

Zafar Bhayat

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SUMMARY

A versatile technology consultant with expertise in AI, process automation, and data engineering. I specialize in delivering technology solutions that solve business challenges, drive efficiency, and enhance decision-making. Having worked across industries—including entertainment, manufacturing, and financial services—I've built scalable AI powered solutions, complex automations, and business intelligence tools. My background as a founder gives me a unique perspective on problem solving, balancing technical execution with business impact. I thrive at the intersection of technology and strategy, ensuring solutions are both practical and impactful.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Grant Thornton Advisors LLC, *Senior Associate*, Philadelphia, PA

August 2022 - Present

- Achieved the highest utilization rate among all associates, averaging 98% over the past two years, demonstrating a strong work ethic and high demand for my skillset across engagements.
- Developed a tax software solution for a leading entertainment company, incorporating custom reporting, data pipelines, data warehousing, and forecasting. Led multiple rounds of penetration testing, user acceptance testing, and debugging to ensure robust and secure software deployment.
- Implemented AI-powered virtual agents for a global technology company, enabling seamless querying of internal SOPs and process documentation. Spearheaded the setup of the AI environment and the creation of a comprehensive knowledge repository, improving query resolution time from hours to minutes.
- Developed advanced data pipelines and custom forecasting models for a major manufacturing company, utilizing SQL and the Power Platform for data visualization and financial reporting. Investigated and resolved accounting anomalies through scripting, enhancing financial accuracy by 30%.
- Mobilized an internal task force to leverage generative AI tools, leading to the creation of a prompt library, Center of Excellence and best practice guidelines.
- Presented CPE-accredited training sessions on the Microsoft stack (Azure, Power BI, Power Apps, Power Automate), educating over 200 professionals.
- Architected and developed a risk compliance platform for a multinational industrial conglomerate, significantly enhancing the client's risk compliance metrics by 50%. Utilized Python and JavaScript for development and created data visualizations to highlight potential compliance issues.

LacedPreme, *Founder*, Princeton, NJ

June 2018 - October 2021

- Founded and successfully sold the company, creating a profitable exit strategy within three years of inception.
- Developed a cross-platform mobile application using React Native to automate the checkout process on a popular e-commerce site, supporting over 1,000 concurrent users with zero downtime during peak traffic periods.
- Architected and built a scalable backend infrastructure, utilizing Node.js, Express, and MongoDB to handle high-volume transactions and data storage securely and efficiently.
- Led a team of 2 developers, managing project timelines, and delegating tasks.

PROJECTS

Tennis Reservation Bot | *Python, Azure*

April 2024

- Developed an automated reservation bot using Python to streamline the booking process on the Court Reserve platform, ensuring consistent access to court reservations.
- Deployed the bot on Microsoft Azure, utilizing Azure Functions for serverless execution and Azure Scheduler to automate the booking process at release, reducing manual booking effort to zero.

Flight Tracking Visualization Tool | *R, Python, Power BI*

February 2017 - Present

- Designed and developed a flight tracking tool that allows users to upload and track their flight history, providing detailed statistics and visualizations of flight routes.
- Utilized web scraping and APIs to gather comprehensive flight data, including aircraft type, manufacturer, airlines, and route information, ensuring accurate and up-to-date information.

EDUCATION

Rutgers University

New Brunswick, NJ

- Bachelor of Science, Major in Economics, Minor in Computer Science
- Cumulative GPA: 3.76/4.00 | Honors: Dean's List 2019, 2020, 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, JavaScript, R, SQL (Postgres), Java, HTML

Applications: AWS, Azure, Power Platform (PowerBI, Power Automate, Dataverse), Alteryx, Tableau, Zapier

Libraries: Matplotlib, LangChain, pandas, Selenium, NumPy, Plotly, SciPy, Requests, BeautifulSoup, Seaborn

Certifications: Azure Fundamentals [AZ-900], Azure AI Fundamentals [AI-900], Power BI Data Analyst Associate [PL-300], Alteryx Foundational Micro-Credential