

Darsh Poddar

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Expected Graduation in Mathematics and Computer Science

Graduating in May 2028

EXPERIENCE

UrbanPiper (Tech Startup) | Intern

Product Developer

Plano, TX

July 2025 – August 2025

- Conducted over 300 beta tests of Voice AI, resolving *technical* and hallucination issues to establish scalable testing framework
- Developed *Python scripts* utilizing datetime manipulation to process delivery service logs and generate automated downtime reports for the Periscope pilot at Saltgrass Steakhouse to assess its contribution to revenue generation
- Prompt-engineered *AI Voice Tagging* feature for end-user dashboard, improving client-side UX

AI Sales Agent

May 2025 – June 2025

- Built data analysis tools in Python (Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib) utilizing 10,000+ lines of market data to support product pitching and client acquisition through automated revenue forecasting and trend analysis
- *Collected data* from 100+ establishments in DFW using Google Maps APIs, enabling market research and sentiment analysis
- Increased market presence pitching AI product to over 150 restaurants in the DFW Metroplex

Intelligent Security Lab, UT Dallas | Prof. Xinda Wang

High School Intern Lead

Richardson, TX

June 2024 – August 2024

- Conducted research *analyzing software defects* in C/C++ using LLMs working alongside PhD students
- Trained Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and Word2Vec *models* for data analysis, preprocessing, and model fine-tuning

PROJECTS

OSINT Reconnaissance Platform | Python, Modal, FastAPI, NetworkX

- Built a *serverless OSINT platform* on Modal that correlates identities across 600+ sites and breach databases into a unified graph; 7 concurrent resolver modules with real-time streaming results via ephemeral queues; GPU-accelerated entity extraction (Qwen 1.5B) for automatic connection discovery; avatar similarity and username variant generation to reduce false positives.

Desktop Streaming App | Hackathon - Keywords AI, 2025

- *Built* in 24 hours using Electron, React/TS, and WebTorrent with real-time playback via local HTTP server and mpv IPC control; integrated on-device LLM inference (SmolLM2) for quality selection — led to co-op at YC-backed startup

Open-Source Contributions | MCP Ecosystem

- Merged PRs adding *batch update endpoint* to mcp-google-sheets (700+ stars) and *delete_event tool* to mcp-ical (270+ stars); *fixed* Firefox Xray vision bug in drawio-mcp-extension

LearnX | Cybersecurity Club

- Developed a *learning management system* (LMS) to teach cybersecurity awareness and approached school district administration for implementation utilizing React, TypeScript, and PostgreSQL, promoting cybersecurity skills and awareness

AcDec Quiz Automation | Academic Decathlon

- Developed *automation tool* to parse PDFs and generate Canvas LMS quizzes via REST API, saving days of manual work

LEADERSHIP

Cybersecurity Club | Lebanon Trail High School

President & Founder

Frisco, TX

August 2021 – May 2025

- Founded and scaled to 90+ members; 2023 CyberPatriot Gold (3rd in Texas), 2024 Carnegie Mellon's PicoCTF Top 3%
- Created technical content on recent threats and cyberattacks reaching 12,000+ readers via *website* and *Instagram*

Business Professionals of America (BPA) | Lebanon Trail High School

President (Elected)

Frisco, TX

August 2023 – May 2025

- Led 12 officers to expand membership from 250 to 350 students; recognized as Best Texas BPA Chapter (out of 510)
- National Finalist: 2024 Web Application Team, 2023 Cybersecurity/Digital Forensics, 2023 Computer Networking

Academic Decathlon | Lebanon Trail High School

#1 on Varsity Team

Frisco, TX

August 2023 – May 2025

- First in 5A school history to compete in AcDec Nationals: *2025 Division I Speech Finals*, *2025 Division I Literature Finals*
- 1st in Technology Social Science (History of Computing) at State 2024, 3rd in Mathematics (Statistics) at State 2025

SKILLS

Java/Kotlin, Python, C++, Rust, JavaScript + TS, SQL, Git, Docker, REST APIs, Linux/UNIX

Languages: Hindi, Spanish

RESEARCH

- Qi, W., Cao, J., Poddar, D., Li, S., & Wang, X. (2024). "Enhancing Pre-Trained Language Models for Vulnerability Detection via Semantic-Preserving Data Augmentation." *Proceedings of EAI International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Networks (SecureComm 2024)*. [arXiv:2410.00249](https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.00249).
- Rath, A., Li, Y., Davis, T., Bronaugh, B., Poddar, D., & Li, S. (2024). "When AI Meets Code Analysis: A Study of Adversarial Attacks on Deep Learning-based Code Models via Program Transformation." *2024 Annual Computer Security Applications Conference Workshops (ACSAC Workshops)*, 09-10 December 2024, Honolulu, HI, USA. DOI: [10.1109/ACSACW65225.2024.00017](https://doi.org/10.1109/ACSACW65225.2024.00017).