Param Thakkar

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Education

University of Waterloo

Pursuing a Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)

Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, SQL, Java, Scala, C/C++, PHP, HTML/CSS, Sass Libraries/Frameworks: React, TensorFlow, Node.js, Express, Svelte, Flask, Django, REST APIs Tools/DBs: AWS, Linux, Bash, Git, MongoDB, MySQL, TravisCI, Docker, Firebase, Figma

EXPERIENCE

Software Developer Intern 🖸	May 2023 – August 2023
zipBoard	Vancouver, Canada
• Developed features for the project management and document review platform using React, Node, MongoDB	
• Created the ability to @mention others in comments which was adopted by 92% of users within the first month	
• Researched various techniques to categorize tasks including training a custom classification model, fine-tuning	
RoBERTa or LLaMa 2, using the GPT3.5 API and compared their effectiveness in multiple scenarios	
• Integrated OpenAI's GPT model to automatically classify user-created ta	sks and comments into appropriate tags
• Added device emulation functionality for website review, including support	rt for custom devices
Software Developer Intern	December 2020 – June 2021
NOVA x Network	Toronto, Canada
• Designed and implemented the fellowship application portal using Figma, React and Firebase	
• Reduced time required to review applications by 25% by automating the review workflow using Zapier	
President	October 2020 – June 2021
Port Credit Coding Club	Mississauga, Canada
• Led a team of 5 executives to organize weekly workshops on data structures/algorithms in Python	
• Coordinated talks with alumni from MIT, Google, Nvidia, Tesla with upwards of 50 participants	
Lead Organizer	December 2020 – April 2021
Lighthouse Hacks (lighthousehacks.ca)	Virtual
• Led a team of organizers to plan, market, and host a virtual hackathon	
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• Attracted over **200 participants** from **10 countries** and over **\$40,000** in prize value

Projects

1pt.co URL Shortener | React, Node.js, Express, MySQL

- Built and deployed an open-source URL shortening service alongisde a public REST API
- Implemented a login system using Google authentication and JWT validation
- Detects and prevents users from being redirected to malicious URLs using Google Safe Browsing API
- Currently hosts more than $\mathbf{80,000}$ links and has over $\mathbf{400,000}$ visits

URL Checker - GitHub Marketplace | Python, Docker

- Developed a GitHub Action that regularly validates URLs used in a project and notifies the author
- Relied upon by $30\ repositories$ with a combined $5000\text{+}\ stars$ on GitHub

Meme Stock Analyzer Bot | Python, Reddit API, TravisCI, Git

- Created a Reddit bot that analyzes the virtual "stock market" on the r/MemeEconomy subreddit
- Ranked among the ${\bf top}~{\bf 500}$ Reddit bots out of over 20,000 bots
- Used Test Driven Development techniques to achieve 93% code coverage

Accomplishments

- Offered the Schulich Leader scholarship (\$100,000) from the University of Toronto
- Placed 1st at Imagine hacka
thon for developing a math learning platform
- Won the "Most Creative App of the Month" award from ${\bf MIT}$ for creating SpellBind
- Went skydiving!

2022 - Present