

MATTHEW WATSON

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EDUCATION

Illinois Institute of Technology

M.A.S. Data Science; B.S. Computer Science; Minor in Information Technology & Management

Chicago, IL

Expected May 2027

- **GPA:** 3.5
- **Relevant Courses:** Intro to Machine Learning, Probability & Statistics, Data Structures & Algorithms, Database Organization, Computational Mathematics, Discrete Mathematics, Software Engineering, Regression, Online Social Network Analysis, Coding for Data, Data Mining, Big Data Technologies, Statistical Learning

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RSM US LLP

Advanced Analytics & Artificial Intelligence Consulting Intern

Chicago, IL

June 2026 – August 2026

- Delivered a runtime speedup of more than 10x by building a Python FP-Growth engine to mine association rules from 22,000+ work orders and 129,000+ service-line records across 1,630 unique parts, paired with LLM classification into 14 fault categories.
- Replaced a crash-prone Excel process with a governed, self-service Power BI reporting layer by authoring a BRD and 30+ KPI catalog and building SQL and Azure Data Factory medallion pipelines.
- Built a 60-action Power Automate pipeline using 5 connectors to validate row counts across 178 tables in a 4,393-entity scope; the firm productized it as a reusable client data-quality solution.

CNO Financial Group

Information Technology Intern (Software Engineering Specialization)

Chicago, IL

May 2025 – August 2025

- Implemented an NLP system to flag insurance risk in real time across 100+ data streams from 16 sources, combining keyword matching, sentiment analysis, and weighted scoring to generate confidence scores.
- Built a Monte Carlo simulation engine using binomial, Poisson, and gamma models to calculate 95% Value at Risk (VaR) and simulate loss frequency-severity distributions for actuarial decision support.
- Built and deployed a full-stack React/FastAPI dashboard for 5-minute real-time data visualization, loss histograms, and scenario management, integrated with secure pipelines and Agile CI/CD workflows.

The Global Career Accelerator

Data Science Extern

Chicago, IL

August 2025 – November 2025

- Built SQL workflows using CRUD operations, CTEs, and multi-table joins to analyze 2M+ records, including datasets of 22,000+ GameJet Users, 23,000+ NBA games, and 4.8M+ TfL journeys.
- Performed OLAP-style aggregations to calculate KPIs, including a 6.76% first-day purchase rate, and analyzed more than 1,900 user sessions.
- Used Python notebooks to clean data, engineer features, and conduct exploratory analysis on College Football, Capital Bikeshare, and Olympic performance datasets, visualizing trends and validating SQL insights.

PROJECTS

Housing Valuation Machine Learning Project

Intro to Machine Learning, CS484

Chicago, IL

February 2025 – May 2025

- Built and optimized Linear, XGBoost, LightGBM regression models on 50k+ Boston and Chicago home sales, achieving an R^2 score of 0.84 and cutting average price-prediction error by 30%.
- Engineered 5+ structural features including land-use ratio, total garage size, and income tier, raising model accuracy 15%.
- Tuned LightGBM with 1,000 Bayesian optimization trials, improving forecast reliability and maintaining validation variance below 5%.

ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

Illinois Institute of Technology Men's Soccer Team

Team Captain; Member of Team Leadership Group

Chicago, IL

May 2025 – May 2026

Illinois Institute of Technology Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Men's Soccer Team Representative (1/2)

Chicago, IL

March 2025 – May 2026

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skills: **Programming:** Java, Python, SQL, C, R, JavaScript, CSS; **Web:** React/Vite; **Data & Analytics:** MySQL, SQLite, Jupyter Notebook, Pandas, Matplotlib/Seaborn, Power BI, ETL/ELT, DAX, Power Query, Apache Spark, A/B testing, experimental design, hypothesis testing; **Machine Learning:** PyTorch, OpenCV, Sklearn, YOLO, MLflow, model monitoring, cross-validation, TensorFlow, Azure Machine Learning, MLOps, model explainability, feature store; **Cloud & Platforms:** AWS, Microsoft Fabric, Databricks, Dynamics 365 F&O, Power Automate, Azure Data Factory, Docker; **Tools:** GitHub, Microsoft Suite, Visual Studio, Eclipse IDE, Android Studio.

Interests: AI/ML, Data Analytics, Data Visualization, Technology Consulting, Financial Technology, Sports Analytics.