

James Lako

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EDUCATION

Simon Business School, University of Rochester

Master of Science in Finance

Rochester, NY

August 2025 – December 2026

- **Certifications:** Bloomberg Market Concepts, HP Corporate Venture Capital Analyst
- **Relevant Coursework:** Financial Accounting, Financial Economics, Corporate Finance, Financial Markets & Investments, Private Equity, Debt Markets & Fixed Income, Investment Management & Trading Strategy, Quantitative Investing, Financial Derivatives

University of Rochester

B.A. in Computer Science

Rochester, NY

August 2019 – December 2023

- **Relevant Coursework:** Data Structures & Algorithms, Design & Analysis of Efficient Algorithms, Machine Learning, Relational Database Systems

SKILLS

Programming: Python (pandas, NumPy, matplotlib), SQL, C++, Java, React, Rust

Tools: Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Tableau, Bloomberg Terminal, Jupyter Notebook, Gitlab, Matplotlib, NumPy, Pandas, Jira

Quantitative: Regression (OLS), hypothesis testing, constrained optimization, portfolio analytics, statistical inference

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Rochester — University IT

Technical Student Lead III

Rochester, NY

August 2025 – Present

- Lead a cross-functional team of 15 student technicians in endpoint analysis and remediation with PowerShell and Malwarebytes, which reduced DMCA violations by 50%
- Manage the full lifecycle for a 15-person student team, from hiring and onboarding to scheduling and day-to-day supervision
- Diagnose and resolve wired and wireless network and device-registration issues for 10,000+ students, faculty, and staff

Fullstack Engineer

March 2021 – December 2023

- Built and maintained two production applications using React, TypeScript, Node.js, MongoDB, AWS Lambda, and Tailwind, supporting 2,000+ users
- Integrated security and release quality by integrating GitHub OAuth and Active Directory authentication and building automated Jest/Cypress test suites
- Reduced system downtime by ~20% by automating identity-data processing with AWS Lambda and MongoDB

HP Tech Ventures

Remote

Analyst

January 2024 – April 2024

- Sourced and verified data from public filings, market databases, and company materials, synthesizing findings into decision-ready investment recommendations for corporate capital-allocation decisions
- Built structured investment-screening frameworks integrating financial metrics, market sizing, and unit economics into a repeatable due diligence methodology

TripHoppa

Kenya & Rwanda (Remote)

Technical Product Manager

July 2024 – February 2025

- Led end-to-end delivery of a two-sided ride-sharing marketplace, defining driver/passenger workflows and scoping payment, geolocation, and platform integrations
- Coordinated delivery across mobile, web, and third-party APIs while mentoring a four-person technical team in an early-stage environment
- Optimized for maximum user engagement by prioritizing M-Pesa alongside Stripe to align payment infrastructure with mobile-money adoption across target markets

PROJECTS

- **CAPM Risk & Performance Analysis** | Python, pandas, statsmodels: Estimated beta, alpha, R^2 , and statistical significance for four public equities using OLS regression and excess-return data
- **Returns-Based Style Analysis (RBSA)** | Python, pandas, SciPy: Developed constrained optimization models to estimate mutual-fund style exposures and assess alpha, R^2 , and tracking error
- **Titanic Survival Prediction Model** | Python, statsmodels, SciPy: Modeled survival probabilities using engineered features and statistical testing to identify significant predictors and quantify uncertainty exposures and assess alpha, R^2 , and tracking error

LEADERSHIP

Master's Advisory Council, Simon Business School

President

Rochester, NY

2025 – 2026

- Led an executive board of 11 Vice Presidents; serve as primary liaison between master's students and senior administration, driving policy changes via a structured town-hall feedback loop
- Coordinated cross-functional initiatives across student organizations, and school leadership to support programming, student engagement, and community events