Nandeeka Nayak

Professional Website: https://nandeeka.github.io/
University Address: Soda Hall, 2551 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709 · nandeeka@berkeley.edu

GRADUATE EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley — Jan 2024 - May 2026
Computer Science, Ph.D.
Advisor: Christopher W. Fletcher
GPA: 4.0

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign — Aug 2020 - Dec 2023
Computer Science, Ph.D.
Advisor: Christopher W. Fletcher
GPA: 4.0

Relevant Coursework

Computer Science: Large Vision and Language Models, Manycore Parallel Algorithms, Languages and Compilers for Edge Computing, Applied Parallel Programming, Parallel Computer Architectures, Advanced Compiler Construction, Computer Systems Organization, Advanced Computer Security
Korean: Advanced Korean II, Advanced Korean I, Intermediate Korean II
Audited: Numerical Analysis

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA — Aug 2016 - May 2020
Computer Science, B.S.
GPA: 3.96

Relevant Coursework

Computer Science Clinic, Algorithms, Compiler Design, Programming Languages, Artificial Intelligence, Operating Systems, Software Development, Computer Security, Computability and Logic, Computer Systems, Data Structures/Program Development, Quantum Information, Advanced Computational Biology, Discrete Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Multivariable Calculus
Audited: Stanford's Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

Henry M. Gunn High School, Palo Alto, CA — Aug 2012 - Jun 2016
High School Diploma
GPA: 4.0; Weighted GPA: 4.49

PUBLICATIONS

Nandeeka Nayak, Xinrui Wu, Toluwanimi O. Odemuyiwa, Michael Pellauer, and Christopher W. Emer Joel S.and Fletcher. "From TeAAL to FuseMax: Separation of Concerns for Attention Accelerator Design". In: IEEE Micro '25.

Nandeeka Nayak, Xinrui Wu, Toluwanimi O. Odemuyiwa, Michael Pellauer, and Christopher W. Emer Joel S.and Fletcher. "FuseMax: Leveraging Extended Einsums to Optimize Attention Accelerator Design". In: MICRO '24. IEEE Micro Top Picks 2025 Winner.

Nandeeka Nayak, Toluwanimi O. Odemuyiwa, Shubham Ugare, Christopher W. Fletcher, Michael Pellauer, and Joel S. Emer. "TeAAL: A Declarative Framework for Modeling Sparse Tensor Accelerators". In: MICRO '23. IEEE Micro Top Picks 2024 Honorable Mention.

Jose Rodrigo Sanchez Vicarte, Pradyumna Shome, **Nandeeka Nayak**, Caroline Trippel, Adam Morrison, David Kohlbrenner, and Christopher W. Fletcher. "Opening Pandora's Box: A Systematic Study of New Ways Microarchitecture Can Leak Private Data". In: ISCA '21. Intel Hardware Security Academic Award 2022 Honorable Mention.

Nandeeka Nayak, Makoto Nara, Timmy Gambin, Zoë Wood, and Christopher M. Clark. "Machine Learning Techniques for AUV Side-Scan Sonar Data Feature Extraction as Applied to Intelligent Search for Underwater Archaeological Sites". In: FSR '19.

TUTORIALS

TeAAL and HiFiber: Precise and Concise Descriptions of (Sparse) Tensor Algebra Accelerators. Co-located with MICRO 2024. `https://teaal.csail.mit.edu/tutorials/2024.micro-teaal/index.html`

TALKS

A Structured Methodology for Implementing Efficient Tensor Algebra Kernels. Seminar at Yale University, July 2025.
FuseMax: Leveraging Extended Einsums to Optimize Attention Accelerator Design. MLArchSys 2024. `https://sites.google.com/view/mlarchsys/isca-2024/schedule`
TeAAL: A Declarative Framework for Modeling Sparse Tensor Accelerators. Highlights of Parallel Computing 2024. `https://ucrparlay.github.io/hopc24/papers/`
Extended Einsums: Domain-Specific Kernels in the Language of Tensor Algebra. Stanford AHA Seminar 2024. `https://aha.stanford.edu/`
TeAAL: A Declarative Framework for Modeling Sparse Tensor Accelerators. Workshop on Sparse Tensor Computations 2023. `https://solomonik.cs.illinois.edu/tensor_workshop/index.html`.
TeAAL: A Declarative Framework for Modeling Sparse Tensor Accelerators. CTSTA 2023. `https://pldi23.sigplan.org/home/ctsta-2023`.
TeAAL: A Declarative Framework for Modeling Sparse Tensor Accelerators. DRAGSTERS 2023. `https://pldi23.sigplan.org/home/dragsters-2023`.

PANELS

Life in Grad School. uArch Workshop 2024.
`https://sites.google.com/view/6thuarchworkshop/micro-program`

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly Outstanding Graduate Mentor	2025
IEEE Micro Top Picks	2025
IEEE Micro Top Picks Honorable Mention	2024
Intel Hardware Security Academic Award Honorable Mention	2022
SURGE Fellowship	2020-2025
Computer Science Departmental Honors (Harvey Mudd College)	2020
Graduate with High Distinction (Harvey Mudd College)	2020
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention	2020
Wing and Ellen Tam Award for Excellence in Software Development	2019
Harvey Mudd Merit Scholarship	2016-2020
National Merit Scholarship Finalist	2016
NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing Certificate of Distinction Winner	2016
NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing National Runner-Up and Affiliate Award Winner	2015
Girl Scout Gold Award Recipient	2015

