Tanaka Makoni

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EDUCATION

Davidson College   **Davidson, NC**
Bachelor of Science, Computer Science   *Expected May 2028*
- *Coursework:* Linear Algebra, Software Design, Game Development, Database Systems, Discrete Structures   GPA: 3.9/4.0
- *Awards:* Belk Merit Scholarship; Chidsey Fellow; Hack@Davidson 2025 "Best AI Chat Tool"; Bernard Society of Mathematics

SKILLS

- **Languages & Frameworks**: Python, Java, SQL, Javascript, C#, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, React, Svelte, Next.js, Node.js, Tableau
- **Data & Analytics**: Pandas, Polas, ETL Pipelines, Django, Flask, Figma, Git, Tensorflow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, Matplotlib, Linux,

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Jay Hurt Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Davidson College   **Davidson, NC**
Student Consultant   *May 2025 - Present*
- Built an automated payout and transaction logging workflow using n8n and Zapier, integrating Forest Systems, Bill.com, and Excel to handle multi-party fee splits, API/webhook events, and CSV-based financial recordkeeping.
- Researched and evaluated AI-powered website builders to support the Hurt Hub's website redesign, analyzing platform capabilities, pricing, and support resources, and presented strategic recommendations to key stakeholders.
- Collaborated with Jan Black Marketing & Photography to redesign a client-facing website that improves navigation, protects digital content, streamlines booking and purchasing workflows, and integrates social media—enhancing client engagement and supporting business growth by close to 30%

Truist Immersive Learning Experience   **Charlotte, NC**
Innovation & Design Externship   *October2025*
- Participated in an immersive, in-person innovation experience in partnership with Truist, focused on applying design thinking to real-world financial and consumer engagement challenges.
- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary student team to develop strategies for creating unique, memorable fan experiences tied to the Truist Championship, from ideation through presentation.

Algorithms for Learning in Physics Applications (ALPhA) Lab   **Davidson, NC**
Undergraduate Researcher   *May 2025 - July 2025*
- Enhanced understanding of latent space representations in TPCNet, a self-supervised deep learning model based on PointNet, to capture key features of 3D point cloud data from the Active-Target Time Projection Chamber (AT-TPC)
- Applied machine learning techniques including linear/logistic regression, support vector machines (SVM), and clustering methods like K-means and t-SNE

PROJECTS

Course Review Aggregator — *Full-Stack Web App*
Python, Flask, Selenium, JavaScript, JSON
- Built automated ETL pipelines to extract, transform, and load unstructured review data from RateMyProfessors, Reddit, and university sites into structured JSON datasets for analytics and search.
- Engineered a Selenium + BeautifulSoup pipeline to extract, clean, and store ratings, tags, and review JSON data

Personalized Finance Assistant — Full-Stack Web App
Python, FastAPI, Streamlit, Pandas, OpenAI API, Plotly, Cloud APIs | View
- Architected a modular backend for financial document ingestion, parsing, and analytics using FastAPI and Pandas.
- Implemented PDF and CSV ingestion pipelines with automated normalization and schema validation for transaction records. Designed interactive software systems using Unity and C#, applying OOP and event-driven architectures

Game Development — Applied Systems & Interactive Software
C#, Unity, Git, UI Systems, Game Physics | View
- Designed interactive software systems using Unity and C#, applying OOP and event-driven architectures
- Built gameplay mechanics, physics interactions, and state management systems using reusable, modular scripts to support real-time user interaction, rapid iteration, and scalable feature expansion.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Hack@Davidson   **Davidson, NC**
Sponsorship Team Lead   *October 2024 - Present*
- Secured and managed sponsorships from leading tech companies in the greater Charlotte area, raising $10,000+ in funding to support event logistics, prizes, and participant engagement
- Coordinated with sponsors to promote their brand through event materials, social media, and virtual booths, increasing sponsor visibility and engagement by 25%

Davidson Entrepreneurship Club   **Davidson, NC**
Social Media & Marketing Lead   *April 2025 - Present*
- Drive marketing strategy and content creation on Instagram and LinkedIn, boosting engagement and broadening reach across academic departments.
- Organized Davidson's 2025 Techstars Startup Weekend, raising $5,000+ in sponsorships and engaging 35+ participants in a 54-hour entrepreneurial event.