

# Luca Chaia

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## EDUCATION

**Computer Science, University of Colorado Boulder** | 2022 - 2027 | Boulder, CO

**Courses:** Matrix Methods and Applications, Applied Probability, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, Design and Analysis of Database Systems

## PROJECTS

### **Boulder County Nature Association Database**

- Helped build a database-backed web app for the Boulder County Nature Association using Flask (Python) and SQLite, focusing on backend development and database schema design.
- Designed and implemented the data model and server-side logic so the React frontend could reliably create, query, and manage association records.
- Contributed to a more structured and usable internal tool for organizing information, improving how data could be stored, accessed, and maintained over time.

### **Mancala Project**

- Built a custom Mancala game engine in Python to create a reliable environment for testing decision-making algorithms end-to-end ([Link](#))
- Implemented an AI move-selection agent using search + heuristics (minimax/alpha-beta) to simulate strategic play and evaluate algorithm performance under constraints.
- Used external packages such as pandas to benchmark performance and test the AI at different depths, enabling visual insights into the performance of our model.

### **Website Workshop Series**

- Led a two-part workshop on creating and hosting personal websites using HTML, CSS, Git, and GitHub to help non-technical students ship a real portfolio-ready project ([Link](#)).
- Built a sample completed website and resource database for participants so attendees can keep progressing after the session.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

**President, Data Buffs (CU Boulder ASA Student Chapter)** | December 2024 – January 2026 | Boulder, CO

- Led club strategy, operations, and programming to foster a community of Data Science learning, growing membership by ~50% through consistent workshops, events, and onboarding.
- Spearheaded a collaboration between Data Buffs and the CU Women's Basketball Team to translate performance questions into data-driven insights, delivering analysis that helped inform coaching decisions.

**Workshop Coordinator, Blueprint Boulder** | December 2023 – August 2025 | Boulder, CO

- Created a database for the Boulder County Nature Association via React, Flask, (wireframed in Figma) so BCNA could retrieve information faster and keep data consistent.
- Designed and ran workshops aligned with Blueprint's nonprofit builds to increase tech literacy and product adoption, enabling students and organizations to use, maintain, and extend delivered tools.

**SKILLS:** Python (Pandas/NumPy), C++, R, MATLAB, Java basics, Regression analysis, Statistical Modeling, Mathematical Modeling, Academic Writing

**INTERESTS:** Chess, Strength Training, Strategy Games

**LANGUAGES:** English (native), Spanish (native), Portuguese (conversational), French (conversational)