Sawyer Blankenship

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Education

San Diego State University

San Diego, California

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Major GPA: 3.75

August 2022 - May 2025

Work Experience

Software Engineer Intern Redtry.AI (https://redtry.xyz) February 2025 - May 2025

San Diego, California

- Scraped 15,089 products using 5 scrapers coordinated via SQS and an AWS Lambda Function that distributed **S3** presigned urls.
- Streamlined product filtering across 23 **PostgreSQL** tables by merging similar columns using LLM-generated keywords.
- Enabled LLM product search by publishing a **TypeScript MCP** script to **npm** for instant use.
- Vectorized Meta **LLaMA-8B** link classification using **NumPy**, cutting runtime by $38 \times (225.1s \rightarrow 5.9s \text{ for } 5,000 \text{ links})$.
- Powered hundreds of product searches via a **Flask API** on **EC2**, supporting persistent multi-session memory with **MongoDB**.

Research Assistant | Autonomous Racing

September 2024 - May 2025

SDSU Real-Time Embedded Control Systems Lab

San Diego, California

- Improved real-time obstacle detection throughput from 4.6 Hz to 11.5 Hz by developing a **YOLO**-based overtaking system.
- Enabled localization by building a ROS 2 wrapper for ORB SLAM 3 and integrating it into vehicle.

Skills Summary

• Languages: TypeScript, JavaScript, Python, C, C++, Go, Java, SQL, Bash

Frontend: React, HTML, CSS, Tailwind, Vite, Flutter
Backend: REST API, SQL, Async, OOP, Flask, JUnit

• **Dev Tools:** Git, Docker, Gitlab, VMWare, Hypervisor, Bash and Python Automation, Cursor

• Data Science & Al: Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, YOLO, TensorFlow

• Cybersecurity Active Directory, NIDS/NIPS (Suricata), XDR (Wazuh), Greenbone Vulnerability Manager, Kali

• Applied courses: Applied Security Management, Database Theory and Management, Machine Learning

Real Time Operating Systems, Unix System Administration, Data Science

• Soft Skills: Eagle Scout, Strong Stakeholder Management, Excellent Communication

Projects

DAWZY (https://devpost.com/software/dawzy)

June 2025

- Developed an AI music assistant selected as a top 3% finalist (9/331 teams) at UC Berkeley's AI hackathon in under 24 hours.
- Delivered 100% hands-free DAW control—track creation, FX, and navigation—via **Claude Tools** and **Python ReaScripts**.
- Translated raw humming into accurate digital music (96% F1 on MAESTRO) using Google's MT3 transformer.

Secure Cloud Architecture

January 2025 - February 2025

- Hardened virtual network by isolating systems from a public-facing DMZ using an OPNSense firewall VM with Suricata NIDS.
- Centralized authentication and **DNS** for 6 Windows VMs with **Active Directory**.
- Automated endpoint threat detection and incident response for 7 VMs, implementing a centralized SIEM by deploying Wazuh XDR in an LXC container and configuring agents across all VMs.
- Conducted penetration tests on 6 Unix VMs using Metasploit and Greenbone with Kali Linux.

Certifications

CompTIA Security+

June 2024 - June 2027

- Acquired knowledge in risk management, cryptography, and threat management.
- Learned to implement incident response strategies and develop disaster recovery plans.