

# Matthew Saad

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## Overview

Results-oriented platform engineer with experience managing Databricks at scale—governing cost, access, and automation across workspaces. Strong command of Terraform, cloud infrastructure, and production-grade deployment pipelines.

## Skills

**Core Languages:** Python, SQL, Terraform

**Data & Infra Tooling:** Apache Spark, Databricks, Azure, Data Lake, Power BI

**ML & Gen-AI Tooling:** PyTorch, HuggingFace, scikit-learn, TensorFlow, LLMs, PEFT

**MLOps & DevOps:** Azure DevOps, CI/CD, Docker, Git, model deployment/monitoring

## Experience

### BI Admin @ Excellus BCBS

*Jun 2024 – Present*

- Primary Azure Databricks admin for 100+ engineers — owned infra, SCIM user/group onboarding, Unity Catalog ACLs, CI/CD processes, PAT governance, credential management (Azure KeyVault) and Sox/audit remediation.
- Built Azure DevOps CI/CD (Databricks Asset Bundles + service connections) for simple, version-controlled releases.
- Piped Databricks billing logs to Power BI, exposing first real spend view; flagged waste that cut monthly costs 31%.
- Led Spark-tuning boot camp for 50 engineers; fixes now save low-six figures a year.
- Published four internal Python libraries (ETL + governance) now used by 60+ production pipelines.
- Designed Terraform-driven cluster policy management, reducing overhead and ensuring security compliance.
- Engineered a Spark-parallel ingest of 4 TB from Oracle, reducing process cost and duration by 85%.

### Data Science Intern @ Excellus BCBS

*Jun 2022 – May 2024*

- Built two LLaMA-2 based RAG chatbots for querying HR & policy docs; presented to C-suite and secured buy-in.
- Developed a seq-to-seq transformer predicting ICD-10 codes from 80k+ records, improving diagnostic forecasting.
- Refactored and deployed model scoring API, improving efficiency by 60% and reducing compute time.
- Prototyped prior-authorization automation and telehealth call summarization with BERT and T5 models.

### Student Employee @ SUNY Brockport

*Aug 2022 – May 2024*

- Teaching assistant (Java OOP, MIPS), math tutor/grader.

## Projects

### BrockportGPT | Code: [msaad02/brockport-gpt](#)

*Apr 2024*

- Created an open-source chatbot for my undergraduate institution using RAG and LLM Finetuning.
- Built a 184M-parameter transformer model from scratch using PyTorch, fine-tuned for domain-specific QA.
- Published research in an IEEE conference paper as part of ICECCEME 2024 ([paper/publication](#)).

### Chess AI Bot | Code: [msaad02/chess-ai](#)

*June 2025*

- Trained MLP and CNN models for best move prediction based on open source LiChess game database.
- Engineered highly parallel ETL pipeline for large-scale training, optimizing memory and batch processing.

## Education

### Georgia Tech

*M.S. Computational Analytics*

*Starting Aug 2025*

### SUNY Brockport

*B.S. Computer Science & Mathematics*

*Aug 2020 – May 2024*

- Double major with concentrations in Software Engineering and Statistics.
- Honors college; 3.9/4.0 GPA *Summa Cum Laude*.