# Jai Sughand

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## SKILLS

**Languages:** JavaScript/TypeScript, Python, Ruby, Java, C#, HTML, CSS, SQL
**Web:** React, Ember, Ruby on Rails, Node.js, Django, Spring, .NET
**Mobile:** React Native, Expo, Firebase (Authentication, Messaging, Analytics, Crashlytics), AdMob
**Cloud:** Firebase (Functions), Google Cloud Platform, Netlify, AWS, DigitalOcean
**Database:** Firebase (Firestore), PostgreSQL, MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch
**Design:** Figma, Penpot, Photoshop, Illustrator

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**BollyCards**                                                                                              Toronto, ON
**Founder**                                                                                          Apr 2020 - Present

- Independently developed and published a Bollywood-themed party game for iOS and Android, achieving 2,000+ installs.
- Engineered a scalable backend using Firebase Functions and Firestore to support real-time gameplay, optimized to handle over 150,000 concurrent users.
- Designed and implemented the frontend with React Native, leveraging libraries like NativeBase for a sleek UI, Redux for efficient state management, and CodePush for quick OTA updates.
- Streamlined performance monitoring and debugging using Firebase Analytics and Crashlytics, improving issue detection and resolution efficiency.
- Monetized the app by integrating AdMob and strategically serving banner/rewarded ads.
- Enhanced user engagement by leveraging Firebase Messaging to send push notifications.
- Currently exploring the use of AI to improve gameplay and transitioning the app to Expo for faster React Native development workflow.
- Key technologies: React Native, Expo, Firebase (Functions, Firestore, Authentication, Messaging, Analytics, Crashlytics), Redux, NativeBase, Formik, CodePush, AdMob, Photoshop, Illustrator.

**Financeit**                                                                                              Toronto, ON
**Senior Software Developer**                                                                    Jan 2022 - Sep 2023

- Developed and streamlined loan application flows by updating core logic in both the Ruby on Rails backend and Ember frontend, significantly enhancing user experience.
- Led technical spikes and architecture planning for various projects, presenting multiple implementation approaches to stakeholders and the team to ensure informed decision-making.
- Collaborated closely with stakeholders from the initial phases to define clear timelines and align on deliverables, facilitating seamless implementation of solutions.
- Contributed to cross-team initiatives for improving core logic and reducing tech debt.
- Mentored and supported developers during onboarding and throughout their tenure, fostering a collaborative and growth-oriented team culture.
- Conducted interviews for roles ranging from Co-ops to Senior Software Developers, playing a key role in hiring and building a strong team.
- Key technologies: Ruby on Rails, Ember, Marqeta, MySQL, Redis, Elasticsearch.

**Ritual**                                                      Toronto, ON
**Software Engineer**                                     Apr 2019 - Apr 2020

- Implemented React components and pages for the Restaurant Portal, enabling admins to onboard and configure settings such as hours of operation, menu items with pictures, and offers.
- Redesigned and optimized the Spring API endpoints to relocate business logic from the frontend to the backend, improving backend architecture and ensuring proper separation of concerns.
- Architected and led the development of an email translation automation solution using React and Spring via the Smartling API, playing a key role in the internationalization (i18n) project.
- Key technologies: React, Spring, Node.js, Smartling, PostgreSQL.

**Financeit**                                                   Toronto, ON
**Software Developer**                                     Feb 2018 - Apr 2019

- Implemented an open-source Ruby gem for the Marqeta API, utilized in the Ruby on Rails backend to handle and store credit card transactions in real time.
- Developed a dashboard using Ember, allowing users to make purchases with virtual credit cards and view transaction history seamlessly.

**Alida (formerly Vision Critical)**                            Toronto, ON
**Software Developer Co-op**                               Jan 2016 - Aug 2016

- Implemented API endpoints using .NET to store and manage customer survey responses.
- Developed widgets and UI components using React, providing users with intuitive data insights.

**Royal Bank of Canada**                                        Toronto, ON
**Technical Systems Analyst Co-op**                       Jan 2014 - May 2014

- Increased operational efficiency by developing Python scripts and SQL queries to automate the extraction of information from the operations server and generate detailed reports daily.

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## RESEARCH AND TEACHING

**University of Toronto**                                       Toronto, ON
**Research Assistant - Software Developer**               May 2015 - Aug 2017

- Implemented a web crawler to identify, analyze, and store news articles and tweets based on specified keywords and filters using Django.
- Developed a portal using React for users to configure the crawler and visualize collected data.

**University of Toronto**                                       Toronto, ON
**Teaching Assistant - Introduction to Programming**      Sep 2016 - Dec 2016

- Taught programming and database concepts to non-Computer Science students using Python and SQLite during lab sessions, and assisted the professor with grading exam papers.

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## EDUCATION

**University of Toronto**                            Honours Bachelor of Science
**Computer Science Specialist Co-op**                     Sep 2012 - Aug 2017

- CGPA: 3.63/4.0 (High Distinction)
- Dean's List for Academic Excellence (2015, 2016, 2017)
- Robot Soccer Tournament - First Place (2015)
- AMACSS Hackathon - Second Place (2012)