

# SAM PAL

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## EDUCATION

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Urbana, IL

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
- [Hoeft Technology and Management Minor](#)

May 2021

## SKILLS

**Technical:** C++, C, Python, Java, Node.js, MongoDB, SQL, Haskell, Kubernetes, Kafka, Confluent Cloud

**Relevant Coursework:** Security, Programming Languages & Compilers, Algorithms, Databases, Systems Programming, Applied Machine Learning, Text Information Systems, Data Structures, Computer Architecture, Discrete Structures, Software Design Studio, *Planned: Distributed Systems, Numerical Methods*

## EXPERIENCE

### Confluent

Virtual

Software Engineering Intern – Cloud-Native Kafka

May 2020 – Aug 2020

- Added relevant JMX metrics for Agents and Tasks in [KIP-627](#) to Trogdor, Apache Kafka's testing framework
- Introduced chaos engineering through network fault injection to Confluent Cloud by extending Trogdor's fault injection capabilities with a new CloudNetworkFault and integrated this with Confluent's automated cloud testing

### MongoDB

New York City, NY

Software Engineering Intern – Node.js Driver

May 2019 – Aug 2019

- Developed various user-requested changes to error handling and testing of the Node.js Driver
- Designed and implemented a new testing framework using Mocha.js for the entire Node.js Driver, focusing on its design, introducing better functionality, minimizing startup and teardown costs of running tests, and general performance

### The New York Times

New York City, NY

Technology Intern – Digital Subscriptions Backend

May 2018 – Aug 2018

- Utilized GCP to reduce digital subscriptions testing costs to ~\$0.01 using Cloud Functions
- Integrated the entire international subscription payment process with Worldpay
- Used Cloud Dataflow to optimize a daily digital subscription Cron job previously run on GAE

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### Secure Federated Learning – Undergraduate Research Assistant

July 2020 – Present

- Research: Secure Federated Learning for Clinical Informatics with Applications to the COVID-19 Pandemic under Professors Sanmi Koyejo and Dakshita Khurana, funded by C3.ai Digital Transformation Institute
- Building a machine learning model using distributed training that aggregates the local models of various hospitals to improve a global model ultimately aimed at gaining secure learning insights from COVID-19 patient X-ray data

### Course Assistant

[CS 241: Systems Programming](#)

Aug 2019 – Present

[CS 225: Data Structures](#)

Jan 2019 – May 2020

## LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

[ACM Reflections | Projections](#) – Director

Dec 2019 – Present

[Illinois Women in Computer Science](#) – Head of Corporate

May 2018 – May 2019

[Bluebonnet Data Fellow](#) – Rachel Willis Kansas Senate District 20 Campaign Data Team

June 2020 – Present

[Rewriting the Code Fellow](#)

Dec 2017 – Present

**Extracurricular Involvement:** HackIllinois (Staff), CS@ILLINOIS Sail (Staff), Students Consulting for Nonprofits, The Daily Illini (Web Developer), Society of Women Engineers