Alp Niksarli

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Education

Davidson College   Expected May 2027
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Minor in Data Science (GPA: 3.84)   *Davidson, NC*
- **Relevant Coursework:** Adv. Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing (TA), Computer Security, Vector Calculus, Theory of Computation, Human Computer Interaction, Software Design, Discrete Structures, Math Modeling

Experience

Amazon   May 2025 – Aug 2025
(AI/ML) Software Development Engineer Intern   *Sunnyvale, CA*
- Worked with the AGI team to build a multimodal AI assistant, projected 26% boost in developer productivity
- Rebuilt my team's CI/CD pipeline using AWS CDK (Infrastructure as Code), automating future modifications by 80%
- Initiated the biggest in-person hackathon in Amazon with 200 intern sign ups and got invited to AGI SVP's office

Forest Systems   May 2024 – Aug 2024
Software Engineering Intern   *Mountain View, CA*
- Optimized site infrastructure, boosting media render speed by 160% (PageSpeed) via caching and CDNs
- Ensured security of application endpoints by Python scripts for site monitoring, reducing vulnerability risks by 75%

Fiverr - fiverr.com/alpnix   Sep 2021 – August 2023
Freelance ML Engineer   *Remote*
- Worked with 51 clients from all around the world on web scraping/automation and data science projects and gigs
- Completed all orders successfully with 100% of the clients leaving 5-star reviews and got promoted by Fiverr
- Developed a natural language processing (NLP) algorithm for sentiment analysis on chat messages of 80,000+ users
- Assisted the migration of database systems from MongoDB to Elasticsearch, boosted query efficiency by 200%

Projects

Web Agents Research w/ Dr. Kobi Gal | *Playwright, PyTorch, WebArena, LLMs*
- Evaluated agent performance on tasks like shopping, navigation, and information retrieval, observing a 14% agent success rate vs 78% human performance and identifying key gaps in planning and memory
- Developed post-training workflows in RL environments to raise agent end-to-end task success from 14% to 30%+

GrotN | *AWS, Langchain, Pinecone, TypeScript, Next.js, Stripe, MongoDB*
- Scraped millions of housing listings and generated vector embeddings to power a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) rental search engine with sub-1200 ms query latency and worked on system design
- Deployed the full stack Next.js app with Stripe API for payments, MongoDB for user data, and other microservices
- Reached 500+ users, awarded over $10,000 through pitching, and interviewed 70 engineers to build a team

Pragma | *Pytorch, CUDA, OpenAI, Supabase, BeautifulSoup*
- Built a full RAG Pipeline with Google Search API and Ragas, ensuring state-of-the-art performance in data accuracy
- Automated 2 GB of research data collection from the web across departments like sociology or education studies

Cats' Courses | *Azure, Python, Flask, Firebase, Twilio, SMTP*
- Reverse engineered API endpoints to sent email notifications to Davidson students for spots in their desired classes
- More than half of the campus adopted the app within 2 weeks, I was given a position with college's IT team

Skills

Languages & Frameworks: Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, React, PyTorch, SQL, Go, Next.js, Java, TensorFlow, Django
Dev Tools: LLMs, Hugging Face, AWS, NumPy, Git, MySQL, CUDA, JAX, Postgres, Pinecone, Docker, APIs, Langchain, Vim

Awards

Academic: 4th place in Turkish National Research Competition (Paper); Placed top 700 out of 1,200,000 high school students in the Turkish National Exam (0.05%); Bonner Scholarship; Xerox Award for Innovation & Information Technology
Hackathons: Optiver Winner in Ada Hacks, Best AI project in HackHarvard; 1st place and Best use of Defang in VandyHacks; Best Generative AI project in HackNC; Best use of Taipy in HopHacks; 1st place in Earthquake Relief Hackathon (Patent Pending); 1 of top 5 projects in Uber Global Hackathon; President of Hack@Davidson ($20k in funding)