Layden Halcomb

(573) 707-1874 | lhalcomb@drury.edu | LinkedIn| GitHub

Education

Drury University, Springfield, MO | GPA: 3.96 | Dean's List

B.S., Computer Science | B.A., Mathematics — Anticipated May 2026

Relevant Coursework: Drury University, Springfield, MO

Data Structures & Algorithms, — Spring 2023, Fall 2023

Application Development I & II, — Fall 2023, Spring 2024

Intro to ML, Artificial Intelligence, — Fall 2024, Spring 2025

Mathematical Statistics & Probability, — Fall 2025, Spring 2026

Technical Projects

Java Data Structures & Algorithms: Self-studied Java and implemented various data structures and algorithms, building proficiency in low-level programming (Summer 2023).

Embedded Systems: Completed multiple projects focused on low-level software to deepen understanding of embedded systems. (Summer 2024)

Sudoku Solver – Python (Pygame) & C++

Technologies: Python, Pygame, C++, Algorithm Design, Data Structures

- Developed a visual Sudoku solver using Pygame to display solving logic in real time.
- Implemented Dancing Links (DLX) for efficient puzzle solving.
- Recreated solver in C++ using Dancing Links (DLX) to enhance performance and memory control.
- Gained experience in low-level debugging and optimized data structures for algorithmic efficiency.

Coursework Projects

Weather App Development: Created weather applications with backend database connectivity, enhancing skills in application development (Fall 2023 - Spring 2024).

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KiiP (Key Income Investment Planner) App Development: Developed an application to a degree of Minimum Viable Product that kept track of financial spending transactions on demand. Enhanced skills in API's, React, and Typescript.

Handwritten Digit Classification using CNNs & RNNs

Technologies: PyTorch, Scikit-learn, MNIST Dataset, NumPy, Matplotlib

- Designed and trained **Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)** and **Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)** to classify **handwritten digits (0–9)** using the **MNIST dataset**.
- Utilized **PyTorch** for model building and training, implementing custom training loops and evaluation metrics.
- Conducted data preprocessing and augmentation using **Scikit-learn** and **NumPy** to improve generalization.
- Compared model architectures and performance using validation accuracy and confusion matrices.

Additional projects can be discussed upon request.

Leadership & Experience

Teaching Assistant, Intro to Computer Science

Drury University, Springfield, MO | Spring 2024

Supported students in Python programming, data structures, and algorithmic concepts, providing individualized guidance.
Assisted with lab sessions and grading, improving communication and mentorship abilities.

Shift Leader, Panda Express

(2021 - Present)

Strengthened leadership and interpersonal skills, and honed abilities in attention to detail, communication, and active listening through team collaboration and customer interactions.

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, Java, C++
Framework/ Tools: React, Typescript, Expo, Git, VS & VS Code, Excel
Concepts: OOP, Data Structures, API Integration

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Other: Version Control, Database Integration, Embedded Systems, Machine Learning, OS (Ubuntu, MacOS, Windows)

Activities & Societies

Drury Indie Game Studio
AMS/MMA Missouri State Collegiate Mathematical Contingent (2023, 2024)
Kappa Mu Epsilon (Mathematics Honor Society)