Donald Chu

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Education

Columbia University (School of Engineering and Applied Sciences) New York, NY
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science *Expected Graduation: May 2028*

Experience

Forward Deployed Engineer Intern Mar 2026 – Jul 2026
Phia *New York, NY*
- Enabled partnership analysis across **9,600+ brands** by building a dashboard of brand performance trends
- Built a Next.js and PlanetScale CMS to manage **6,000+ partner brands** and track monthly GMV
- Scraped **10,000+ Meta Ads** using Playwright, CSS selectors, and browser sessions hosted on Kernel.sh
- Built a Gemini Pro video-analysis pipeline to extract ad hooks, sentiment, and on-screen content from Meta Ads

Full Stack Software Engineer Intern Mar 2024 – Oct 2024
Revision Dojo (YC S25) *Remote*
- Built scalable chatbot infrastructure with OpenAI's Assistants API for a platform serving **140K+ MAU**
- Enabled **10 employees** to create **50+ subject chatbots** through an admin UI for setup and material uploads
- Evaluated IB math chatbot responses against course materials to assess answer accuracy and curriculum relevance

AI Research Engineer Intern Jul 2024
ELSA (Google-backed AI Startup) *Lisbon, Portugal*
- Built a prompting system for **50+ AI personalities** with a team of **4 AI/ML PhD researchers**
- Designed a proposed approach for long-term AI memory using semantic and episodic memory integration

Research Assistant May 2023 – Aug 2023
University of Houston-Victoria *Houston, TX*
- Built a nanoparticle heating dataset by reviewing **100+ research papers** and extracting experimental data
- Trained neural networks to predict heating efficiency from particle properties and magnetic field conditions
- Improved prediction R^2 from **0.790 to 0.883** by expanding the hidden layer from 10 to 500 neurons

Publications

Chu, Donald; Tomitaka, Asahi — "Machine learning-based prediction model for magnetic hyperthermia," *IEEE Transactions on Magnetics*
ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10843262

Projects

Waddle – Full-Stack Couples App | Previously #199 in App Store (Lifestyle) | *SwiftUI, Supabase, RevenueCat*
- Founded an iOS app with a Supabase backend, reaching **20K+ users and $11K in monthly revenue**
- Drove user acquisition by hiring and managing a team of **5 creators** to produce social content promoting the app
- Achieved **7% trial starts** and **38% trial-to-paid conversion** through data-driven onboarding and UX changes

Study Snail – AI Study Platform | *Next.js, Supabase, Stripe, OpenAI* | studysnail.com
- Reached **27,000+ users and $5K+ revenue** by building and launching an AI study platform
- Processed **10K+ document pages** for AI question answering using chunking, embeddings, and RAG
- Generated **4K+ quizzes and 100K+ flashcards** using background AI jobs with Zod-validated output
- Drove **500K+ views** on Reddit, TikTok, and Instagram through creator partnerships and social campaigns

Imagation – AI Image Generator | *Next.js, Supabase, Stripe, OpenAI* | imagation.com
- Built an AI image platform reaching **10K+ users, $3K+ revenue, and 18K+ generated images**
- Built IP-based usage tracking for free AI tools to support abuse prevention and generation limits
- Generated **1M total search impressions**, averaging **10K daily**, through an SEO-first acquisition strategy

Technical Skills

Languages: JavaScript, TypeScript, Swift, Java, Python, SQL, HTML/CSS
Frameworks & Libraries: Next.js, React, SwiftUI, Django, Flask, Tailwind CSS, Zod
Tools & DevOps: Git, GitHub Actions, Docker, Kubernetes, Terraform, Sentry, PostHog, Claude Code, Codex, Cursor
Cloud & Data: Google Cloud, Cloud Scheduler, Airflow, Cloud Composer, PostgreSQL, Redis, Supabase, Vercel