

**Yogesh Haribhau Kulkarni** • YouAI Advisor (Helping organizations in their AI journeys) | PhD (Geometric Modeling) | Tech Columnist...
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🧠 Looking at the challenges faced by freshers trying to break into the IT industry, I felt it was time to reiterate the thoughts I shared a year ago (post below). The situation seems even more relevant today.

Renowned minds in tech have echoed similar concerns. Geoffrey Hinton, the 'Father of AI', recently made a striking observation that advances in AI (IMO, especially the code assistants) are rapidly shrinking entry-level opportunities in tech.

His advice? Don't overlook traditional, hands-on careers. Somewhat jokingly, he suggested plumbing as a future-proof profession. Why? Because it's physical, practical, and rooted in real-world problem-solving. These are things that are hard to automate or outsource.

Obviously, Hinton's message isn't just about plumbing. It's a reminder to stay adaptable, broaden our skills in the physical domain, and rethink what career resilience truly looks like in an AI-driven world. 🚀

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**Yogesh Haribhau Kulkarni** • YouAI Advisor (Helping organizations in their AI journeys) | PhD (Geometric Modeling) | Tech Columnist...
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I've been talking to many students (and their parents) who have cleared their engineering entrance exams, about choosing the right branch and college. My views are a bit unconventional, so take them with a grain of salt. Here they are:



Selecting the Branch

I categorize branches (for simplicity) into:



Virtual Branches: [#ComputerScience](#), [#InformationTechnology](#), [#ArtificialIntelligence](#),

[#MachineLearning](#), [#DataScience](#)



Physical Branches: [#Mechanical](#), [#Manufacturing](#), [#Electronics](#), [#Electrical](#),

[#Chemical](#), [#Aerospace](#)



Avoid 'Virtual' branches unless you're strongly passionate about them:

- ➔ The demand for lucrative jobs in these fields is decreasing due to advancements in AI.
- ➔ Oversupply of CS ([#ComputerScience](#)) students is diluting their market value.
- ➔ Scholarships for Masters in these fields are relatively less common.
- ➔ Even if you choose a different branch (say a 'Physical' branch) , you'll/can still study Programming, DSA ([#DataStructuresAlgorithms](#)), AI ([#ArtificialIntelligence](#)), and ML ([#MachineLearning](#)), making you eligible for software/ML jobs. But not vice versa, right?
- ➔ 'Physical' branches may not offer astronomical salaries, but they promise a more robust and sustainable career, IMO.

Selecting the College

 Reputation and brand matter more than the branch:

- ➔ A reputable college offers a strong ecosystem: bright peers, an alumni network, and lifelong pride.
- ➔ Be flexible with the branch if you get into a prestigious college, but don't choose a branch you dislike. So, have a negative-branch list, to be avoided.

Ultimately, the decision is yours, but just my two cents...

BTW, to give a personal example, my daughter chose Electronics at a reasonably reputed college. Just FYI.

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