

Nihar Annam

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

August 2020 - May 2024

- Bachelor of Science, Computer Science (GPA: 3.6/4.0)

WORK

Pavilion - Software Engineer Intern, Backend

May - August 2023

- Created a tool to automatically extract offerings from government contracts to increase coverage from 7% to 44% and semantically index using **Pinecone**, dramatically improving the quality of search results
- Improved and expanded various services, endpoints, and admin tooling in **Python**, **Django** and **Postgres** to simplify local government procurement of essential goods and services

The Washington Post - Software Engineer Intern, Backend

May 2022 - May 2023

- Created the Post's first original word game, Keyword, now played by 75,000 users daily and advised on game/system design through cross-collaboration with design, product, and engineering teams
- Built and helped architect a modularized recipe system to store, index, and develop recipes used by the Food column with **Flask** and **MongoDB**, eliminating over 10 years of technical debt
- Integrated the recipe service into the Post's infrastructure ecosystem utilizing **Algolia**, **Datadog**, and Kafka, and established CI/CD pipelines with **Jenkins** and **EC2**

PROJECTS

Commodities/Weather Research

January - March 2023

- Built weather prediction models by analyzing the pricing of temperature markets (HDD/CDD) on CME
- Used regional weather forecasting models to predict future price movement of weather-correlated markets such as Corn, Soy, and Live/Feeder Cattle

Gaming Arbitrage Research

February - April 2022

- Built an automated tool to find arbitrage opportunities in esport betting markets by exploiting inconsistent odds across different betting exchanges
- Developed a strategy to find triangular (and polygonal) arbitrage across video game item exchanges
- Backtested and implemented a market-making bot to act on liquid assets of video game item markets

ORGANIZATIONS

Texas Undergraduate Computational Finance - Director

- Helped run a student organization focused on teaching, analyzing, and discussing quantitative investment strategies and organized events featuring industry experts and sponsor panels
- Led 10+ pitches developing and backtesting quantitative trading/arbitrage strategies, ranging from weather derivatives to SPAC arbitrage to inflation hedging
- Developed proficiency in data science tooling (**Pandas**, **NumPy**) and manipulating large financial datasets

Longhorn Gaming - Esports Director

- Organized and led monthly gaming tournaments with 40+ participants, overseeing all aspects of logistics, coordination, and communication to ensure smooth and scheduled execution of each event

AWARDS

FTX Collegiate Trading Competition: 1st, 2nd, and 5th place across 3 teams trading BTC/ETH/SOL in live market-making competition on FTX exchanges

HackMIT 2020: Grand Prize Winner & DRW Data Visualization Challenge Winner

Teamfight Tactics: Top 1200/0.1% in North America in data-driven strategy game