

# Param Thakkar

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## EDUCATION

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### University of Waterloo

*Pursuing a Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)*

## EXPERIENCE

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### Software Developer Intern

May 2023 – August 2023

*zipBoard*

*Vancouver, Canada*

- Worked on the flagship project management and document review platform using React, Node, and MongoDB
- Created the ability to @mention others in comments which was adopted by **92%** of users within the first month
- Researched various techniques to categorize tasks including training a custom classification model, fine-tuning RoBERTa or LLaMa 2, using the GPT3.5 API and compared their effectiveness in multiple scenarios
- Integrated OpenAI's GPT model to automatically classify user-created tasks and comments into appropriate tags
- Added the ability to emulate popular devices when reviewing websites, as well as support for custom devices

### Software Developer Intern

December 2020 – June 2021

*NOVA x Network*

*Toronto, Canada*

- Designed and implemented the fellowship application portal using Figma, React and Firebase
- Reduced time required to review applications by **25%** by automating the review workflow using *Zapier*

### President

October 2020 – June 2021

*Port Credit Coding Club*

*Mississauga, Canada*

- Led a team of **5 executives** to organize weekly workshops covering various topics such as web development and data structures/algorithms in Python
- Coordinated talks with alumni from MIT, Google, Nvidia, Tesla with upwards of **50 participants**

### Lead Organizer

December 2020 – April 2021

*Lighthouse Hacks (lighthousehacks.ca)*

*Virtual*

- Led a team of organizers to plan, market, and host a virtual hackathon
- Attracted over **200 participants** from **10 countries** and over **\$40,000** in prize value

## PROJECTS

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### 1pt.co URL Shortener | *React, Node.js, Express, MySQL*

- Built and deployed an open-source URL shortening service alongside a public REST API
- Implemented a login system using Google authentication and JWT validation
- Detects and prevents users from being redirected to malicious URLs using Google Safe Browsing API
- Currently hosts more than **80,000** links and has over **400,000** visits

### URL Checker - GitHub Marketplace | *Python, Docker*

- Developed a GitHub Action that regularly validates URLs used in a project and notifies the author
- Relied upon by **30 repositories** with a combined **5000+ stars** on GitHub

### Meme Stock Analyzer Bot | *Python, Reddit API, TravisCI, Git*

- Created a Reddit bot that analyzes the virtual “stock market” on the r/MemeEconomy subreddit
- Ranked among the **top 500** Reddit bots out of over 20,000 bots
- Used Test Driven Development techniques to achieve **93%** code coverage

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** Python, JavaScript, SQL, Java, C/C++, PHP, HTML/CSS, Sass

**Libraries/Frameworks:** React, TensorFlow, Node.js, Express, Svelte, Flask, Django

**Tools/DBs:** AWS, Linux, Bash, Git, MongoDB, MySQL, TravisCI, Docker, Firebase, Figma

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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- Offered the Schulich Leader scholarship (**\$100,000**) from the University of Toronto
- **Placed 1st** at Imagine hackathon for developing a math learning platform
- Won the “Most Creative App of the Month” award from **MIT** for creating SpellBind