

PRANAV KHADPE

Ph.D. candidate, Human-Computer Interaction Institute
School of Computer Science
Carnegie Mellon University

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INTERESTS

HCI Areas social computing · human-AI interaction

Social Cognition mental state inferences · impression formation · norms · folk explanations of behavior · moral
Concepts judgments

Problem Domains supporting interactions across (perceived) divides · systematizing how collectives respond to
algorithmic intervention · designing safe and intuitive human-AI interaction

EDUCATION

2020– **Carnegie Mellon University**
Ph.D. in Human-Computer Interaction
Committee: Chinmay Kulkarni (co-advisor), Geoff Kaufman (co-advisor), Karrie Karahalios,
Jason Hong
Dissertation: Action Escrows for Social Change in Online Communities

2015–2020 **Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur**
B.Tech. & M.Tech. in Electrical Engineering, Minor in Computer Science and Engineering

HONORS & AWARDS

2025 **UROVO Endowed Presidential Fellowship**, Carnegie Mellon University

2023 **Best Paper Honorable Mention, CHI**

2020 **Best Paper Honorable Mention, CSCW**

2020 **3rd rank among graduating students in Electrical Engineering, IIT Kharagpur.**

2019 **S.N. Bose Scholarship** to support my visit to Stanford University.

RESEARCH & INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

2023 **Human Understanding and Empathy Group, Microsoft Research Redmond**
Research Intern
Advisors: Jina Suh & Shamsi Iqbal

2019 **Human-Computer Interaction Group, Stanford University**
Research Intern
Advisors: Michael Bernstein & Ranjay Krishna

2018 **Multilingual Systems Group, Microsoft Research India**
Research Intern
Advisor: Monojit Choudhury

RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2025 **Hug Reports: Integrating Gratitude into CMU**
Funding Body: CS+X Grant, The Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry, Carnegie Mellon University
Investigators: Anna Gu (PI), Joana Liu (PI), **Pranav Khadpe** (PI)
Amount: \$1,000
- 2024 **Empirical Investigations of AI-Mediated Communication**
Funding Body: GuSH Research Grants, Carnegie Mellon University
Investigators: **Pranav Khadpe** (PI)
Amount: \$750
- Awarded grants written with my Ph.D. advisors
- 2023 **Encouraging Expression of Appreciation to Improve Inclusion in Open Source**
Funding Body: Google - Award for Inclusion Research Program
Investigators: Chinmay Kulkarni (PI)
Amount: \$60,000
- 2022-2023 **Rapid Organizational Assimilation in On-demand Work through Social Learning**
Funding Body: National Science Foundation - Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier
Investigators: Chinmay Kulkarni (PI), Geoff Kaufman (Co-PI)
Amount: \$150,000

PUBLICATIONS

Top-tier venues in human-computer interaction include ACM conferences such as CHI, and CSCW. In 2018, CSCW transitioned to a hybrid journal structure and renamed itself Proceedings of the ACM: CSCW.

An asterisk (*) indicates co-first authorship: these authors contributed equally to the work.

MANUSCRIPTS AND PRE-PRINTS

- M3 Myra Cheng, Sunny Yu, Cino Lee, **Pranav Khadpe**, Lujain Ibrahim, Dan Jurafsky. “Social Sycophancy: A Broader Understanding of LLM Sycophancy”. (under review). 2025. URL: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2505.13995>.
- M2 **Pranav Khadpe***, Lindsay Popowski*, Kyzyl Monteiro, Lindy Le, Geoff Kaufman. “I’m In If You’re In: Action Escrows as a Design Pattern to Achieve Social Change in Online Communities”. (under review). 2025. URL: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Dh-ET4I86ptOU8kqfyu_IekEviypY913/view?usp=sharing.
- M1 **Pranav Khadpe***, Kimi Wenzel*, George Loewenstein, Geoff Kaufman. “Explaining the Reputational Risks of AI-Mediated Communication: Messages labeled as AI-assisted are viewed as less diagnostic of the sender’s moral character”. (under review). 2025. URL: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K4V37h6FO_erNKw-KLAU-UddUb1WgPS-/view?usp=sharing.

