

Daras Bhullar

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EDUCATION

Virginia Tech

Bachelors in Computer Engineering specializing in Machine Learning;
Minor in Entrepreneurship -New Venture Growth

Blacksburg, VA

May 2027

WORK EXPERIENCE

VMEC Summer Scholar Intern

High-Performance Low-Power (HPLP) Lab, UVA

University of Virginia , VA

June 2025 – Aug 2025

- Selected as one of **six** Virginia Tech students for the 2025 VMEC Summer Scholar for a paid internship at the High-Performance Low-Power (HPLP) lab at the University of Virginia , under the mentorship of **Dr. Mircea R. Stan**(Director of CPE at UVA).
- Will collaborate with PhD students on projects in **AI/ML hardware, low-power VLSI design, IoT edge hardware, and printable electronics**, contributing to microelectronics research

Forte (Forte is a SaaS startup connecting businesses with on-demand workers)

Richmond, VA/Blacksburg, VA

Co Founder

Oct 2024 – Present

- Co-founding **Forte** with a team of Virginia Tech alumni, leading MVP development with **AI/ML** integration to optimize matching between 100+ businesses and on-demand workers.
- Selected for **Startup Virginia's Idea Factory** accelerator and applied to **Y Combinator** Winter Batch, driving strategic growth to achieve a **50% user acquisition** increase within the first year.

Recykal (AI-SaaS waste management platform, for recyclers,brands, and government)

Hyderabad, India

Waste Segregation Automation Engineering Intern

May 2024 – Aug

2024

- Collaboratively engineered an **AI-integrated sorting system** for plastic, glass, and metal bottles using **TensorFlow** and **Nvidia Jetson**, contributing to Recykal's recognition as a **World Economic Forum Tech Pioneer** and inclusion in **Fortune's Change the World 2023** list.
- Pioneered the development of a **360-degree QR code scanning system** for efficient and accurate scanning of QR codes on bottles, enhancing the overall waste sorting process and working with brands like **ITC, Hindustan Unilever, and PepsiCo**.

Fintech Filings (Financial/technical services to support business growth using AI.)

Hyderabad, India

AI/ML Solutions Architect Intern

May 2024 – June 2024

- Designed an AI chatbot for lead engagement, reducing response time by **50%** using **NLP** and **CRM** integration.
- Developed an **AI-driven Calling Bot** using **Make** and **Air AI**, featuring advanced **speech synthesis** and **real-time NLP** run by **GPT** for human-like responses and dynamic conversation handling.

TCPWave Pvt Ltd (DDI and ADC solutions for enhanced security, and efficiency for networks.)

Hyderabad,

India Associate Machine Learning Intern

April 2022 – June 2022

- Specialized in **DDI Software** and **Machine Learning**, mastering **Python** for anomaly detection to process datasets & extract actionable insights through tailored solutions for high-profile clients, including **Dell** and **Synnex Corporation**.

UNIVERSITY PROJECTS

Diggeridoo Engineering Design Team

Member of electronics team competing at *Elon's Musk's "Not-A-Boring-Competition"*

Jan 2024- Current

- One of **12** selected out of nearly **400** international teams to build an innovative tunnel-digging machine.
- Optimized **high-voltage systems** and **Stewart platform mechanics**, configuring **industrial relays, breakers, contactors** and **motor drivers** for a groundbreaking hyperloop tunnel-digging machine.

ACTIVITIES

Co-founding **Ava.ai** at a YC Backed company-BuildSpace

Hybrid; San Francisco,United States

- Developing **Ava.ai**, an AI therapist using LLMs, with detection through **Python, Flask, Node.js, MongoDB, and AWS**.
- Selected for the **Google for Startups Program** and **Buildspace n&w Season 5**, gaining **\$25,000** in Google Cloud credits, advanced AI tools (Gemini APIs), and access to Y Combinator-backed resources.

ADDITIONAL

Technical Skills: SQL | Java | Matlab | Python | MS Basic | Arduino IDE | C++ | VoiceFlow | Air AI | Tensorflow