

Jeffrey Li

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Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science & Engineering

Relevant Coursework: Linear Algebra, Discrete Math, C and Assembly, Machine Learning, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Software Construction, Computation Structures, Deep Learning, NLP, Computer Systems, Probability, Reinforcement Learning

Cambridge, MA

Exp. May 2027

Experience

SmallestAI

Research Engineer

San Francisco, CA

Jun 2026 – Aug 2026

- Built benchmarking and evaluation systems (metrics, scoring, failure analysis) for East Asian multilingual streaming ASR and emotion/gender detection, driving data curation, architecture, and post-training decisions by diagnosing model failure patterns.
- Applied SFT and data-augmentation training strategies for a multilingual ASR model, shipping a production checkpoint that outperformed competitor models on internal benchmarks.
- Designed architecture experiments and post-trained emotion and gender detection streaming models through SFT and LoRA, validated against a custom benchmark across acoustic conditions, beating open baselines.

MIT Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Lab + Department of Brain & Cognitive Sciences

Machine Learning Researcher

Cambridge, MA

Sept 2025 – Jun 2026

- Reproduced empirical laws demonstrating that mean NN outputs vary linearly with the learning rate. Validated the Edge of Stochastic Stability framework by tracking batch sharpness and Hessian eigenvalues to explain how SGD self-regulates curvature.
- Created an end-to-end LLM fine-tuning pipeline for Qwen-3.5-9B, generating synthetic multi-hop datasets to train explicit selection rationales that filter adversarial noise in complex RAG workflows for insurance tasks.

Amazon Web Services

Software Development Engineer Intern

Seattle, WA

Jun 2025 – Aug 2025

- Built an internal CLI for Fargate teams used by 50+ engineers, integrating 8 service APIs for ECS Managed Instances to automate test setup; processed 200+ ops/day and cut setup time by 30% by replacing manual steps with scripted workflows.
- Automated region build system for Fargate mechanic tool using infrastructure-as-code and CI/CD, replacing a 14-step manual process with one-touch expansion into new AWS regions and reducing deployment time from 1 week to 3 hours.

Amazon Web Services

Software Development Engineer Intern

Seattle, WA

Jun 2024 – Aug 2024

- Designed and implemented an asynchronous lifecycle management workflow using Java + DynamoDB to automate the draining processes for ECS Managed Instances, reducing manual intervention and improving lifecycle management efficiency.
- Built test automation stack achieving 90+% code coverage through JUnit + Mockito, structured logging, and metrics handling.

Vibrantec

Team Lead & Full Stack Mobile App Developer

Remote

Jan 2024 – Jun 2025

- Led architecture & UI/UX development for health tech startup across 5 product launches, implementing Flutter/Java with server-driven UI backend architecture and AWS Lambda endpoints based on sales team and customer feedback
- Managed engineering team of 3 developers, increasing sprint velocity through streamlined workflows and code reviews.

Projects & Activities

Plume + MatchMIT

May 2026 – Sept 2026

- Project maintainer for Plume, HackMIT's registration, project submission, and judging platform, owning the redesign of a new comparison based judging algorithm, custom digital wallet passes, and load-tested and scaled infrastructure to handle event-day requests serving 1000 hackers, 300 projects, and 200 judges.
- Built MatchMIT, HackMIT's swipe-based teammate matching web app, as a full-stack developer; shipped to 500+ users at peak with 50 teams successfully formed.

MIT Sandbox Innovation Fund

Sept 2024 – Sept 2025

- Co-founded [Casava](#), comprehensive sublet search platform aggregating listings scraped from multiple platforms (Facebook, Craigslist, RedNote), securing \$1,500 in pre-seed funding and building a 100+ person waitlist prior to launch.
- Developed a full-stack web app that scrapes and normalizes housing listings from multiple sources using automated CRON jobs and LLM-powered extraction, serving structured data through a RESTful API backed by PostgreSQL.

Improved RAG for Financial Question Answering

Oct 2025 – Dec 2025

- Researched and developed a RAG system for financial document QA by implementing structure-aware PDF parsing, hybrid retrieval, fine-tuned cross-encoder reranking, and optimized vector search pipelines to enhance retrieval accuracy on FinQA.

Skills & Interests

Organizations: HackMIT (developer + corporate relations), MIT Entrepreneurship club, Chinese Students Club, FLI@MIT, MISTI

Technologies: Python, Java, C/C++, React, Node, Express, FastAPI, Tailwind, Typescript, Flutter, Firebase, SQL, AWS, PyTorch, Swift

Interests: Startups, side projects, hikes, running, weightlifting, basketball, The Knicks, Suits, 12 Angry Men

Languages: English, Chinese – *All professional proficiency or above.*