Oen McKinley

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Professional Summary

Oen is a PhD candidate in Computer Science specializing in data visualization and graphics with an interest in AI/ML and LLMs. He has 3 years of industry software development experience and 2 years of management experience, now seeking internship opportunities for the Summer of 2026.

Education

PhD, Computer Science   Washington University in St. Louis
Aug 2022 – May 2027 (Expected)   GPA: 3.91/4.0

MS, Computer Science   Washington University in St. Louis
Aug 2022 – May 2025   GPA: 3.91/4.0

BA, Computer Science & Political Science   Grinnell College
Aug 2015 – May 2019   GPA: 3.71/4.0

Skills

Hard Skills:	Research, Experimental Design, Software Programming, AI/ML, LLMs, UI/UX, Prototyping, Algorithmic Analysis, Statistics
Soft Skills:	Verbal and Written Communication, Leadership, Time Management, Problem Solving, Fast Learning, Management, Motivation
Programming:	Python, R, Java, C++, C#, JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML/CSS, PHP, Ruby
General Tools:	Git, VisualStudio, SQL, .NET, Anaconda, JIRA, Qualtrics, LaTeX, React, Node.js Microsoft Office Suite, RStudio
Research Tools:	reVISit, Vega, Hugging Face Spaces, Pytorch, RStudio, pandas, matplotlib, ggplot
Languages:	English (Native), Mandarin Chinese (Working Proficiency), Vietnamese (Intermediate)

Experience

PhD Candidate - VIBE Lab
Washington University in St. Louis   Aug 2022 – Present

- Publish research in global conferences, focused on effective communication, user trust, and leveraging LLMs and AI tools for visualization tasks.

Assistant in Instruction
Washington University in St. Louis   Aug 2025 – Present

- Lecture and assist students in the Intro to Visualization course, communicating complex ideas efficiently.

Manager - Forms (prev. Software Engineer)
Ease, Inc., Omaha, NE   Jul 2019 – Dec 2022

- Managed the Forms Engineering team of 5 direct reports, including feature updates and process automation.

Publications

Trustworthy by Design: The Viewer's Perspective on Trust in Data Visualization
Oen McKinley, Saugat Pandey, Alvitta Ottley. *ACM CHI*, 2025.

Exogenous and Endogenous Factors that Influence Subjective Trust in Visualization
R. Jordan Crouser, Syrine Matoussi, Lan Kung, Saugat Pandey, **Oen McKinley**, Alvitta Ottley. *IEEE VIS*, 2024.

Do You Trust What You See? Toward A Multidimensional Measure of Trust in Visualization
Saugat Pandey, **Oen McKinley**, R. Jordan Crouser, Alvitta Ottley. *IEEE VIS*, 2023.