

Prajakta Pikale

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EDUCATION

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

Aug 2024 - Dec 2025

Master of Computer Science

GPA: 3.8/ 4

Coursework: Cloud Computing Applications, UI Design, 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

EXPERIENCE

Expedia Group | Software Development Engineer

May 2023 – July 2024

- Developed a full-stack **data analytics web application**, creating a dynamic frontend using **React** for user interaction and **data visualization**, including **Tableau** dashboards integration, supported by a **Node.js** backend.
- Built an interactive dashboard to visualize core business **KPIs** (e.g. monthly and weekly recurring data) by integrating data into **Material-UI React Table** and using **Highcharts**, while saving 10 hours of manual work per week and enabling **data-driven business decisions**.
- Designed and maintained **new features** and **APIs**, optimized APIs ensuring response times to stay under **100ms** for real-time insights, and effectively addressed **software bugs** to optimize user experience.
- Automated **GitHub Actions** for CI/CD pipelines, collaborated on version control via GitHub, and streamlined workflows for **code deployment** using **Jenkins**, **Docker** and **Kubernetes**.

Cognizant Technology Solutions | Programmer Analyst

Sep 2021 – Mar 2023

- Contributed to building the **frontend** of a web application for one of the largest Swedish **insurance companies**, streamlining internal team management processes using **React**.
- Implemented **Redux** and **React Hooks** for state management and handled **API calls**, optimizing an API endpoint to achieve a **15% faster** 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.

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

Apr 2024

- Built a full-stack Quora Clone, a **social question-and-answer application** replicating key features of **Quora**.
- Integrated **authentication** using **Nodemailer** and **Passport.js JWT** strategy with **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**.

Fitness Exercise Application | React, Material UI

Jan 2023

- Built and deployed a **React-based Fitness Exercise Application** featuring:
 - Search functionality** for exercises by muscle group or equipment, with **Pagination** for result display.
 - Browsing through **1000+ exercises**, each with detailed information and embedded **YouTube video links**.
- Leveraged **Material UI** for an engaging and responsive **user interface** and **RapidAPI** to fetch data and access API endpoints.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frontend: React, Redux, Next.js, Three.js, Figma, HTML, CSS, Tailwind

Backend: Node.js, Express.js, MySQL, MongoDB

Developer Tools: Git, Vite, Jenkins, Postman, Docker, Kubernetes, VS Code

Languages: C++, JavaScript, Python, SQL

ACTIVITIES

- Teaching Assistant** at UIUC: ECE205 Electronic Circuits
- Course Assistant** at UIUC: CS105 Introduction to Computing
- Technical Head at Computer Society of India, VIIT
- State level winner in Gama Abacus Mental Arithmetic Contest