Vedant Kankate

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Education

California State University, Los Angeles 08/24 – 05/26
MS in Computer Science – Data Structures & Algorithms, Object-Oriented Design, Distributed Systems *3.9/4.0*

MIT Art, Design and Technology University, Pune 08/20 – 06/24
Bachelor's of Technology in Computer Science *3.85/4.0*

Experience

Instructional Student Assistant – Engineering & Computer Science Dept. 09/25 – 06/26
California State University, Los Angeles *Los Angeles, CA*

- Translated engineering concepts into practical technical guidance for 120+ students across 4 sections, coordinating with 3 faculty members to align instruction and solve learning challenges.
- Led hands-on lab sessions on problem-solving, engineering design, and technical documentation, improving student lab completion rates by 25%.

Graduate Assistant – CI/CD & Machine Learning 01/25 – 06/25
California State University, Los Angeles *Los Angeles, CA*

- Designed and deployed AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda) document-processing workflows for 50K+ records; added monitoring, validation, and automated retries to achieve 99.9% uptime and cut manual effort by 80%.
- Built distributed Spark/PySpark ETL pipelines processing 10K documents/hour; implemented dead-letter queues and backoff retries to support reliable recovery from failures.
- Integrated OpenAI/Anthropic APIs for automated extraction, increasing developer productivity by 50%; reviewed code for 4 engineers and documented design decisions in 15+ technical docs.

Full-Stack Software Engineer Intern 08/23 – 10/23
Webstack Academy *Remote*

- Optimized customer-facing backend API routing and Redis caching for 1,000+ concurrent users, improving response time by 35% and reducing database load by 50%.
- Implemented responsive JavaScript components and code-splitting to improve initial application load time by 30%.
- Delivered JWT authentication, database query improvements, and Docker-based CI/CD automation, reducing deployment time from 45 to 8 minutes.

Projects

PromptForge AI | *React, TypeScript, Firebase, Cohere API, Tailwind CSS* | Demo 01/26 – 04/26

- Built an AI-assisted prompt workflow for 500+ users, integrating Cohere's LLM API and Firebase authentication to deliver real-time refinement across 5 task categories.
- Added persistent history, personalized suggestions, and JSON/TXT export for 1K+ generated prompts, reducing reported user workflow time by 40%.

MediClaim Accelerator | *React, Vite, Firebase, Tailwind CSS* | Github 08/25 – 12/25

- Engineered a role-based healthcare intake and claims workflow with automated patient IDs and live record updates, reducing claim-processing time by 60%.
- Designed Firestore-backed search by ID, email, phone, and name for 10K+ records, reducing patient lookup latency from 30 seconds to under 2 seconds.
- Integrated SendGrid and Twilio APIs for automated patient confirmations and status notifications across email and SMS channels.

Smoke Forecast Visualizer | *Kotlin, Jetpack Compose, Google Maps SDK, NASA FIRMS API* | Github 01/25 – 06/25

- Delivered an Android wildfire visualization integrating NASA FIRMS, weather, and AQI APIs; processed concurrent requests to display 10K+ active hotspots.
- Added retry handling, circuit breakers, and structured logging to improve API resilience, achieving a 99% request success rate under unstable network conditions.
- Optimized Google Maps overlays and clustering to render 10K+ markers with approximately 200ms load time on mid-range devices.

Technical Skills

Languages: Java, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Kotlin, C/C++, SQL, HTML/CSS, Bash
Technologies: REST APIs, React, Node.js, Express.js, Django, Kafka, DNS, TCP/IP, HTTP, WebSockets
Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB, Redis, Firebase, Firestore, SQLite, SQL, NoSQL
DevOps / Cloud: Git, GitHub, Docker, Kubernetes, AWS (EC2, S3, Lambda), CI/CD, Jenkins, Postman, Agile
AI & ML: CrewAI, LLM APIs (Cohere, OpenAI, Gemini), Machine Learning, NLP, Apache Spark, PySpark, Pandas, Data Modeling

Achievements & Certifications

- Prompt Engineering & Programming with OpenAI – Columbia University, Nov 2025 (ID: 166889026)
- Guinness World Record Contributor – Largest online photo album of National Flags, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Aug 2022