Annie Zhao

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EDUCATION

Computer Science (B.S.), Statistics (B.S.)   *Expected Graduation: May 2027*
University of Wisconsin - Madison
GPA: 3.8
Honors: Dean's List, Honors Student in the College of Letters & Science
Relevant Coursework: Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, ML for Engineering Research, Advanced Data Structures & Software Engineering, Data Science Modeling, Intro. To Computer Engineering, Intro. To AI (Spring 2025)

SKILLS

- *Programming Languages:* Java, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Python
- *Languages:* English (Fluent), Chinese (Fluent), Spanish (Proficient)

EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin - Madison Informatics Skunkworks   *September 2024 - Present*
Undergraduate Research Assistant | Madison, WI
- Develop interpretable ML models under the advisement of Professor Afflerbach to predict donation campaign returns.
- Implement and optimize Random Forest Regression and XGBoost models with MAST-ML and Google Colab, conducting 5-fold cross-validation for donation campaign analysis.
- Utilize SHAP to identify key features driving donation outcomes and optimize campaign strategies.

University of Wisconsin-Madison Computer Sciences Department   *August 2024 - Present*
Programming I (CS200) Undergraduate Teaching Assistant | Madison, WI
- Lead engaging and collaborative lab sections for 20+ students, addressing any technical challenges they encounter.
- Attend weekly meetings with faculty, reporting student participation and collaborating on teaching strategies.
- Resolve technical issues and questions during drop-in office hours, which 700+ students attend each semester.

City of Eden Prairie   *June 2021 - August 2024*
Lead Camp Counselor | Eden Prairie, MN
- Led 40+ counselors to develop and execute recreational activities for 3-12 year old children with 100% parent satisfaction.
- Delegate responsibilities to all counselors to ensure adherence to weekly and daily schedules.

PROJECTS

iSongly
Backend developer
- A Java application that allows users to interact with songs to filter them by year, loudness, and danceability.
- Implemented unit, opaque-box, and integration tests to ensure functionality.

Campus Navigator WebApp
Frontend developer
- Leveraged Java, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to develop a web application that allows users to find the shortest path between locations or the 10 closest destinations to a location on the UW-Madison campus.
- Implemented Dijkstra's algorithm and a HashtableMap for optimal responses to user queries.

User-Generated Movie Reviews
- Developed a Java program utilizing efficient file I/O operations, ArrayList usage, and error resolution.

Mr. Markov
- A Markov Chain Model for text generation implemented and tested in Java with stack and queue data structures.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

- Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity, Xi chapter - Public Relations Chair *(Present)*
- Code to Connect - Media Chair *(Present)*
- Delta Delta Delta, Mu chapter - Local Outreach Chair *(Present)*
- Association for Computing Machinery's Women in Computing member *(Present)*
- David H. Durra Scholarship Recipient *(2024 - 2025)*