

SEAN CHAN

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EDUCATION

Boston University

Master of Science in Data Science | GPA: 3.60/4.00

Boston, MA

Expected January 2027

Iowa State University

B.S. in Business Analytics & B.S. in Finance | GPA: 3.49/4.00

Ames, IA

December 2024

- Study abroad: Korea University, Seoul (Aug–Dec 2023)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming & Data: Python (PyTorch, pandas, NumPy), R, SQL (MySQL), MS Access, Java

BI & Visualization: Power BI, Tableau, Excel, JMP, RapidMiner

Cloud & Platforms: Microsoft Azure, SAP, Salesforce Sales

Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay, Hokkien (fluent); Korean (intermediate); German, Spanish (beginner)

EXPERIENCE

Iowa State University — International Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

Scholar & Employment Unit Assistant

Feb 2025 – Jul 2025

- Built a Python automation script that generated State of Iowa tax returns from intake spreadsheets, eliminating manual data entry across hundreds of student filings while flagging anomalies for human review.
- Delivered VITA-certified tax preparation for 100+ international students, ensuring accurate 1040-NR and state filings under IRS guidelines.
- Completed end-to-end I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification for incoming student employees, maintaining 100% audit-ready documentation.

Iowa State University — International Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

Student Assistant

May 2022 – Dec 2024

- Served as front-line support in the SUNAPSIS case-management system for an active population of ~2,500 international students, resolving F-1/J-1 visa, CPT, and OPT inquiries.
- Prepared 1040-NR federal tax returns for international students, translating complex residency rules into clear guidance for non-expert filers.
- Processed I-9 Employment Verification forms and supported compliance reporting for office leadership.

Andersen Corporation

Minneapolis, MN

Finance Intern

May 2023 – Aug 2023

- Reconciled monthly bank statements against the general ledger, identifying and resolving variances to support timely month-end close.
- Prepared fixed-asset verification tasks for 3 manufacturing facilities and documented the underlying processes to support audit readiness and operational continuity.

PROJECTS

Teru Teru: A Weather-and-Activity-Aware Outfit Recommendation App

May 2026

Boston University — DS 719 Data Science Product Management

- Co-designed a weather-and-activity-aware outfit recommendation concept addressing the “micro-climate trap” facing Boston commuters who navigate volatile outdoor weather and over-conditioned indoor spaces.
- Translated user research into product requirements, prototyping core flows in Figma and validating the recommendation interaction with target users before final pitch.

Byte-Level Language Modeling: MEGABYTE vs. Transformer

May 2026

Boston University — CS 505 Introduction to Natural Language Processing

- Implemented a patch-based MEGABYTE transformer and a baseline flat transformer in PyTorch for autoregressive byte-level language modeling, training both at 2M and 10M parameters on up to 2B bytes of text.
- Demonstrated a 3.1× training speedup for MEGABYTE at 10M parameters with comparable bits-per-byte loss, validating the architecture's efficiency claims for long-sequence modeling.
- Extended the work with patch-size interpolation experiments ($P = 2, 4, 8, 16$) to study trade-offs between local and global context capacity.

WGBH Investigates: Medical Debt

Dec 2025

Boston University — DS 701 Tools for Data Science

- Partnered with WGBH (Boston PBS) on an investigative data project examining medical-debt patterns, working in a 6-person team to clean, merge, and analyze public court records in Python and surface geographic and demographic patterns to support newsroom reporting.