

Ryan Ni

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EDUCATION

University of California San Diego – UCSD

Expected Grad: **June 2026**

B.S. in **Computer Science, Cognitive Science (ML Specialization)**

3.8 GPA

Courses: Software Engineering, Operating Systems, Databases, AI/ML, Computer Architecture, Networks

7x Hackathon Winner: *Top 5 Best Future Apple Feature @ Apple's 2025 Internal iContest, #1 Best Project @IEEE ('24, '25), #1 Best UI/UX @CruzHacks 2024, #1 Best Empowerment @ACMHacks2023, #2 Best Tech Innovation @UCLA AI, UCSD ICPC*

EXPERIENCE

Apple | Software Engineer Intern – Intelligent System Experience (ISE)

Cupertino, CA | Jun 2025 – Sep 2025

- Awarded **Top 5/1,500+ interns Best Future Apple Feature** at **iContest 2025** for new AI/ML feature prototypes for iOS/macOS and pitched to **7 Executives, Directors, and Senior VPs** to be integrated natively in Apple's ecosystem
- Overhauled sections of the codebase by streamlining a data provider to reduce code duplication by **66%** within the **Apple Intelligence (AI) Notification settings** and fixed system/UI bugs with rerendering lists of data within the view
- Built end-to-end notification testing application to debug notification UI and internal system/application bundles
- Developed and designed a **"pinned message" feature in iMessage** where users can tap and hold to pin messages
- Architected **2 new AI features; "pin suggestions & pin summaries"** by using data detectors and msg vectorization
- Designed **new Contacts card UI** and reutilization of vectorized messages to enable **semantic search** of messages

Uber | Software Engineer Independent Contractor – AI Solutions

San Francisco, CA | May 2025 – Present

- Invited to provide feedback on platform design in **Uber's Early Access Program (EAP)** on its AI/ML training platform
- Submitted **100+ deliverables**; solving/evaluating coding problems/solutions, data labeling, and training AI models
- Maintained a **99% deliverable approval rating** by consistently exceeding a **92% accuracy** threshold requirement

XR Lab | Software Engineer & Research Assistant, under Dr. Kirsh

San Diego, CA | Jan 2025 – Jun 2025

- Developed speech emotion recognition (SER) model with **80% precision** with **Python (PyTorch)** and **Kaggle/EmoDB**
- Boosted data pipeline speed by **~40%** by replacing CSV-in-**PostgreSQL** with **HDF5** reducing load latency and supporting near real-time file parsing for processing and analyzing lab experiment data for the speech emotion recognition project
- Automated research paper categorization/compilation based on relevance of the content reducing the XR Lab's workload by **30%** across **3 ongoing projects** and streamlining lab research- currently deployed on **AWS Lightsail**

Dream Voyage | Software Engineer Intern – Full Stack (Infrastructure)

Berkeley, CA | Jan 2024 – Jun 2024

- Increased user traffic to **35,000+/month** by implementing a responsive user interface using **React** and **TypeScript**
- Increased **system uptime by 99%** during production by scaling existing infrastructure using **AWS Lambda** and **RDS**
- Developed the Community Post & Dream Interpretation features on mobile application- deployed on the App Store

PROJECTS / LEADERSHIP

LinguaLens | #1 Best Overall Project @ IEEE '25 QP, #2 Best Tech Innovation @ UCLA SAIRS '25

Apr 2025 – Apr 2025

- Leveraged **Google Speech to Text (STT) API** and **DeepL** to capture and transcribe live audio data to translate onto an **OLED display** programmed in **C++** wired to an **Arduino Nano** with **<1 second of latency** and **~95% translation accuracy**
- Integrated semantic voice assistant ("Hey Sentient") using **OpenAI API** and **Google STT** enabling agentic actions via voice
- Built smart glasses with **35+ supported languages** for live transcription/translation while using **spaghetti** for hardware!

Power Tag | #1 Best Overall Project @ IEEE '24 QP

Oct 2024 – Dec 2024

- Leveraged **Blynk API** in **Kotlin** mobile app to send and receive packets over **GSM communication** from a **SIM800L mod** programmed in **C++** wired to an **Arduino UNO**, enabling global internet connection without needing a WiFi connection
- Leveraged **Google Maps API** and **Blynk HTTPS API** into mobile app to enable real-time location info via embedded map
- Built GPS-tracked power bank with real-time location service via Kotlin mobile app using **GSM** and **Google Maps API**

SDxUCSD | Co-Founder

San Diego, CA | Nov 2024 – Present

- Founded community of **50+ active** technical founders by organizing weekly events (industry talks, demo days, HackDays)
- Secured **3+ VC partnerships (\$5k+ backing)** with **Notable Capital**, **True Ventures**, and **a16z-** incubated **Clado (YC X25)**
- Hosted **5+ Hackathons (HackDays)** with partners- **Anthropic**, **Cerebras Systems**, and **Perplexity** demoing **30+** prototypes

SKILLS

Languages: Python, TypeScript/JavaScript, C, C++, Java, GoLang, SQL, R, Kotlin, Swift, Objective-C, Dart

Development Tools: Docker, Vercel, AWS (EC2, S3, RDS, Lambda), Supabase, Firebase, Clerk, Roboflow, Git

Libraries/Frameworks: React, Next.js, SvelteKit, MUI, SwiftUI, Cocoa, Flutter, Flask, Pandas, NumPy, PyTorch, SciKit-Learn