

Ben Zhang

Bachelor of Computer Science, 3A

benzhang.ca

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Skills & Qualifications

- Experience working with large-scale backend systems through previous internships.
- Proficiency in JavaScript and Python developed through internships and personal projects; experience in React, Node.js, Flask, Google App Engine, OCaml, Docker, SQL.
- Working knowledge in C++, Racket, Bash, Nix, Go, MongoDB, PHP, C, Ruby on Rails, Rspec, Selenium, HTML, CSS (Sass & Less), and Travis CI.
- Excellent understanding of the Git version control system from experience in the workplace and side projects.

Experiences

- **Backend Web Developer** Waterloo, ON
Kik Interactive - Chat Community Jan. 2017 - Apr. 2017
 - Took ownership of a key microservice and optimized code base to handle a 5x increase in traffic.
 - Designed and implemented two additional microservices that directly align with Kik's focus of creating a safer community.
 - Reimplemented core moderation logic using task queues, which vastly reduced server timeouts.
 - Rebuilt an internal metrics system to triple the amount of information available.
 - Introduced Firebase to dev.kik.com to replace the deprecated Google Channel API.
- **QA Software Engineer** Toronto, ON
500px - Photography as a Service May. 2016 - Aug. 2016
 - Fixed critical bugs in the automation system; eliminated frequent inconsistencies in testing.
 - Updated and expanded deprecated Continuous Integration (CI) tests using Rspec and Selenium.
 - Implemented a Slack notification system to report build statuses to developers.
 - Developed a tool to catch unexpected UI changes based on screenshots.
 - Designed an automated system to keep track of flaky specs in the CI test suite.
- **Web Project Manager** Waterloo, ON
PackAnts - Real Time Local Package Delivery Jan. 2016 - Apr. 2016
 - Coordinated a web development team to create a user-facing online platform.
 - Utilized React and Docker from development to testing to production.

Projects

- **Vocode** Feb. 2016
 - An 100% voice-enabled, Javascript-based text editor. Powered by Nuance's Natural Language Understanding API.
 - First place winner of the Nuance API prize in McHacks 2016.
- **Silent Sync** Mar. - Apr. 2015
 - Developed and published an Atom.io package in CoffeeScript.
 - Automated the synchronization of local files with remote servers.
 - Installed for over 700 times since the initial launch.

Education

- **University of Waterloo** Waterloo, ON
Candidate for Bachelor of Computer Science 2015 - 2020
 - Faculty Average: 87%, Major Average: 92%
 - Dean's Honours List (Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Spring 2017)
 - President's Scholarship of Distinction (Mar. 2015)