

Ben Asokanthan

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EDUCATION

Western University

London, ON

Bachelor of Science – Honours Specialization in Computer Science

2020-2025

- 88%, 3.8/4.0 GPA (Dean's Honor List 2021, 2022, 2023)
- **Courses:** Linear Algebra, Computer Architecture, Data Structures and Algorithms I and II, Systems Programming, Discrete Structures, Computer Graphics I, Object Oriented Design, OS, Databases, Analysis of Algorithms, Programming Language Theory, Computer Organization, Science Internship Program
- **Clubs:** Co-President for Power to Change Western, VP Design for Western AI, Designer for Game Design Society, Computer Science Undergraduate Society.

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer Intern

January 2023 – April 2023

Project Jupyter & RBC (MLH Fellowship)

Remote

- Used Python, TypeScript, and React to improve the JupyterLab IDE's Git extension for 1 million+ users
- Added support for viewing base64 encoded images from the server. Implemented the custom Git image diff viewer React component allowing users to see differences between two versions of an image
- Built the Git stash user interface, and assisted development of related backend Python REST endpoints
- Wrote Playwright integration tests and Python unit tests, improving test coverage for the whole project by 8%

Software Developer Intern

May 2023 – Present

Cognition+

Hybrid/London, ON

- Contributed to the insurance app's accounting features in the rewrite to Angular frontend & Java Spring backend
- Improved the type safety of all workflow filter dropdowns on the front-end by replacing unnecessary type casts with a completed interface, resulting in better developer experience
- Pushed for wider adoption of code formatters/linters (Google Java Format and eslint) on the team to improve code readability and consistency across the codebase

Web Developer and Hackathon Organizer

May 2023 – Present

Hack Western

Remote

- Built the promotional site Next.js/React app. Created animations and parallax interactions with TailwindCSS to attract sponsors and hackers to Hack Western
- Created base UI component library with 13 components to be used for the hacker application portal

PROJECTS

TypeHero | *TypeScript, Next.js, React, TailwindCSS, Prisma, MySQL, PlanetScale, Vercel, Resend* July 2023

- Contributed to an open source platform for learning TypeScript through challenges used by 1600+ developers
- Built the custom challenge and solution comment system with React Query and Next.js Server Actions
- Optimized Prisma database queries in the app, improving average request execution performance by 48%

Western Rank | *TypeScript, Next.js, React, TailwindCSS, Prisma, PostgreSQL, AWS RDS, Vercel* June 2023

- Led a team of 5 to design and develop a full-stack application for UWO students to review and explore courses
- Implemented the review prompt and explore courses page, helping Western students find their next course
- Promoted the project to gain 3000+ unique visitors and 350+ Western student reviews after the first month

CHIP-8 Emulator | *C++, SDL2*

January 2022

- Developed an easy to use, configurable emulator for the CHIP-8 system with 4 other computer science students
- Implemented binary processor instruction decoding for all 32 CPU instructions of the CHIP-8 specification

SKILLS

Programming Languages: JavaScript/TypeScript, HTML/CSS, Python, Java, Go, C, C++, SQL, PHP

Frameworks: React.js, Next.js, Svelte, Java Spring, Express.js, Flask

Developer Tools: Git, UNIX/Linux, Vim

Libraries: Jest, Playwright, THREE.js, React Query, SDL, pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, scikit-learn