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TartanHacks Hackathon

Winter 2025

This winter, during February 7th-8th, I was thrilled to get the chance to go to TartanHacks 2025, a hackathon at Carnegie Mellon University. I was on a team with a fellow Dartmouth student studying math and computer science and two other CMU first year students studying IS (Information Systems) and ECE + AI (Electrical and Computer Engineering + Artificial Intelligence). The hackathon was a blast and overall was organized well with many fun activities throughout.

The project we created was called EcoSpend and it can be found here: <https://github.com/nbhavikatti/TartanHacks2025>. We created a website that could scan receipts of any transactions (such as receipts generated from going to the grocery store or going shopping) and determine an estimate for the amount of carbon emissions generated from the transaction by integrating Google Gemini using the Gemini API. During the 24 hour hackathon, we only had time to incorporate mock data into our website, but we created a dashboard that would show (uniquely for each user) their recent transactions and amount of carbon emissions generated from those transactions as a bar graph. We were aiming to win the sustainability prize, but unfortunately did not come away with it. Our group plans to keep in touch and keep working on building out this idea further, because all the judges who evaluated our project really liked the idea.

It was inspiring to see some of the winning projects: one group created a way to make music digitally by moving your hands, another group programmed a robotic hand to perform American sign language, and another group came up with a novel way to model fire spreading simulation.

I'm looking forward to continuing to work on my skills, participate in more hackathons and math/computer science events, and want to say I am grateful to have had support from my Byrne funds!