# Akshat Kalra

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### EDUCATION

### University of British Columbia

Vancouver, BC

BSc Combined Major in Computer Science and Statistics

Expected Graduation: May 2027

- Scholarships & Awards: Faculty Of Science International Student Scholarship, Outstanding International Student Scholarship, Dean's Honour List.
- Relevant coursework: Computer Networking (97%), Software Construction in Java (91%), Models of Computation [Discrete Mathematics] (93%), Probability Theory (91%), Computer Systems (88%)

### Experience

### Software Developer Intern (Co-op)

Vancouver, BC

University of British Columbia, Vancouver

May 2025 - Present

- Building and maintaining HelpMe, a course assistant application used by 1500+ students at UBC and projected to be used by 5000+ students every academic term.
- Took the initiative and went beyond role expectations by contributing to GitHub issues from the day one of the role
- Worked on 5+ issue fixes and 3 large feature to the application in the first month; along with positive feedback on the pull requests.

### Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Vancouver, BC

Department of Computer Science & Department of Philosophy, UBC

Sep 2023 - Present

- CPSC 121 (Models of Computation): Led weekly discussion sections and co-led labs to teach discrete math, logic circuits, and finite state machines.
- PHIL 220 (Symbolic Logic): Held weekly office hours; graded 200+ assignments and exams with detailed feedback on formal logic and proofs.

### TECHNICAL PROJECTS

Tranquilo | Next.js, Flask, SQLite, BERTopic

Jan 2025

- Built AI-powered mental-health journal using RAG, BERTopic & therapist-response data for therapist-like feedback.
- Architected microservices backend & API pipelines, cutting RTT from 15+ s to 2-4 s.

## Prediction Model for Airbnb Policy Effects | 1st Place @ Case Competition | Scikit-learn

Nov 2024

- Built end-to-end Scikit-learn pipeline, reducing MSE from 1.64 M to 1.19 M.
- Achieved a 27.4% improvement over baseline model
- Engineered features, tuned hyperparameters & ran recursive feature elimination for accuracy & interpretability; documented
  in a Medium article.

### Eco-Circle | AWS Hackathon Winner | AWS, Next.js, Python

Oct 2024

- Built AI marketplace for sustainable purchasing & upcycling with Llama 3.1 70B Instruct recommendations.
- Deployed serverless AWS stack (Lambda, DynamoDB, API Gateway, Bedrock, S3) for scalable performance.

### TECHNICAL EXTRACURRICULARS

### Autonomous Underwater Vehicle – UBC Subbots | C++, ROS2, Python

Sep 2024 – Present

- Part of the engineering team designing an AUV competing in the RoboSub.
- Worked on a containerized dev environment (Ubuntu 20.04, ROS2), reducing onboarding time for new members.
- Worked on the ROS2-based computer vision integration, supporting object retrieval and navigation for the AUV.

#### Hackathons

- nwPlus cmd-f 2025 **Mentor & Judge**
- nwPlus HackCamp 2024 **Mentor**
- ASA Datafest 2025 Mentor
- UBC WiDS Case Competition 1st Place
- UBC GDSC × Launchpad Hackathon Winner
- UBC CIC × AWS Gen AI & Sustainability Hackathon 3rd Place

### TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: C, C++, Java, TypeScript, JavaScript, SQL, Python, R, Racket (Dialect of Lisp)

Developer Tools: AWS, Postman, Docker, Git, GitHub, LaTeX, ROS2, TypeORM, Swagger, Scalar

Libraries/Frameworks: ReactJS, NextJS, NestJS, NodeJS, Scikit-learn, Flask