

Jesse Chong

jessechong@pursuit.org | [Github](#) | [Linkedin](#) | [Personal Website](#)

Summary

Driven Full-Stack Software Engineer and AI Trainer passionate about solving complex problems and delivering scalable, impactful solutions. Skilled in developing user-focused applications, architecting reliable backend systems, and performing advanced data analysis. Recent experience includes consulting on API integrations, optimizing workflows, and training AI models through prompt engineering and critical evaluation. Excels in full-stack development, AI training, API integration, data analytics, and distributed system design.

Technical Skills

Front End: JavaScript, HTML CSS, React/Redux, Node.js, APIs, Data Structures, Algorithms, CLI

Back End: Express, PostgreSQL, Axios, Python, NumPy, Pandas

Data Analysis & Processing: Data Visualization, Statistical Analysis, Excel Integration

Software Development Methodologies: Sprints, Agile, Code Reviews, Pair Programming

Deployment: Netlify, Render

Developer Tools: Git, Github, npm, Postman, Trello, AWS

Professional Experience

Consultant / Freelance Developer | The Ithaka Group (New York NY)

November 2024 - Present

- Developed Python scripts to retrieve historical financial data via APIs and implemented portfolio optimization using the Markowitz model.
- Designed and built a centralized database to efficiently store and manage financial data.
- Automated Excel reports with integrated financial calculations and data visualizations for executive decision-making.
- Enhanced system functionality and data accessibility by integrating new APIs into the company's CRM.
- Conducted testing and debugging to optimize system performance and reliability.

AI Trainer | Data Annotations (Contract) (Remote)

March 2025 - Present

- Completed 25+ AI training tasks involving prompt creation, model evaluation, and structured feedback under timed, self-directed conditions.
- Evaluated AI-generated content by comparing user prompts and multiple model responses for accuracy, logical coherence, and instruction adherence.
- Designed original prompts to challenge language models and uncover inconsistencies, hallucinations, and edge-case failures.
- Delivered structured written feedback on model behavior to support iterative fine-tuning and performance improvements.
- Applied analytical and critical thinking skills to improve the alignment, reliability, and output quality of large language models.

Uber Technologies Inc. | Delivery Driver (New York, NY)

January 2020 - Present

- Delivered over 4,000 orders with a 98% customer satisfaction rate, optimizing delivery routes using Uber's app for efficient service.
- Provided app functionality feedback to Testlio, contributing to improved app functionality and real-time navigation performance.

Technical Projects

FreshStart (project) | [Live Website](#) | [Repo](#)

A user-friendly app targeted for migrants to easily access information and locations needed to assimilate and thrive in NYC.

- Engineered a responsive, multilingual web app for migrants in NYC to access essential resources, improving accessibility for 500+ users
- Led a 4-member team to build FreshStart using React, Node.js, Express, and PostgreSQL, integrating real-time geolocation and multiple Google Maps APIs
- Integrated Lokalise API with i18next, enabling a multilingual experience supporting 5 languages and increased user engagement by 30%
- Launched a fully functional app displaying over 20+ essential locations, improving resource access for migrants by 40%

Pursuit Hackathon | Participant (New York, NY)

January 2024

- Led a team of 3 in a 2-day hackathon, building an app to help users find public restrooms in NYC using real-time data.
- Developed using React, Node.js, and PostgreSQL, integrating Google Maps and public restroom APIs for live location tracking.
- Managed project timelines, reallocating resources to ensure a working MVP was delivered on time.
- Gained insights into MVP planning and improving project management under tight constraints

Education

Full Stack Software Engineering | Pursuit | Long Island City, New York

March 2023 - April 2024

Relevant Coursework: Javascript, HTML, CSS, React/Redux, PostgreSQL, Test-driven development(TDD)

Queensborough Community College | Business Administration

January 2018 - May 2018

Relevant Coursework: CS-100 : Introduction to Computers and Programming, BU-101 : Principles of Accounting