

# Nandeeka Nayak

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## GRADUATE EDUCATION

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Computer Science, Ph.D.  
Advisor: Christopher W. Fletcher  
GPA: 4.0

Jan 2024 - May 2026

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GPA: 4.0

Aug 2020 - Dec 2023

## Relevant Coursework

Computer Science: 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  
Computer Science, B.S.  
GPA: 3.96

Aug 2016 - May 2020

## 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  
High School Diploma  
GPA: 4.0; Weighted GPA: 4.49

Aug 2012 - Jun 2016

## PUBLICATIONS

**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: submission.

**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 2023 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.

## TALKS

*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](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>.

## AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

IEEE Micro Top Picks Honorable Mention	2023
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

**Teaching Assistant**, CS 173: Discrete Structures, UIUC, Urbana, IL Aug 2023 - present

- Help students with working on problems during class, office hours, and online over Piazza
- Grade 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](https://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**, AP Computer Science, Gunn High School, Palo Alto, CA    Aug 2015 - Jun 2016

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

## STUDENTS MENTORED

Xinrui (Alice) Wu (May 2023 - present)

Timor Averbuch (May 2023 - present)

Jules Peyrat (April 2023 - present)

Yuxin Jin (March 2023 - present)

Chenxi Wan (March 2023 - present)

Alex Dicheva (Aug 2022 - Oct 2023)

## SERVICE

**Organizer:** Women in Architecture Coffee Hour (Jan 2022 - present), Middle School Programming Camps (see above) (Feb 2014 - Jul 2016)

**Volunteer:** Visit Day Grad Ambassador (Mar 2022, Mar 2023), Grad Welcome Event Volunteer (Sep 2022), iPromise Mentor (August 2020 - May 2021)