REFEREED CONFERENCE & JOURNAL PAPERS

- P8 **Pranav Khadpe***, Olivia Xu*, Chinmay Kulkarni, Geoff Kaufman. “Hug Reports: Supporting Expression of Appreciation between Users and Contributors of Open Source Software Packages”. In: *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* CSCW1 (2025). (to appear). URL: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.20390>.
- P7 **Pranav Khadpe**, Lindy Le, Kate Nowak, Shamsi T Iqbal, Jina Suh. “DISCERN: Designing Decision Support Interfaces to Investigate the Complexities of Workplace Social Decision-Making With Line Managers”. In: *Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. 2024, pp. 1–18. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642685>.
- P6 Yasmine Kotturi, Jenny Yu*, **Pranav Khadpe***, Erin Gatz, Harvey Zheng, Sarah E Fox, Chinmay Kulkarni. “Peerdea: Co-Designing a Peer Support Platform with Creative Entrepreneurs”. In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 8.CSCW1 (2024), pp. 1–24. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3637384>.
- P5 Shreya Bali, **Pranav Khadpe**, Geoff Kaufman, Chinmay Kulkarni. “Nooks: Social Spaces to Lower Hesitations in Interacting with New People at Work”. In: *Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. 2023, pp. 1–18. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3544548.3580796>.
Best Paper Honorable Mention (5% of submissions).
- P4 **Pranav Khadpe**, Chinmay Kulkarni, Geoff Kaufman. “Empathosphere: Promoting Constructive Communication in Ad-Hoc Virtual Teams through Perspective-Taking Spaces”. In: *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 6.CSCW1 (2022). URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3512902>.
- P3 Anshul Bawa, **Pranav Khadpe**, Pratik Joshi, Kalika Bali, Monojit Choudhury. “Do Multilingual Users Prefer Chat-bots that Code-mix? Let’s Nudge and Find Out!” In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 4.CSCW1 (2020). URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3392846>.
- P2 **Pranav Khadpe**, Ranjay Krishna, Li Fei-Fei, Jeffrey T Hancock, Michael S Bernstein. “Conceptual metaphors impact perceptions of human-ai collaboration”. In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 4.CSCW2 (2020). URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3415234>.
Best Paper Honorable Mention (5% of submissions).
- P1 Junwon Park, Ranjay Krishna, **Pranav Khadpe**, Li Fei-Fei, Michael Bernstein. “AI-based request augmentation to increase crowdsourcing participation”. In: *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing*. Vol. 7. 2019, pp. 115–124. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1609/hcomp.v7i1.5282>.

TEACHING

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Fall 2023 **Programming Usable Interfaces, CMU**
with instructor Alexandra Ion
05 – 430/630

Fall 2022 **Designing Human-Centered Software, CMU**
with instructor Patrick Carrington
05 – 391/891

Spring 2020 **Measurements and Electronic Instruments Laboratory, IIT Kharagpur**
with instructor Sk. Mohammadul Haque
EE29004

Spring 2021 **Signals and Networks Laboratory, IIT Kharagpur**
with instructor Anirban Mukherjee
EE29001

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2017-2018 **Shadow Tutor, Signals and Networks, IIT Kharagpur**
conducted tutoring sessions organized by the Electrical Engineering Society, IIT Kharagpur.

GUEST LECTURES

2024 INST878J, Accessible Computer Mediated Communication, University of Maryland
2023 05-820, Social Web: Content, Communities, and Context, Carnegie Mellon University
2022 05-391/891, Designing Human-Centered Software, Carnegie Mellon University

INVITED TALKS

2025 **Building Computational Systems for Inclusive Participation in Communities**
Georgia Tech, School of Interactive Computing
New York University, Department of Technology Management and Innovation

MENTORING

2024– **Anna Gu**, CMU CS undergrad
2024–2025 **Lindy Le**, PM at Microsoft, co-authored P7
Next: Ph.D. at UMich CSE
2022–2023 **Olivia Xu**, CMU CS undergrad, co-authored P8
Next: Amazon
2021–2023 **Shreya Bali**, CMU CS undergrad, co-authored P5
Next: Databricks → Ph.D. at CMU HCII

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

EXTERNAL SERVICE

Conference Program Committees

2024 Associate Chair, ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI) Late Breaking Work

Reviewer

- 2021– ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI)
- 2024– ACM SIGCHI Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
- 2021– ACM Conference on Computer Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW)
- 2025 Cognitive Science Society Annual Conference (CogSci)
- 2025 ACM Collective Intelligence (CI)
- 2023 Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (IMWUT)
- 2023 ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST)
- 2023 New Media and Society

6 Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews: DIS 2024, CHI 2025, CHI 2024 (2 times), CHI 2023 (2 times)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2024 **Admissions Committee, HCII Summer REU Program, CMU**
- 2020-2021 **Co-organizer, Social Computing Reading Group, CMU**
- 2020 **Mentor, Graduate Application Support Program, CMU**

SELECTED PRESS

- 2025 **MIT Technology Review.** “This benchmark used Reddit’s AITA to test how much AI models suck up to us”, by Rhiannon Williams.
- 2025 **VentureBeat.** “After GPT-4o backlash, researchers benchmark models on moral endorsement—find sycophancy persists across the board”, by Emilia David.
- 2023 **CMU SCS News.** “Reviving Office Chatter”, by Kayla Papakie.
- 2021 **Wall Street Journal.** “Consumers Like Chatbots to Be Smart—but Not Too Smart”, by Cheryl Winokur Munk.

SKILLS

- Prog. Languages: Python · Javascript/Typescript · R
- Libraries: PyTorch · React · Meteor · Express · Expo · D3
- Software: Adobe Photoshop · Figma
- Research skills: rapid prototyping · statistical modeling · qualitative research methods (surveys, experiments, think-aloud studies, interviews) · designing and running controlled experiments