THARJIHA SUTHEKARA
Aspiring Software & Data Engineer

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SKILLS SUMMARY

- **Programming & Development:** Python, Java, React, TypeScript; Flask & FastAPI for RESTful APIs; OOP.
- **Database & Backend:** SQL, SQLAlchemy; designed relational schemas, queries, implemented secure session management
- **API Integration:** Google Maps, OpenLibrary, public health APIs; implemented real-time alerts, automated data imports
- **Software Practices:** Agile methodology, unit/integration testing, code reviews, Git/GitHub workflows
- **UI/UX & Frontend:** Tailwind CSS, Framer Motion; responsive, animated interfaces for web apps
- **Collaboration & Leadership:** Hackathon teams, student society leadership, mentoring peers, technical presentations
- **Tools & Platforms:** VS Code, Xcode, Figma, Gemini AI; fast learner for new tools and frameworks

EDUCATION

Candidate, Honours Bachelor of Science (Coop)   2024 - PRESENT
University of Toronto Scarborough, *Toronto ON*
Specialist in Computer Science (Coop), Major in Statistics
Awards: President's Scholar of Excellence Program ($15 000)

PROJECTS

WellGlobe – *TerraHacks 25'*   AUG 2025
React, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS, FastAPI, Gemini AI

- Integrated external APIs to deliver real-time location-based alerts, serving clinics across 50+ countries
- Designed a responsive, animated frontend with React + Framer Motion and built secure, scalable backend with FastAPI.
- Collaborated in a 3-person team using Git/Agile practices

                                                                                              AUG 2025
Library System – *Personal Project*
Python, Flask, SQLAlchemy, Tailwind CSS, OpenLibrary API

- Built a full-stack management system with secure login, session-based authentication, and database for books and users.

- Implemented 5+ core features (borrowing, returning, email reminders, OpenLibrary API imports), enabling librarians to manage 100+ books and members seamlessly.
- Delivered a responsive, modern UI with Tailwind CSS, improving user experience for book and member management.

                                                                                              JAN 2024
GreenerThanYouThink – *ElleHacks 25'*
Java

- Created an interactive website using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript based on user research and needs.
- Won Best Domain Name for creativity.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Apple Swift Apps and Entrepreneurship Co-op — *iOS Student Developer*   FEB 2023 – JUN 2023
Remote

- Coded a working prototype of an app using Swift, Xcode and incorporated UI design with Figma to presented the app's goals.
- Created and delivered an elevator pitch to clearly convey the app's potential value which was; shown to local company owners and Apple education team members, who gave it positive feedback.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Data Science & Statistics Society (DS3) — *Web Content Developer*   JULY 2025 – PRESENT
University of Toronto Scarborough, Toronto ON

- Designed and maintained monthly newsletters using HTML and inline CSS, ensuring cross-platform compatibility.
- Collaborated with executive team to deliver clear, visually engaging technical content to 200+ student subscribers.

Yearbook Committee — *President*   OCT 2021 – JUN 2024
Middlefield Collegiate Institute, Markham ON

- Improved department cooperation through frequent meetings and excellent communication with 10 exec and 50+ members.

Long Answer

If you could instantly master any hobby, what would it be and why?

If I could immediately become great at any hobby, I would choose to crochet. I really enjoy making small projects like scarves, beanies, and small toys, but I would love to be able to take it to the next step, creating and designing every piece of clothing in my head. I've always loved to wear knitwear, and it would be rewarding to create my own unique pieces. Crocheting also reminds me of hackathons in that I am constantly thinking of new ideas, practicing with different patterns and dedicating days working towards something that was once in my imagination. It is a process that uses a combination of creativity, solving problems, and persistence all things I enjoy when building projects in tech.

Why do you want to be a part of DeltaHacks 12?

I want to be involved in DeltaHacks 12 because I am passionate about using technology and design for meaningful, usercentered projects. Hackathons challenge me to think quickly, learn new tools, and meet people with similar motivations for building. I previously led a design team of over 60 people and was a part of the development of award winning projects and I know how to find that balance between 'creative' and 'execution'. I am particularly excited about the focus on innovation and impact at DeltaHacks; this aligns with my style of building technology that helps people in practical ways. I am excited to join the community, provide my own experience with React, Python and UI/UX design and learn from others while developing something we can all be proud of.**Talk about a topic that can make you lose track of time, why does it captivate you?**

I have always had a passion for TV shows. I have watched numerous shows in multiple genres and can spend much time analyzing their plots, arcs of character development, and overall themes of the show. As I have watched more series, I began to notice what aspects helped determine pacing, tone, and structure in engagement for certain series. Along with my interest in data and technology, this inspired me to work on my own AI-based TV show recommendation app which uses data patterns and machine learning to suggest shows based on narrative elements as opposed to just ratings or genres. I love how this project involves creativity, narrative, and data it truly feels like a way to take something I enjoy and innovate it to have an impact.**Describe a situation where you had to quickly learn a new skill or technology to solve a problem. What was your approach and what did you learn from it?**

In the middle of a hackathon project, I had the idea to build a web feature that would be interactive, but I realized I didn't yet know React. Rather than abandoning my plans, I asked a friend who knew React what tutorials and resources worked well for her. Given her responses, I spent the night looking at documentation, building small components, and experimenting. In the end, I'd built out a working prototype and I felt comfortable using React for later projects. This experience taught me that learning quickly in work is not always about working in isolation it's knowing when to ask questions, when to ask for help, and when to learn from others' trials.**If you did not have to worry about school/money/time, what is the one thing you would work on?**

If I didn't have to worry about school, work or money, I would travel the world, beginning with Italy and Japan. I would enjoy experiencing and engaging with the food culture in Italy, from learning how to make my favourite food pasta from scratch, to going to markets, while experiencing the art and architecture that go into the everyday fabric of life. I would also like to travel to Japan to experience the tension between contemporary modernization and traditional society temples, cherry blossoms, ramen shops, and technology districts. The experience of travel in both cultures would allow my interests in creativity, design, and culture to be showcased with new perspectives to consider in future projects.