Prajakta Pikale

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign | Illinois, United States

Aug 2024 - Dec 2025

Master of Computer Science | Graduate Teaching and Course Assistant

GPA: 3.8/4

Coursework: Cloud Computing Applications, Distributed Systems, Database Systems, ML for Software Engineering

Vishwakarma Institute of Information Technology | Pune, India

Aug 2017 - May 2021

Bachelor of Technology in Computer Engineering

GPA: 9.49/10

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming: C++, JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, SQL

Web Development: React, Next.js, Three.js, HTML, CSS/SASS, Tailwind, GraphQL, RESTful APIs, Node.js, Express.js, Django

Databases: MySQL, Microsoft SQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB, Neo4j, Firebase

Cloud and Platforms: AWS, GCP, GitHub Actions, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, Git, Jira, Postman, Figma, VS Code, WebStorm

EXPERIENCE

Expedia Group | Software Development Engineer

May 2023 - July 2024

- Developed a full-stack data analytics web platform featuring an interactive React frontend with custom-built data visualization dashboards and Tableau integration, supported by a Node.js backend for RESTful API management.
- Built dynamic and interactive dashboards to visualize key business KPIs (e.g. monthly and weekly recurring data) using
 Material-UI React Table and Highcharts, automating reporting processes and saving 10+ hours of manual work per week
 while improving data-driven decision-making by 30%, collaborated with cross-functional teams.
- Designed, implemented, and maintained **new features** and **backend APIs**, optimizing performance to ensure response times stayed under **100ms** for real-time insights, resolved **software bugs** with effective debugging and testing practices.
- Automated CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions, and managed version control and deployment workflows using GitHub,
 Jenkins, Docker, and Kubernetes, streamlining continuous integration and delivery processes.

Cognizant Technology Solutions | Programmer Analyst

Sep 2021 - Mar 2023

- Contributed to building and maintaining the **frontend** of a **large-scale** web application for one of the leading Swedish **insurance companies**, aimed at streamlining internal team management workflows using **React**.
- Utilized **Redux** and **React Hooks** for efficient state management and integrated **API endpoints** using **GraphQL** and improved performance by optimizing a critical API call, resulting in a **15% reduction** in round-trip time.

PROJECTS

3D Web Developer Portfolio | React, Three.js, React Three Fiber, Framer Motion, Tailwind

Jan 2025

- Developed an interactive 3D portfolio using React and Three.js, integrating GLTF models for 3D rendering.
- Used **React Three Fiber** to create **dynamic animations** with **Framer Motion** for fluid visual and responsive web experience.

Data-Driven Forecasting and Visualization of Fresh Food Demand | Next.js, Python, MySQL, Django, ML

Dec 2024

- Developed a web application using **Python**, **Scikit-learn**, and **Django**, leveraging a **linear regression** machine learning model to predict fresh food demand, reducing inventory waste significantly by **20%** and improving **supply chain efficiency**.
- Designed interactive charts and dashboards with **real-time data visualizations** using **Next.js** and **Chart.js**, enabling analysts to monitor inventory, **track demand trends**, and make **data-driven decisions**, improving stock accuracy and management.
- Implemented secure, role-based access control and automated alerts for perishable inventory management.

Quora Clone | React, Redux, Node.js, Express.js, MongoDB

Apr 2024

- Built a full-stack web app, Quora Clone a social question-and-answer application replicating key features of Quora.
- Integrated authentication using Nodemailer and Passport.js JWT strategy with OAuth2 Google Sign-In.
- Utilized Context API and Redux for state management, react-router for routing, and React Hooks for reusable logic.
- Developed API logic with Node.js, employing Mongoose to manage schemas, and perform CRUD operations in MongoDB.