

# Melika Nassizadeh

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## EDUCATION

<b>University of Texas at Austin</b>	<b>Expected 2026</b>
<i>M.S. in Artificial Intelligence</i>	GPA – 3.83
<i>Courses: NLP, RL, AI in Healthcare, Advanced Deep Learning, DL, Machine Learning, Case Studies in ML, Ethics in AI</i>	
<b>University of Houston <i>Cum Laude</i></b>	<b>05/2023</b>
<i>B.S. in Computer Science from Honors College, Minor in Mathematics</i>	Cumulative GPA – 3.78

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Engineering Focus:** Customer-facing systems, end-to-end delivery, full-stack development, applied ML in production  
**Languages:** PHP, SQL, HTML5, CSS, JavaScript, Python, C++, Java  
**Data Science & Machine Learning:** Logistic Regression, Random Forest, Support Vector Machine (SVM) with RBF Kernel, Neural Networks, Gradient Descent, Cross-Validation, SMOTE balancing, Ensemble Methods, Classification  
**Frameworks & Libraries:** React, Redux, AJAX, cURL, pandas, numpy, PyTorch, scikit-learn, imbalanced-learn, matplotlib  
**Tools:** Git, GitLab, PHPStorm, VSCode, Spyder, Jupyter Notebook, JSON, MySQL, Jira, Docker, MySQL Workbench  
**Certifications:** OCI 2025 Certified Generative AI Professional, OCI 2025 AI Foundations Associate

## WORK EXPERIENCE

<b>Oracle, Remote</b>	
<i>Apex Software Developer – IC2 Full Time</i>	<b>06/2025 – Current</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enhance APEX-based FACTS system for federal onboarding and compliance.</li><li>Optimize PL/SQL procedures and SQL queries to improve performance and system reliability.</li></ul>	
<b>Paycom, Dallas, Texas</b>	
<i>Software Developer IV - Full Time June 2023 – May 2025</i>	<b>05/2021 – 05/2025</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provided white glove service to clients with tailored backend solutions using PHP for payroll and timekeeping purposes.</li><li>Owned end-to-end delivery for 4–8 concurrent client projects, translating ambiguous requirements into production systems.</li><li>Built full-stack payroll features including tip-sharing, PAF workflows, and mileage calculations.</li><li>Maintained and modernized production systems supporting 71+ revenue-generating customers.</li><li>Shipped and iterated on customer solutions in production, generating \$3M+ revenue and 32+ new accounts.</li></ul>	
<i>Software Development Summer Internship 2022</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developed and deployed a cross-functional framework to determine enabled Paycom products for clients.</li><li>Optimized feature, reducing load time from 7 mins to under 1 min; presented to CIO.</li></ul>	
<i>Software Development Summer Internship 2021</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Built a frontend React application displaying job listings on Google Maps.</li><li>Developed product to market personalized job applications for different clients.</li><li>Conceptualized the JSON data structure for the Database and developed the UI for the app in React.</li></ul>	
<b>CAHSI Research Scholar, University of Houston Downtown</b>	<b>02/2023 – 04/2023</b>
<i>Mentored Research Under Benjamin Soibam</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Classified RNA-DNA hybrids using Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and SVM (RBF) achieving 98% accuracy</li><li>Balanced classes with SMOTE and utilized Recursive Feature Elimination and permutation feature importance.</li><li>Presented project outcomes at Great Minds in STEM 2023 conference in Pasadena, CA, funded by CAHSI.</li></ul>	

## RELEVANT PROJECTS

<b>Algorithmic Trading System (In Progress)</b>	<b>10/2025</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Designed and iterated on an object-oriented trading pipeline using Alpaca's REST API for automated order execution</li><li>Implemented unit tests with unittest and MagicMock to validate order-submission and cancellation logic</li></ul>	
<b>Vision-Language QA with SmolVLM on SuperTuxKart</b>	<b>04/2025</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Built a custom data pipeline to generate QA pairs from SuperTuxKart image metadata for VLM fine-tuning.</li><li>Fine-tuned SmolVLM-256M using LoRA adapters and Hugging Face PEFT for efficient low-resource training.</li><li>Achieved 90%+ QA accuracy through prompt design, dataset scaling, and structured evaluation.</li></ul>	

## LEADERSHIP

<b>Paycom, Speaker at Women's Tech Panel at headquarters at OKC x2</b>	<b>11/2023, 11/2024</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Presented on navigating a male-dominated field, overcoming imposter syndrome, and empowering young women.</li></ul>	
<b>University of Houston, Campus Ambassador at Paycom</b>	<b>08/2021 – 05/2023</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Organized events for Paycom employees with 40+ student turnout at UH, including PHP or React workshop</li></ul>	