

# ARASH DEV AHLAWAT

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## EDUCATION

| Degree                         | University/Board | Institute/School                     | Year | CPI / % |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------|---------|
| B. Tech in Engineering Physics | IIT Bombay       | IIT Bombay                           | 2027 | 8.13    |
| Intermediate                   | CBSE             | Delhi Public School, Karnal          | 2023 | 93.80%  |
| Matriculation                  | CBSE             | St. Theresa's Convent School, Karnal | 2021 | 96.80%  |

Pursuing a Minor in **Artificial Intelligence and Data Science** at the Centre for Machine Intelligence and Data Science with **CPI: 10.00**

## SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Secured **99.90** percentile in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) - Main among **1.1 million+** candidates [2023]
- Attained AIR **1655** in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) - Advanced among **0.18 million+** candidates [2023]
- Secured an AIR of **426** in the **Kishor Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY)** Scholarship, out of **50k+** students [2022]
- Achieved an AIR of **111** in the esteemed **IISER Aptitude Test (IAT)**, among over **34k+** candidates nationwide [2023]
- Received a **Certificate of Merit** in the prestigious Indian Olympian Qualifier in Mathematics (**IOQM**) [2022-23]
- Awarded Certificate of Merit for ranking **top 1%** statewide in the National Standard Examination in Physics (**NSEP**) [2022]

## KEY PROJECTS

### Binary Black Holes from Scratch

[May 2023 - Jul 2023]

*Krittika Summer Project | Krittika - The Astronomy Club, IIT Bombay*

- Analyzed binary system interactions such as **Roche lobe overflow**, stellar mergers and **common envelope evolution**
- Simulated **100,000+** stellar structures and **Compact Binary Objects**(binary black holes/neutron stars) using Compact Object Mergers: Population Astrophysics and Statistics (**COMPAS**) a rapid stellar/binary population synthesis code
- Parallelized simulations by splitting runs through batch processing via **bash** scripting, reducing large-scale runtime by **90%**
- Illustrated stellar evolution and compact object formation using scatter plots, **HR diagrams**, and **chirp mass** distribution
- Investigated the evolution of **gravitational wave** emissions from binary systems, rigorously comparing simulated data to real observations, and iteratively adjusting parameters to achieve a **29%** match with observational data from **LIGO-Virgo**

### How to Train Your Dinosaur

[Nov 2024 - Dec 2024]

*Course Project | PH227: AI and Data Science | Course Instructor: Prof. Alok Shukla*

- Developed a clone of the Chrome T-Rex game using **Pygame**, incorporating personalized hand-drawn sprite animations
- Collected gameplay data by logging 6 key features (e.g., time, object distance, object height) in **CSV** as training data
- Trained a **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)** on the collected data and integrated it with a **Reinforcement Learning** system using Fitness function and **Genetic Algorithms**, evolving over **50** generations to achieve a peak score of **40,000+**
- Managed a collaborative **GitHub** repository for version control and seamless coordination across the development team

### RAVEDM 4X4X4 [Programmable LED Cube with Dynamic Visualizations]

[Apr 2025 - May 2025]

*Course Project | PH222: Digital Electronics and Microprocessors | Course Instructor: Pradeep Sarin*

- Designed and built a fully-functional 4x4x4 LED cube using **shift registers**, **Arduino MEGA**, and a layered circuit design
- Engineered visually dynamic and interactive 3D light animations using the **Arduino IDE**, including **firefly synchronization** through the **Kuramoto model**, and wave propagation effects based on distance-dependent mathematical functions
- Implemented efficient **state-machine logic** and **multiplexing** using Pulse Width Modulation (**PWM**) for smooth animation
- Achieved smooth 3D animations of up to **80 FPS** using **70  $\mu$ s** per-LED PWM and real-time multiplexing across **64** LEDs
- Integrated **microphone input** to perform real-time audio visualization, with **beat detection** and amplitude control

### Song Classification using Machine Learning

[Oct 2024 - Nov 2024]

*Course Project | DS203: Programming in Data Science | Course Instructor: Prof. Vinay Kulkarni*

- Built a **CNN-RNN** based audio classifier using the **PyTorch** library to identify song patterns from their feature vectors
- Reconstructed Mel-frequency cepstral coefficient **MFCC** files into **.wav** audio for manual classification and validation
- Analyzed **116** MFCC samples using heatmaps, **PCA**, scatter plots, and elbow curves to study feature distribution
- Constructed a custom-labeled dataset of **180** external songs, achieving a model training accuracy of over **90%**
- Trained the model using **Adam optimizer** and **Cross-Entropy** loss functions and achieved testing accuracy of over **50%**

## POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

### Convener | Krittika - The Astronomy Club | IIT Bombay

[Apr 2024 - Mar 2025]

Selected among **8** out of **150+** applicants to promote **Astronomy** among a strong community of over **12,000** students and staff

- Developed proficiency in processing astrophotographs using **Siril**, and **GIMP**, gained hands-on experience to use **Dobsonian** and **Equatorial** Telescopes and created a detailed inventory for the astronomical observatory under construction
- Planned and led a **2-day** astronomy trip to **Udaipur** and **Mount Abu**, visiting the **PRL Solar and Infrared Observatories**; also organized a stargazing camp to **Bhandardara**, successfully managing **50+** participants across both events
- Coordinated a **3-day** Astrophotography Exhibition on **National Space Day 2024**, promoting public engagement in astronomy; also conducted an **Introduction to Astrophotography Workshop** during **PG Tech Week**
- Ideated, planned and organized **Astromania** - The Annual Astronomy Quiz, which was attended by **150+** students
- Headed the design team, responsible for creating designs for **club merchandise** such as t-shirts and hoodies through software like **Illustrator** and **Figma**; created one of the most viewed posts on the official club page with **10k+** views

