

# Vikram Bala

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## Education

**The University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA

August 2020 – May 2024

- GPA: 4.0/4.0 | Dean's List 2021-2023 | ACT 36/36 | BSE in Computer Science | Minor in Mathematics

**Relevant Coursework:** Operating Systems (A+), Computer Networking (A+), Embedded Systems (A+), Data Structures & Algorithms (A), Big Data Analytics (A) | **Awards:** TBP & IEEE HKN Engineering Honor Societies — Top 12.5% of C'24

## Technical Skills

**Languages:** C++, Java, Python, C, JavaScript, OCaml, C#, HTML & CSS, SQL

**Skills:** Linux, AWS, Express.js, Multithreading, Networked Systems, MongoDB, AVR/STM Microcontrollers, Java Swing

## Professional Experience

**Five Rings Capital** | New York, NY

June 2023 – Present

*Software Engineering Intern – Internship in Progress*

**Susquehanna International Group (SIG)** | Philadelphia, PA

June 2022 – August 2022

*Software Engineering Intern – Electronic Options Trading, Super Quoting Team*

- Improved accuracy of 500+ options' quotes by designing a stream processor in C# providing live metrics & issue isolation.
- Published a UDP multicast feed of my stream processor's analyses for consumption by market-making trading systems.
- Developed software in Python to find errors in price computation delaying over 10 million quotes from going to the market.

**Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL)** | Laurel, MD

June 2021 – August 2021

*Software Engineering Intern – Force Projection Sector*

- Engineered an anomaly detection & behavior prediction system for aircraft with C++ & Google Protocol Buffers.
- Built a front-end visualizer for flight data using ReactJS and TypeScript, and generated testing data with MATLAB.
- Led onboarding for new full-time employees to continue work on my software system due to its success in testing.

**Penn Electric Racing** | Philadelphia, PA | www.pennelectricracing.com

January 2021 - Present

*Software & Electrical Engineer (We build an electric racecar to compete in the Formula SAE International competition)*

- Led embedded software (C++) & electrical design of a 112-cell battery management PCB with STM32 microcontrollers.
- Wrote firmware for cell monitoring microprocessors to communicate via SPI, with cyclic redundancy checks for reliability.

**Teaching Assistant – CIS120** | Philadelphia, PA

September 2021 - Present

*Programming Languages and Techniques I – Functional (OCaml) & Object-Oriented Programming (Java), Data Structures*

- Led weekly recitations for 20+ students, graded assignments, facilitated code reviews, and held weekly office hours.

## Projects

**Peer-To-Peer Distributed File Sharing System**

April 2023 – June 2023

C++, POSIX Threads, Linux TCP Sockets, Chord Distributed Hash Table Protocol | [GitHub Repository](#) | [YouTube Video](#)

- Designed a distributed file sharing app with an efficient file search engine implementation of the [Chord Lookup Protocol](#).
- Enhanced app and P2P network performance by implementing multithreading and synchronization with POSIX Threads.
- Employed Linux system calls to provide TCP communication, and devised a serialization method and buffer data structure.

**Jazz Improvisation Bot**

May 2022 – June 2022

Node.js & JavaScript, Express.js, MongoDB, AWS Lambda & EC2, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap | [Website Link](#) | [GitHub Repository](#)

- Built a full stack web app with a bot that generates novel jazz improvisations based on user-inputted chord progressions.
- Devised an improvisation algorithm written in Node.js and running on AWS Lambda, providing users with numerous parameters to change generated improvisations. Created a JavaScript audio player and visualizer for the improvisations.
- Wrote a backend server in Express.js to manage encrypted account information and save user compositions in MongoDB.

**Projectile Locating and Tracking System**

March 2022 – April 2022

C, C++, Python, OpenCV, AVR Microcontrollers, ESP8266 Microcontroller, JavaScript | [GitHub Repository](#) | [YouTube Video](#)

- Created a projectile tracking system to locate a moving projectile, point a laser at it, and display its location on an LCD.
- Wrote custom UART serial communication, servo motor control, and LCD graphics libraries for the ATmega328p MCU.
- Designed a computer vision program employing a two-camera stereo vision algorithm in OpenCV to locate projectiles.