Mutendi Sambaza

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EDUCATION

Bachelors of Computer Science (Hons.) Ottawa, ON
Carleton University *Sept. 2022 – Expected May 2027*
Year Standing: 3rd **GPA**: 3.8/4.0
Awards: Award of Excellence for Internationals (2022), President's Scholarship (2022)
Relevant Coursework: Statistical Modeling, Data Structures and Algorithms, Computer Systems, Operating Systems, Systems Programming, Discrete Structures, Fundamentals of Web Applications, Software Engineering.

SKILLS

Languages: Java, C/C++, Python, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, SQL
Frameworks & Databases: React, Tailwind CSS, Flask, Node.js, ChromaDB, MediaPipe
Developer Tools: AWS, Git, Docker, GitHub Actions, Bloomberg Terminal, Microsoft Office
Libraries: NumPy, Pygame, JavaFX, OpenAI API, OpenCV, GDB, Valgrind

PROJECTS

Lokdin | *Python, React, TypeScrpt, OpenCV, MediaPipe, Flask, TensorFlow, Keras, NumPy*
- Led a team to secure **3rd place overall at the CUHacking Hackathon**, building a custom AI-powered engagement detection tool with applications in education, healthcare, and corporate workflows.
- Engineered **feature extraction pipelines**, implementing advanced algorithms for facial landmark detection, gaze tracking, and engagement classification, achieving **97% accuracy** on synthetic datasets for real-time insights.
- Developed **visualizations and heatmaps** to translate engagement data into user-friendly feedback, enabling users to derive actionable insights **30%** faster

Noted | *React, JavaScript, Tailwind CSS, Python, OpenAI, ChromaDB, Flask, Docker*
- Developed a **full-stack transcription platform** to enhance accessibility of educational content for students featuring annotatable transcripts and PDF downloads for offline study
- Integrated OpenAI Whisper and YouTube API for automated, accurate transcriptions, with ChromaDB storing vector embeddings to enable **Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)** for contextually relevant summaries.
- Built a robust Flask backend to manage API calls, handle user sessions, and ensure efficient data management, alongside a responsive UI.

JumpOVOr Game | JavaScript, HTML/CSS, GitHub, AWS (S3, Route 53, CodePipeline, CodeBuild)
- Engineered an interactive browser-based game inspired by the Google Chrome dinosaur game, implementing collision detection and progressive difficulty scaling
- Deployed the application on AWS S3 and configured AWS Route 53 for DNS management
- Integrated a **CI/CD pipeline** using AWS CodePipeline, **reducing the deployment timeline by 95%** through the automation of build, test, and deployment processes from GitHub.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Client Service Representative, Housing Dept Aug. 2023 – Present
Carleton University *Ottawa, ON*
- Efficiently managed **30+ daily customer inquiries** via phone, email, and in-person, providing personalized solutions that reduced follow-up requests by **30%**
- Onboarded and mentored new CSRs, improving their performance by **30%** through comprehensive training in customer service best practices and problem resolution strategies

LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ColorStack Member Jan. 2025 – Present
Founder and President Mar. 2024 – Present
Black Students in Tech Nexus
- Launched and grew membership to **30+ students**, organizing networking events with industry professionals while facilitating valuable connections and professional skill building.