# ALYSSA ZHANG

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# **EDUCATION**

# UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

BCS, Honours Computer Science (Co-op) | 2020-2025

- Relevant Courses: Algorithms, Database Management, Applied Linear Models, Object-Oriented Software Development, Data Structures & Data Management, Computational Statistics & Data Analysis, Applied Cryptography
- Varsity Swim Team 3x Athletic Financial Award recipient, OUA (provincial-level) bronze medalist

# SKILLS

#### Languages: Python, R, SQL, PL/SQL, C, C++, JSON, CSV

**Tools/Software**: Azure Machine Learning and Databricks, Oracle SQL Developer, SQL Server Reporting Services, Jupyter Notebook, Google Colaboratory, RStudio, Git, GitHub, Azure DevOps (Team Foundation Server), Apache Spark, PySpark, Keras & TensorFlow, Power BI, MS Word/Excel/Access, Python Libraries (Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-Learn, SciPy)

**Proficiencies**: Data Mining, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Time Series Forecasting, Linear Regression, Dimensionality Reduction, K-Nearest Neighbors, K-fold Cross-Validation

# **EXPERIENCE**

## DATA SCIENTIST

#### SGS & Co | Sept-Current

• Conducted comprehensive data cleaning, feature engineering, and scaling using Scikit-Learn for a regression model to predict production task times; trained model using XGBoost and Azure AutoML

## PROGRAMMER ANALYST

#### Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General | May-Aug 2023

- Streamlined 6 key quarterly reports through data integration, debugging queries, and simplifying interfaces to enhance usability; resulted in a 40% reduction in report generation time and the full resolution of 2 previously unusable reports
- Migrated reports to the data warehouse by building extract-transform-load (ETL) pipelines using PL/SQL, consolidating with RDL
- Proactively initiated contact with the business to acquire current report and data specifications, resulting in accelerated project delivery

## DATA SCIENTIST

#### Intact Financial Corporation | May-Aug 2022

- Analyzed possible improvements for gradient boosting model to predict claims that were likely to incur larger expenses
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to analyze **3** new data sources to find metadata that could be linked to existing features
- Conducted **data wrangling** and **feature engineering** which increased the importance of existing features; introduced 24 new features to improve model performance
- Supported departmental POC pitch by extracting model statistics and exploring model correlation, challenging business hypotheses

## MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS ENGINEER

#### Toyota Motor Manufacturing Corporation (TMMC) – Innovation Lab | Sept-Dec 2021

- Trained convolutional neural networks (CNN) with YOLOv3 for 2 live computer vision systems; used image classification and object detection to identify vehicle part defects in production
- Introduced new workflow to train deep learning model with Mask-RCNN to accommodate for polygon labeling; expedited training time by 50% and improved precision by 33%
- Took proactive measures to identify potential live freight issues and presented solutions to General Managers for resolution