

ATHARVA GAIKWAD

San Francisco Bay Area, CA · (315) 575-8511 · gaikwadatharva394@gmail.com · [LinkedIn](#) · [GitHub](#) · [Portfolio](#)

Education

Syracuse University

Master of Science in Computer Science, GPA: 3.66/4.0

Coursework: Agentic AI, Data Structures and Algorithms, Operating Systems, Computer Architecture, Natural Language Processing

August 2024 – May 2026

Syracuse, NY

Pune University

Bachelor of Engineering in Information Technology, GPA: 3.4/4.0

August 2019 – May 2023

Pune, India

Skills

Languages: Python, Java, JavaScript, TypeScript, C++, SQL, Bash

Backend: Node.js, Express.js, Flask, FastAPI, Django, Spring Boot, REST APIs, GraphQL, Microservices, Event-Driven Architecture, Kafka, Redis Pub/Sub

Frontend: React, Angular, Next.js, Redux, Material UI, HTML/CSS, Responsive Design, Webpack

Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, DynamoDB, Firebase, Database Design, Query Optimization, Data Modeling, ORM, Caching, ETL

Cloud & DevOps: AWS (Lambda, EC2, S3, RDS, API Gateway, ECS, SQS, CloudWatch), Docker, Kubernetes, CI/CD (GitHub Actions, Jenkins), Monitoring, Linux

System Design: Scalability, High Availability, Load Balancing, Distributed Systems, Design Patterns, SOLID, TDD, MVC

Tools: Git, JIRA, Confluence, Postman, Swagger/OpenAPI, Agile/Scrum, Code Review, LLMs, RAG, LangChain, LangGraph

Certification: AWS Certified GenAI Developer – Professional

Experience

Syracuse University (iConsult Collaborative)

Software Development Engineer

October 2024 – July 2025

Syracuse, NY

- Architected a microservices-based health-tech platform with a React.js frontend and Node.js backend services, integrating REST APIs that served 5K+ daily requests and delivering 12+ production features through Agile sprints
- Designed responsive UI components with Redux state management and Material UI, implementing Redis caching and PostgreSQL query optimization that improved page load performance by 25%
- Programmed CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions with Docker containerization, automating test suites across staging and production environments and reducing deployment cycle time by 40%
- Maintained 95%+ test coverage with Jest and Cypress, standardizing Swagger/OpenAPI documentation for all API contracts and enforcing code quality through systematic peer reviews

Cerence AI – Cerence Assistant Platform

Software Development Engineer I

January 2023 – July 2024

Pune, IN

- Engineered server-side microservices and REST APIs for Cerence Assistant, an AI-powered voice assistant deployed in 5M+ vehicles, supporting natural language understanding and speech-to-intent processing with sub-200ms latency
- Constructed real-time data synchronization services using Firebase and SQLite with ORM-based persistence, handling 50K+ daily sync operations and implementing Redis caching that improved retrieval speed by 35%
- Fortified the event-driven media processing pipeline with Apache Kafka and async background threading, processing 1M+ events monthly while scaling to 500+ concurrent sessions
- Standardized architecture-level troubleshooting guides and API documentation in Confluence, reducing new engineer onboarding from 3 weeks to under 2 weeks

Cerence AI – Cerence Assistant Platform

Software Development Engineer Intern

May 2022 – August 2022

Pune, IN

- Remodeled legacy backend services following Repository and Factory design patterns in Java, improving code readability by 25% and reducing API response latency by 20%
- Operated regression testing across 50 test cases and tracked deliverables through JIRA, decreasing app crash rate by 18% while maintaining sprint velocity across a 15-member team

Projects

Free Flow | *React, Node.js, Express, Socket.io, PostgreSQL, Docker, OpenAI GPT*

ETHGlobal NYC Hackathon 2025

- Built a full stack multiplayer platform with React/Redux frontend and Node.js/Express microservices backend using event-driven architecture via Socket.io, handling 50+ concurrent users with sub-100ms latency
- Integrated OpenAI GPT for natural language command parsing and ElevenLabs API for real-time speech synthesis, powering 15+ AI-driven commands that reduced manual input by 60%. Won a prize at ETHGlobal NYC 2025

Intelligent Bistro | *TypeScript, React Native, Expo, Node.js, Fastify, Claude Sonnet, Zod*

- Engineered a full-stack AI restaurant ordering app with a React Native/Expo mobile frontend and Node.js/Fastify backend, integrating Claude Sonnet via Anthropic's tool-use API to convert natural-language orders into validated structured cart actions, eliminating client-side state manipulation and ensuring 100% server-enforced order integrity
- Designed a Zod-to-JSON-schema pipeline unifying the LLM tool contract and server-side validators in a single source of truth, covering 4 discriminated cart action types with 23 unit tests and a zero-cost mock mode that enables full offline iteration without Anthropic API spend