

VARUN KANNA

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Education

University of California, Santa Cruz

December 2025

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Santa Cruz, CA

Relevant Coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Discrete Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Calculus I, II, III

Experience

Transcend Academics

January 2021 – April 2022

Tutor

Pleasanton, CA

- Tutored underprivileged middle school students with STEM classes, enabling them to overcome educational challenges
- Awarded “Tutor Of The Month” for elevating student’s skills by improving their mindset towards classes
- Developed my teaching ability by providing actionable feedback to students, resulting in a remarkable 15% improvement in grades

Projects

Maomorize - Memorization App | *JavaScript, Firebase, Firestore, React, Vite*

January 2024

- Drove a dynamic website that leverages the effective “blurting” study method to enhance memorization
- Achieved streamlined data storage and retrieval through the implementation of server-side JavaScript, optimizing performance by 30% in data handling processes
- Enhanced the design by making it easier for users to navigate the website using React Router with Vite

SmokeScreen - Blocker for Content | *JavaScript, Chrome Storage API*

November 2023

ACM Hacks x Grace Hacks - Most Ambitious Award

- Expedited the development of a Google Chrome extension that autonomously hides user specified content
- Pioneered the backend functionality of the extension using the Chrome Storage API and JavaScript to allow users to save their phrases
- Strengthened the functionality of the extension by 50% through meticulously debugging issues to make sure the specified content is blocked

SpotYt - Spotify to Youtube Playlist Converter | *Python, YouTube Music API, Exportify*

June - August 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 robust checks

NBA Comparison Tool | *Python, Pandas, Numpy, NBA API*

April - May 2023

- Engineered a Python script to compare players by metrics such as true shooting percentage and effective field goal percentage using Pandas & Numpy to handle player objects
- Retrieved specific statistics that contributed to more up-to-date comparisons between players by utilizing the NBA API
- Produced a menu tool that saves 30% in time to make comparisons more intuitive

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript, HTML/CSS

Developer Tools: Git, GitHub, Linux, UNIX, Ubuntu, Notion, Object Oriented Programming, Visual Studio Code

Technologies/Frameworks: Flask, Firebase, Firestore, SQLite, SQLAlchemy, Netlify, Selenium, Pandas, Numpy

Extracurricular

Google Developer Student Club

Fall 2023 – Present

Member

- Improved technical skills through utilizing Google technologies, specifically Firebase
- Demonstrated my proficiency and hands-on expertise through actively contributing to a GDSC project

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Chapter

Fall 2023 – Present

Member

- Proactively immersed myself in the exploration of emerging technologies through attending workshops

Athletics & Recreation Fund Advisory Committee

Fall 2023 – Present

Committee

- Sparked constructive insights and recommendations to enhance facility functionality and user experience by getting feedback on what students want