

# **Andres Torrubia**

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Even if Moore's Law dies, I believe there are still orders of magnitude of performance waiting to be extracted from ingenuous fabrication of the whole tech stack, from silicon to API.

## **EDUCATION**

#### **Duke University**

Triple Major in

- BSE Electrical and Computer Engineering
- · BS Mathematics
- BS Computer Science

2023 - 2027 GPA: 3.89

## **SKILLS**

## **Programming Languages**

C/C++, CUDA, Python, Verilog, MIPS/RISCV assembly.

#### Languages

English (Native), Spanish (Native), Mandarin (C1).

#### **Software**

Proficient: PyTorch, NumPy, OpenMP, Git, Linux/Unix, Arduino.

Working Knowledge: KiCad, LTspice, Docker, Xilinx Vivado, GNU/LLVM toolchain.

#### **Practical**

Prototyping, soldering, data-sheet and ISA reading.

## **EXPERIENCE**

# HummingBird: A Fast IO Aware Attention Kernel For Small Sequences

Research (advised by Prof. Emily Wenger)

Fall 2024

- Built a multi-head self-attention kernel for small sequences (<= 48 tokens).
- Achieved 3x wall-clock time speedup compared to state-of-the-art methods such as flash attention.
- Optimized specifically for 4090s and 3090s using bare CUDA at FP16.

## **Metamaterial Inverse Design Problem**

Research (with Prof. David R. Smith)

Ongoing (Started April)

 Currently developing GPU-accelerated Discrete Dipole Approximation algorithms to simulate and control electromagnetic responses for 3d metamaterials.

## Kaggle Silver Medal, GoogleAI4Code

Deep Learning Competition

Summer 2022

- Competed solitary against 1135 teams, ultimately ranking among Kaggle Grandmasters.
- Developed and trained LLMs to automatically reconstruct the order of markdown and code cells in Python notebooks.
- Approximated the non-differentiable Kendall Tau loss function using softrank to enable gradient-based optimization, later refined the approach to better approximate Spearman's rho.
- · Learned Rich Sutton's "The Bitter Lesson".

#### **FPGA Raycaster Engine**

Software/Hardware Project

Fall 2024

 Designed and built a custom 5-stage pipelined, RISC-esque CPU architecture implemented on a FPGA and developed a full raycasting engine in bare-metal assembly, optimized the memory architecture to achieve real-time performance.

## **Recommendation Systems and Image Generation**

Intern, Freepik Company

Summer 2022 and Summer 2023

- Developed a transformer-based recommendation system trained autoregressively, used Faiss for similarity search and multi-GPU for fast training and inference.
- Engineered an image dataset generation pipeline from public domain media using FFmpeg and captioning models. Validated the dataset's efficacy by fine-tuning diffusion models with LoRA.

#### LightLemur, A Lightweight Tensor Differentiation Library

Software Project

Ongoing (Started January)

- Leading a team of 3 people to build a reverse mode tensor differentiation library.
- Achieving close to PyTorch performance on CPU using OpenMP and SIMD optimizations.

#### **AM Radio**

Hardware Project

Spring 25

 In my quest to learn electronics, I have built an analogue AM radio from scratch, from circuit to PCB, without internet help, only data-sheets and fundamentals.