POSITIONS

Graduate Student Instructor (GSI), UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA — Jan 2025 - May 2025

- GSIed for CS 152/252A: Computer Architecture and Engineering
- Planned weekly discussion for all GSIs and run one discussion section (20-30 students)

- Wrote problems for, proctored, and graded exams
- Added a new lecture on hardware specialization and spatial architectures

Teaching Assistant (TA), UIUC, Urbana, IL Aug 2023 - Dec 2023
- TAed for CS 173: Discrete Structures
- Helped students with working on problems during class, office hours, and online over Piazza
- Graded the exams together with the other TAs

Research Intern, NVIDIA, Westford, MA May 2022 - Aug 2022
- Worked with domain experts in machine learning, tensor methods, and quantum circuit simulation to understand their workloads
- Designed a novel resource allocation heuristic for workloads with fused kernels
- Achieved a $> 25\times$ speedup over standard fully connected layers neural network using hardware-aware tensor decomposition

Member of Technical Staff Intern, Qumulo, Seattle, WA May 2020 - Jul 2020
- Designed and implemented the infrastructure to support flow controlling on the length of the write-ahead log (WAL) in Qumulo's distributed file system
- Investigated the root cause of both performance issues observed internally and those experienced by customers
- Rewrote parts of the block system in Rust and integrated it with the existing C code base

Machine Learning Intern, Miso Robotics, Pasadena, CA May 2019 - Aug 2019
- Performed semantic segmentation using convolutional neural networks on images of pizzas to describe the specific locations of toppings, the crust, and background
- Used the generated masks to localize the pizza in real space as well as describe how it could be improved
- Helped to implement a ROS node to pass the information to the robot and perform localization and error correction

Researcher, Lab for Autonomous and Intelligent Robotics, Harvey Mudd College Nov 2017 - May 2020
- Planned missions to survey new regions of the sea floor using the OceanServer IVER3 AUV
- Used data augmentation and convolutional neural networks with OpenCV and Tensorflow to automatically identify shipwrecks from side scan sonar images
- Wrote a paper on a new automatic target recognition pipeline and presented it at Field and Service Robotics (FSR) 2019

Teaching Assistant, Edhesive, New York, NY Aug 2016 - May 2020
- Tutored students from hundreds of schools in 47 states and 11 countries online in Introduction to Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles
- Explained specific concepts to students, help debug code, and provide technical support
- Helped with curriculum development including proof-reading exams, rewriting test questions, and creating solution manuals

Identity and Access Management Intern, Visa, Foster City, CA May 2017 - Aug 2017
- Configured ForgeRock's OpenAM to manage access to a web application
- Used new authentication mechanisms, like OATH and PIV, to demonstrate strong second-factor authentication
- Built a web application with AngularJS on the front-end and Java on the back-end

Creator and Organizer, Programming Camps, San Jose, CA (goo.gl/0ZDTbE) Feb 2014 - Jul 2016
- Organized 5 free, weeklong programming camps for underrepresented students
- Designed the curriculum in MIT App Inventor and led a group of over 100 volunteers to teach it
- Earned the Girl Scout Gold Award

Programming Director and Member, Space Cookies, Mountain View, CA Aug 2012 - Jul 2016

- Participated in FIRST Robotics Competition in the fabrication and programming teams for 4 years
- Served on the leadership team for 2 years
- Redesigned the team's programming teaching curriculum and tripled the size of the programming team

Teaching Assistant, Gunn High School, Palo Alto, CA Aug 2015 - Jun 2016

- TAed for AP Computer Science
- Worked with students who needed extra support
- Helped develop the next year's curriculum by writing a potential final project

STUDENTS MENTORED

Seunghyun Yong (Sep 2025 - present)
Severin Bochem (Mar 2025 - present)
Sabrina Yarzada (Feb 2025 - present)
Jaewon Hur (Feb 2025 - present)
Ronit Nagarapu (Sep 2024 - present)
Frederic Wu (Aug 2024 - present)
Yan Zhu (Aug 2024 - present)

Bosung An (Sep 2025 - Dec 2025)
Yuxin Jin (Mar 2024 - Aug 2025) → Princeton PhD
Chenxi Wan (Mar 2024 - Aug 2025) → CMU PhD
Arz Bshara (Jan 2025 - May 2025)
Timor Averbuch (May 2023 - May 2025)
Xinrui (Alice) Wu (May 2023 - Sep 2024) → UCLA PhD
Jules Peyrat (Apr 2024 - Aug 2024) → EPFL Master's
Alex Dicheva (Aug 2022 - Oct 2023)

SERVICE

Academic Service

IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems Reviewer (2025), IEEE Computer Architecture Letters Reviewer (2025), Graduate Admissions Committee Student Reviewer (Berkeley) (Dec 2024 - Jan 2025), IISWC Artifact Evaluation Committee (Aug 2024)

Events

Organizer: PhD Admit Visit Day Organizer (Berkeley) (Mar 2025), Women in Architecture Dinner (Berkeley) (Jul 2024), Women in Architecture Coffee Hour (UIUC) (Jan 2022 - Dec 2023), Middle School Programming Camps (see above) (Feb 2014 - Jul 2016)
Volunteer: PhD Admit Visit Day Volunteer (Berkeley) (Mar 2024), Visit Day Grad Ambassador (UIUC) (Mar 2022, Mar 2023), Grad Welcome Event Volunteer (Sep 2022), iPromise Mentor (Aug 2020 - May 2021)