

Owain West

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A sharp analytical mind and strong communicator, Owain is an ideal candidate for technically, intellectually, and interpersonally demanding roles. See owainwest.com to learn more.

Education

University of Waterloo

MMATH IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Waterloo, Canada

Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2020

University of Pennsylvania

BA, MAGNA CUM LAUDE. TRIPLE MAJOR IN: LOGIC, INFO., AND COMPUTATION; COMPUTER SCIENCE; PHILOSOPHY AND SCIENCE

Philadelphia, USA

Sept. 2015 - May 2019

Experience

Thinknum Alternative Data

New York, USA

JUNIOR DATA ENGINEER

Jan-March 2022

- Responsible for building ETL pipelines for extraction and ingest of open web data into company systems. Worked with Redis, PostgreSQL, BeautifulSoup, Selenium, Django, Gremlin, and other open technologies to build a scalable system for data procurement and semantic presentation. For example: built pipeline to extract and ingest detailed info on top >5mil Stackexchange users.
- Authored library for automated creation of bespoke Python parsing and handler classes for JSON+ld/RDFa/microdata that loosely matches Schema.org schemata, enabling hugely more general extraction of financially relevant open web data compared to previous internal technique.
- Implementation of devops and testing tasks, including BlazeMeter and NewRelic monitoring.

University of Waterloo

Waterloo, Canada

CS TEACHING ASSISTANT: 135 (DESIGN. FUNC. PROGRAMS), 245 (LOGIC + COMPUTATION), 330 (MGMT. INFO. SYSTEMS). 1/SEM.

Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2021

- Responsible for grading assignments and exams, communicating feedback effectively to students, and giving input for course development.

Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto Innovation Lab

Toronto, Canada

SOFTWARE ENGINEER, SUMMER

May - Aug. 2019

- Continued development of conversational applications for Alexa and Google Home, including production versions of previously instigated PoCs.
- Developed pipeline for automated evaluation of semantic quality of text summarizations created within natural-language dialog systems.

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, USA

TEACHING ASSISTANT: LGIC 010 (INTRO FORMAL LOGIC – 2017-19, HEAD TA 2018+19); CIS 160 (DISCR. MATH FOR CS – 2018)

Jan-May 2017, 2018, 2019

- Coauthored an introductory **textbook** for use in LGIC 010.
- As Head TA for LGIC 010 in 2018, 2019: managed other teaching assistants and helped develop curriculum and assignments.
- For both: taught weekly recitation and office hour sessions, graded evaluations, and communicated feedback about course development.

Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto Innovation Lab

Toronto, Canada

SOFTWARE ENGINEER INTERN

May-Aug. 2017, 2018

- 2018: Designed + developed multiple conversational application PoCs. Interviewed external software firms to join internal projects. Trained deep learning NLP functionality for use in conversational and data-insight applications, including for text classification, topic modelling, and custom named-entity-recognition models. Developed a machine-vision based table parser; provisional patent was received for resulting work.
- 2017: Designed and built a chatbot to automate developer onboarding process. Championed internal research and development of experimental Alexa/Google Home products.

Bridge: Freshman Mental Wellness

Philadelphia, USA

FOUNDER, CO-PRESIDENT

Sept 2015 – May 2017

- Founded and developed Bridge, which was a student organization at UPenn that focused on peer support for freshmen.
- Organized events and support of various kinds for students in the wider UPenn community.

University of Pennsylvania

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

(SENIOR) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISOR

Sept-May, 2015-2017

- Solved network and security problems for a body of over 1200 student clients.
- As senior ITA in Sept-May 2016-17, oversaw and coached a team of other ITAs to deliver solutions to common technical issues.

UPenn Aerospace Club

Philadelphia, USA

BALLOON SOFTWARE AND AVIONICS TEAM, OPERATIONS TEAM

Sep 2015 – May 2016

- Aided the design and program of experimental balloons sent into near space. Analyzed flight data from yaw and altitude control mechanisms.
- Liaised with industry sponsors in order to obtain funding as well as host speaker and recruiting events.

Skills

PERSONAL

- Strong: Presentation ability • Communication • Adaptability • Drive to succeed • Analytical Reasoning • Empathy • Leadership • Teamwork
- Problem-solving • Independent research • Quantitative thinking • Teaching ability • Emotional intelligence • Visual and verbal thinking

PROGRAMMING

- Strong in: Julia • JavaScript • Python • Java • OCaml • SQL • K • TLA+
- Familiar with: Go • Elm • Kotlin • Ruby • Mathematica • C • C++ • Rust • Emacs Lisp • Typescript • HTML • CSS • R

TECHNOLOGY

- AWS • GCP • ETL/Data Engineering • SQL&NoSQL: Postgress, MongoDB, Redis, Gremlin • Jenkins • NodeJS • React • Dialogflow • Flask • SciPy
- Numpy • Tensorflow • Pytorch • Alexa SDK • Elasticsearch • Git • Unix • Vim • Emacs • Bioinformatics/proteomics techniques • Formal verification