Finley Stirk

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PROFILE

Second year undergraduate at the University of Cambridge studying Computer Science with a particular interest in functional programming languages and environmental computing.

EDUCATION

Undergraduate Clare College, University of Cambridge — **Oct 2024 - Present**

A'levels — **Sept 2022 - June 2024**

Further Maths	A*
Maths	A*
Physics	A*
Computer Science	A*

GCSEs

10 Grade 9's — **Sept 2020 - June 2022**

COMPETITIONS

Top 6% - International QuantChallenge 2025
1st Place - ARM Sponsored CUES x CUCaTS AI Hackathon 2025
CamHack 2024 Finalist and prize winner
Senior Technology Prize 2024 (National Big Bang Competition)
C2I Young Engineer of the Year Award 2024
Intellectual Property Office Innovation Award 2023 (National Big Bang Competition)

Experience

Cambridge University Planetary Computing Research Intern
July - September 2025
Under the supervision of Dr Michael Winston Dales, I developed an open-source Python library for procedurally generating 3D-printable models from digital surface maps. I also created an accompanying CLI tool which enables users to create topologically accurate models of any city or geographical region in the world.

PROJECTS

Chess Robot Collaborating with a friend, we built a robotic chess board which moves pieces for people with motor disabilities to play chess over the board using voice commands and eye-gaze tracking. It is also able to identify the opponent's moves and physically play the best response. I wrote all the code for the project, using C++ and Arduino to control the motors while the central logic was done in Python.

AI Study Tool Collaborated with two teammates to build an AI-powered tool that helps Cambridge students complete maths problem sheets. The tool analyses lecture notes and problem questions to identify and link relevant concepts, while procedurally generating step-by-step animated solutions in the style of 3Blue1Brown. This ensures students not only reach the correct answer but also gain a deeper understanding of the topic.