- Observation Round Evaluator | International Olympiad of Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) [Aug 2025]
- Selected to join the **Academic Team**, assessing the observation skills of **300+ students** representing **63+ countries**
  - Evaluated proficiency in **telescope operations, instrument handling** in the observation component of the olympiad

OTHER PROJECTS

- Customised Linux Desktop Configuration [May 2025 - July 2025]
- Self Project | | Custom Dotfile Configuration for Personalised Experience
- Configured an **Arch Linux** environment with **Hyprrland compositor**, tailored for performance and aesthetic consistency
  - Implemented **dynamic theming** using **pywal**, integrating it across terminal, VS Code, Firefox, Eww bar, and **Glava**
  - Customized window management behavior, gaps, animations, and keybindings for an efficient tiling experience
  - Automated environment setup using **shell scripts and dotfile versioning** with Git for seamless portability
  - Integrated media tools like **spotify-player**, and real-time audio visualizations with **GLava** synced to system theming

- Personal Website Development [May 2025 - Aug 2025]
- Self Project | Front-End Development with a creative UI design
- Created a personal website using **GitHub Pages** to display my portfolio and projects with an **artsy**, street-inspired design
  - Employed **HTML, CSS, and JavaScript** for developing interactive features and achieving **mobile-responsive** functionality
  - Customized an **interactive UI** reflecting personal branding while balancing between **creative expression** and usability
  - Integrated version control using **Git**, organized code for modularity and enhanced site efficiency using **code refactoring**

- Universal Testing Machine [Sep 2023 - Nov 2023]
- Course Project | MS101: Introduction to MakerSpace | Course Instructor: Prof. Joseph John, Prof. Krishna Jonnalagadda
- Worked in a team of 6 to build a **Universal Testing Machine**, measuring **tensile strength** of material using an **Arduino**
  - Used tools such as **dremel, lathe** to create a fully-functional semi-automated machine after designing through AutoCAD
  - Utilized software such as **Fracktory**, and **LaserCAD** in order to optimise the project and ensure high-end performance
  - Designed a **horizontal UTM** system, recognized as one of the best designs for its **minimalist** approach and **efficiency**

- Remote Controlled Bot XLR8 [Sep 2023]
- Electronics and Robotics Club | Institute Technical Council
- Collaborated in a four-member team to design an RC bot and successfully navigate a competition-grade obstacle course
  - Built a wireless **gyroscopic controller** using the **MPU-6050** and connected it to the bot via **ESP-32 microcontroller**
  - Integrated **L298N motor driver** with bot's drive system using **PWM-based speed control** for precise maneuvering

- Stop-Motion Animation [Mar 2023 - Apr 2023]
- Course Project | DE109: Introduction to Design | Course Instructor: Swati Agarwal
- Created a stop motion animation by illustrating over **50 detailed sketches**, showcasing strong artistic skills
  - Utilized a range of software tools, including **Adobe Premiere Pro**, along with various online resources, to compile, edit, and refine the animation, showcasing advanced proficiency in **video editing** and post-production workflows

TECHNICAL SKILLS

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Programming Languages | Python (NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn, SciPy, PyTorch, Pygame), C/C++, HTML, CSS, JS        |
| Softwares             | Git, SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Hyprrland, VS Code, Illustrator, GIMP, Siril, ROS, OpenCV, $\LaTeX$ |
| Others                | Adobe Fresco, Figma, Fractory, Op-Amps, Digital Storage Oscilloscopes, MOSFETs, Krita         |

KEY COURSES

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Physics          | Classical Mechanics, Thermal Physics, Oscillations and Waves, Physics Lab, Statistical Mechanics, Quantum Mechanics, Electromagnetic Theory, General Physics Lab, Astrophysics*, Non-Linear Dynamics*, Condensed Matter Physics*, Nuclear Physics Lab* |
| Computer Science | Computer Programming, Programming for Data Science, AI and Data Science, Numerical Analysis*   |
| Electronics      | Analog Electronics, Digital Electronics and Microprocessors, Electronics System Design*  |
| Mathematics      | Calculus, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Complex Analysis and Integral Transforms   |
| Miscellaneous    | Makerspace, Introduction to Design, Introduction to Psychology, Economics, Biology, Design Thinking, Computational Multinomics, Decision Analysis & Game Theory  |

\* To be completed in Nov 2025

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

|                     |   |        |
|---------------------|---|--------|
| Sports/<br>Football | Secured the <b>Silver Medal</b> in the <b>Institute Football League 2023-24</b> with <b>100+</b> participants | [2024] |
|                     | Won the <b>Gold Medal</b> with <b>Hostel 16A</b> in the <b>Freshiesta Football Tournament 2023</b>            | [2023] |
|                     | Represented <b>Hostel 5</b> as a core team member in the <b>Inter-Hostel General Championship</b>             | [2025] |
|                     | Emerged as <b>Champion</b> in the institute-wide <b>FIFA Open</b> , competing against <b>30+</b> participants | [2025] |
|                     | Completed a year-long intermediate football course under the <b>National Sports Organization</b>              | [2024] |
|                     | Participated in the Aavhan Half Marathon, completing <b>21 KM</b> in less than <b>150 minutes</b>             | [2023] |
|                     | Underwent one year of training with the <b>Karnal District Football Team</b>                                  | [2019] |