

# Dhanush Chilakala

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## EDUCATION

### **Virginia Tech**

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Computational Modeling & Data Analytics*

Blacksburg, VA

Aug. 2024 – May 2027

## EXPERIENCE

### **HackViolet**

*HackViolet*

February 2025

Blacksburg, VA

- Developed a Next.js and MongoDB application that streamlines travel list management, enabling users to optimize itineraries and coordinate group trips using a responsive, intuitive interface
- Competed against 200+ participants at the hackathon, working closely with 3 other teammates to contribute to both frontend and backend development, ensuring smooth integration and functionality across the app's features

### **VTHacks**

*VTHacks*

September 2024

Blacksburg, VA

- Built a Next.js and MongoDB based app that uses university food APIs to create a filterable system, allowing users to sort meals by time of day, proteins, calories, fats, and carbs for personalized nutrition access
- Competed against 600+ participants at VT Hacks, working closely with 3 teammates to contribute to both frontend and backend development, ensuring smooth integration and functionality across the app's features

### **HackTheChains**

*SMU Blockchain Club*

April 2024

Dallas, TX

- Won 1st place in the Arbitrum track at SMU's HackTheChains Hackathon, competing against 100+ participants, by collaborating with a programmer and 2 business analysts to develop BountyBlock, a platform that connects skilled 3rd world developers with tech companies
- Developed BountyBlock's smart contract using Solidity to enable secure, transparent, and easily convertible transactions between companies and freelancers, utilizing stablecoins such as USDC
- Designed & implemented BountyBlock's user-friendly UI/UX using Figma, Next.js, and TailwindCSS, ensuring an intuitive and engaging user experience

### **AIFAHacks - AI Hackathon for Social Good**

*AI For All Club*

September 2023

Richardson, TX

- Won 1st place overall at the AIFAHacks AI Hackathon for Social Good, competing against 200+ participants, by collaborating with 2 programmers to develop a website using Next.js that provides personalized advice on reducing users' carbon footprints based on their responses to a questionnaire
- Developed a Python API that leverages a Python Wrapper to connect the frontend with Google BARD, enabling seamless integration between the front end and the advanced LLM

## PROJECTS

### **Wordle Solver | Javascript**

April 2024

- Developed a comprehensive 5-letter word dataset by utilizing a Wikipedia dump to sort words by letter commonality resulting in an accurate and efficient analysis for Wordle
- Identified the optimal starting word for Wordle by analyzing letter frequency data leading to improved initial guesses and gameplay strategy

### **WDLM Discord Bot | Javascript, Discord.js, Next.js**

January 2024

- Achieved efficient and cost-effective file storage by creating a Next.js application that splits and uploads files to Discord in 25MB parts resulting in the elimination of the need for additional physical storage hardware
- Implemented a file download feature by reassembling split files and enabling user downloads through the app leading to seamless access to stored files

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages:** C/C++, HTML/CSS, Java, JavaScript

**Frameworks & Libraries:** Astro, Better-Auth, Clerk, Firebase, Material-UI, Next.js, React, Sockets.io, Vite

**Databases:** MongoDB

**Developer Tools:** Docker, Eclipse, Git, Google Cloud Platform (GCP), IntelliJ, Neovim, npm, VS Code