

This report explains design decisions behind my personal portfolio website, built as the final project for CS-3017. The site is a static multi-page portfolio hosted on GitHub Pages and implemented using HTML, CSS, and Bootstrap 5. The goal was to create a professional website that reflects my background in Statistics and Economics while being easy to navigate on both desktop and mobile.

The portfolio consists of five main pages:

- Home - introduction and highlights
- About - bio, education, and personal interests
- Skills & Experience - technical skills and work history
- Projects - projects from coursework and internships
- Contact - contact form and links to other platforms

1. Layout and Color Scheme

Here are the features of my layout: A fixed top navigation bar provides quick access to all sections and shows the current page with an active state. Each page begins with a page header section that contains the main title and a short description, helping users understand where they are. Below the header, content is organized using the Bootstrap grid system with cards for grouped information (skills, experience entries, projects, education blocks). This makes the content scannable and keeps related items together.

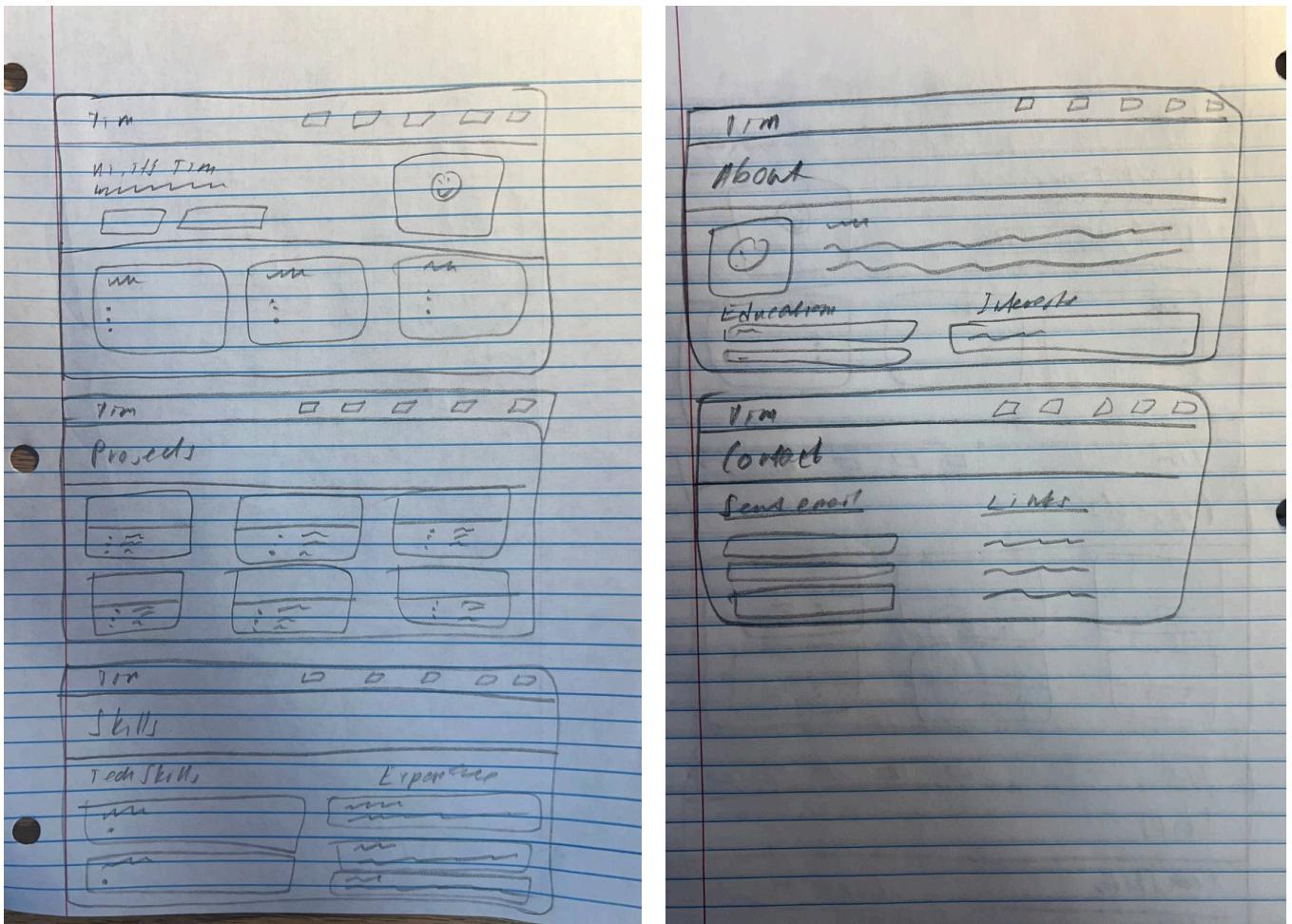
The color scheme was chosen so it feels professional but not too formal:

- Primary background: a very light blue (#f5f7fb)
- Primary accent: a strong blue (#3b5bfd)
- Hero and page headers: a dark navy (#0f1b3d)
- Card backgrounds: a light, soft gray

Typography follows system UI fonts (system-ui, -apple-system, BlinkMacSystemFont, "Segoe UI", sans-serif), which keeps the site readable and consistent across platforms. Headings are slightly heavier (font-weight: 600) to maintain clear hierarchy, and body text uses a line height (line-height: 1.6) for longer paragraphs.

3. Design

Below is the website sketch I designed before coding:



4. Challenges

One of the challenges was making the dark hero background start immediately after the fixed navigation bar, without a white gap. At first, the hero section did not line up cleanly, which made the top of the page feel broken. To solve this I set a consistent padding-top on the body element to account for the fixed navbar height. Then, I used a solid background color for .hero-section and .page-header-section (#0f1b3d) and removed any gradients. Finally, I made sure the sections themselves carried the dark background. This ensured that on every page, the colored header block starts immediately under the navbar.

5. URL

The portfolio is hosted using GitHub Pages and is available at:

<https://timtim03.github.io/>