

# 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:** Deep Reinforcement Learning, Generative Models, Adv. Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing (TA), Computer Security, Vector Calculus, Theory of Computation, Software Design, Discrete Structures

## 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](https://www.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

### LLM Research in University of Edinburgh's Generative AI Laboratory | [HuggingFace](#), [PyTorch](#), [Redis](#), [WebArena](#), [LLMs](#)

- Evaluated long-horizon agent performance on tasks like coding, navigation, and information retrieval, trying to improve the 24% agent success rate by improvements on planning, retrieval and memory
- Worked on a multiturn context augmentation framework to save, retrieve and rerank key info from task completions

### GroTn | [AWS Lambda & SQS](#), [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)