Varun Kanna

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EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Cruz | Santa Cruz, CA December 2025
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Cumulative GPA: 3.94
Relevant coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Discrete Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Calculus I, II, and III
Professional Organizations: Association for Computing Machinery, Google Developer Student Clubs, Athletics & Recreation Fund Advisory Committee

EXPERIENCE

SmokeScreen - Santa Cruz, CA November 2023
Winner Of ACM Hacks x GraceHacks
- Secured first place in a competitive hackathon by collaborating with a team in the development of a Chrome extension to block user-inputted content
- Engineered the backend functionality of the extension using the Chrome Storage API and JavaScript
- Conducted thorough testing on platforms like YouTube to identify and address edge cases and unexpected user behaviors

PROJECTS

Spotify to Youtube Playlist Converter - Pleasanton, CA June - Aug 2023
- Developed a custom Python automation tool to streamline playlist conversion by utilizing the YouTube Music API and Exportify
- Automated playlist conversion to reduce the time needed to add songs on average by 40% and benchmarked this for various album sizes ranging from 100-1000 songs
- Enforced CRUD functionalities to improve the user experience by implementing type checks to account for any errors

NBA Player Comparison Tool - Pleasanton, CA Apr - May 2023
- Engineered a Python script to compare players by using Pandas & Numpy to handle player objects
- Retrieved specific statistics that contributed to more up to date more comparisons between players by utilizing the NBA API
- Implemented a menu tool to make the process of comparisons much easier with Agile Methodologies

15 Game - Santa Cruz, CA Jan - Feb 2023
- Refined core game mechanics by leveraging Numpy's array manipulation, culminating in an 80% decrease in processing time
- Increased accessibility of the game by implementing reshuffling and resetting features
- Artfully designed a GUI by empowering players to customize their gaming experience with an array of vibrant square colors by utilizing Tkinter

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, HTML, CSS
Frameworks/Technologies: Flask, SQLite, SQLAlchemy, Netlify, Selenium, Pandas, Numpy
Tools: Git, GitHub, Linux, UNIX, Ubuntu, Notion, Object Oriented Programming, Visual Studio Code
Languages: English, Telugu