

Dharshan Bellan

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EXPERIENCE

Founding Engineer

Giggles Platforms Inc.

Jul 2025 - Present

San Francisco, CA

- First engineering hire; architected entire social media backend from scratch, scaling to **20k DAU and 75k+ users**
- Cut Firebase read costs by **~80%**, and migrated full backend to Supabase with custom migration scripts
- Built AI-driven vector based recommendation engine using **Vertex AI + Pinecone**, powering personalized video feeds
- Engineered **Node.js + Fastify + Redis** microservices with async media pipelines, HLS conversion, and AI analysis
- Deployed distributed infra on Railway, optimized for speed, cost, and scalability under load

Software Engineer

Motive

Mar 2025 - Jul 2025

San Francisco, CA

- Built a computer vision pipeline for test video analysis, cutting manual review time by **~30%** across **100+ tests/week**.
- Added support for a new vehicle simulation protocol, expanding coverage from **2 to 3 simulation types**
- Rebuilding reporting tool into a full-stack **FastAPI web app** for **20+ engineers**, enabling interactive test result reporting
- Collaborate with QA, embedded, and AI teams to build scalable automation tools and improve test system reliability.

Software Engineering Resident

Headstarter San Francisco, CA

Jul 2024 - Jun 2025

- Built 14+ machine learning, ai-engineering, and full-stack projects in fast-paced software team environments
- Developed neural networks in Python, and 11 apps in Typescript on AWS/Vercel with dev and production environments
- Implemented agentic AI, llm-chaining, etc, on 10+ LLM models
- Coached by Google Machine Learning, Google Kubernetes, Two Sigma, Tesla, Figma, and Citadel Engineers

Software Engineering Intern

MandrakeTech

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

Remote

- Developed a full-stack web app using Flask and PostgreSQL to help users manage job applications
- Implemented ScrapingDog API to scrape job listings from LinkedIn, enhancing job search automation
- Deployed the application on Heroku, achieving 50+ visits and 30+ user sign-ups

Machine Learning Intern

S#AI

Nov 2023 - May 2024

Remote

- Built a GPT model from scratch in PyTorch, implementing tokenization, training, and inference
- Trained a character-level GPT model using AdamW optimizer on a T4 GPU in Google Colab to generate text=

HACKATHON WINS

storybook | Team Project (~32 hours) - [GitHub Link](#)

Oct 2024

- Won \$1000 (2nd Place Best AI App) from Story Foundation for an interactive AI-powered document builder
- Designed a canvas-style UI in Next.js and Tailwind with draggable blocks and embedded chatbots
- Integrated OpenAI API to return JSON-formatted data, dynamically rendering tables in HTML

AI PROJECTS

TikTok Clone | Team Project (~30 hours) - [GitHub Link](#) - [Demo](#)

Aug 2024

- Built a TikTok-style recommendation system using vector embeddings for personalized video feeds
- Developed a scalable recommendation pipeline with Next.js, TypeScript, Neon, Drizzle, and OpenAI embeddings
- Optimized user engagement tracking using cosine similarity and a learning rate-based update strategy

vzn | Published Web-App 20 Users (~30 hours) - [GitHub Link](#) - [Demo](#)

Dec 2024

- Created an AI-powered vision board generator with Next.js and Firebase, reaching 20+ users
- Implemented Stable Diffusion sdxl-turbo model on HuggingFace via Modal with sub-30s latency
- Optimized cloud storage using Cloudflare R2 and AWS S3 API for efficient image retrieval

ReviewPal | Team Project (~30 hours) - [GitHub Link](#)

Aug 2024

- Developed a full-stack application with React, Node, and Express to generate product summaries from YouTube videos
- Scraped video transcripts using YouTube Data API and generated summaries with Gemini API

aptrak | Published Web-App 50 Users (~40 hours) - [GitHub Link](#)

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

- Developed full stack job tracking application using Flask, PostgreSQL, and Jinja
- Implemented OpenAI API to generate AI-powered cover letters from job descriptions and resumes
- Designed an intuitive UI with JavaScript, HTML, and CSS, enhancing user experience

SKILLS

Languages/Frameworks Python (4yrs) · JavaScript (3yrs) · React (2yrs) · Next.js (1yr) · Node.js (1yr) · Flask (1yr)

Software Firebase · Vercel · Heroku · JupyterNotebook · Google Colab · Git · Bash

EDUCATION

Diablo Valley College

Associate of Science in Computer Science | 4.0 GPA