Jacky Zhao

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Education

University of British Columbia, 2019 - 2023, B.Sc Computer Science, GPA: 87.9% // CS GPA: 95.0% (Top 5%)

Activities: HackCamp Logistics Director at nwPlus, Developer at UBC Launchpad, Varsity Outdoor Club

Experience

Hootsuite — Software Development Intern

05/2020 - 09/2020

- Added alerting and monitoring for key SLOs on the paid signup flow with Grafana and Prometheus,
 reducing mean time-to-acknowledge for alerts from hours to minutes.
- Migrated hootsuite.com CMS deployment from Jenkins to ArgoCD.
- Addressed 12 major accessibility issues with paid and free signup flow React with JavaScript.
- Added various end-to-end frontend tests with Jest, increasing code coverage by 18%.
 Technologies: AWS, Grafana, Prometheus, Jenkins, Ansible, Unix, Terraform, JavaScript, React, Jest, PHP

Open Source Contributor — *MLH Fellowship*

06/2020 - present

- Selected as one of 144 fellows to be part of the inaugural class from a pool of 20,000 applicants.
- Worked on BentoML, an open-source framework for high-performance ML model serving.
- Built Debian-slim based Docker images for model server, reducing base image size by ~60% of its original.
- Implemented CLI command in Python to dockerize BentoML models.
- Created Helm chart to allow easy deployment of a YataiService backed with a Postgres instance to a Kubernetes cluster using devops best practices.

Technologies: Docker, PyTest, Python, Kubernetes, Helm

Personal Projects

reflect - getreflect.app 11/2019

- Built and launched a digitally mindful website blocker with 700+ active users and 2.2k total installs.
- Created an AI classifier using an LSTM network with Python and Keras, reaching ~86% classification
 accuracy. Model was ported to Tensorflow.js to run in the browser extension written in Typescript.
 Technologies: TypeScript, Python, Keras, Tensorflow.js

readAR - github.com/jackyzha0/treehacks2020-backend

11/2019

- Created an AR app to help those with learning disabilities by overlaying hard to read text in a more dyslexic-friendly font, and adds context-dependent word definitions and images.
- Designed and trained a custom BERT model for word sense disambiguation with PyTorch, achieving a 76.6% F1% score on the test dataset (SOTA is 81.2%). Model is served via Flask. Technologies: PyTorch, Flask, Azure, Docker, Python

Speech2Braille - github.com/jackyzha0/nsound_git

05/2018

- Invented a wearable device to augment the hearing capabilities of the hearing impaired.
- Designed data pipeline with Python and numpy and trained end-to-end LSTM-CTC speech recognition model with Tensorflow, achieving 92% state-of-the-art word error rate on the TIMIT dataset.
 Technologies: Tensorfow, Python, Bash, Raspberry Pi

Awards

Scholarships: Trek Excellence Scholarship 2020 (Top 5%), Dean of Science Scholarship 2019 (Top 1%), Weston Youth Innovation Award National Semifinalist 2019, Canada Wide Science Fair Silver Medal 2018, BCIC Young Innovator Scholarship 2018

Hackathons: DubHacks 2020 (Newsprint Track Finalist, Disney Collaboration and Storytelling Prize), TreeHacks 2020 (Microsoft Azure Hack for Good Prize), nwHacks 2018 (Top 30, SAP iXp - "Hey SAP, I Got Your Hack" Award)