologies: AWS, Langchain, Firebase, Postman, Git, Linux