

Jatin Alla

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IMPACT SUMMARY

An HCI researcher with a cognitive science background, combining expertise in AI, psychology, and neuroscience to design user-centered technologies. Focused on tackling loneliness, addiction, and isolation by creating AI solutions that foster genuine human connection and well-being. Skilled in machine learning and data analysis, with a commitment to ethical innovation and socially responsible AI. Driven to advance technologies that empower people to connect, heal, and thrive.

EDUCATION

University of California, Santa Cruz

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Cognitive Science, HCI/AI Focus — June 2022

Minor: Computer Science | Cumulative GPA: 3.76

- Honors: Dean's List
- Awards: Crown Student Project Award (2021)

EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder @ Kairos AI | SF Bay Area

2025

Google Research, AI Lab (Health Team) | Bangalore, India

2022 - 2024

Pre-Doctoral Researcher

Lab transitioned to Google Deepmind in May 2024

- As one of the only HCI researchers within the lab, navigated significant organizational & cultural challenges, including layoffs and shifting project priorities, sought mentorship to be a better contributor.
- Led a year-long coaching LLM project in collaboration with Fitbit, conducting literature reviews, testing LLMs for empathy and motivation, collected expert feedback to refine prototypes to inform future product development.
- Initiated and supported research on LLMs in healthcare with Google Research's Pair team, focusing on ethical AI, user safety, and the intersection of health and wellness, while proactively seeking mentorship to refine research questions despite limited resources.
- Collaborated on storytelling research, developing personalized narratives to enhance intrinsic motivation and user engagement, focusing on immersive stories that balance realism and imagination.
- Led qualitative research for a food app, creating a hierarchical model from chef interviews, developing an annotation protocol for 32K Google Maps images and leveraged data from 100 restaurants in India to inform vision models to "make better mistakes".
- Conducted mixed-method user research, utilizing qualitative and quantitative methods to inform AI applications in health context, improving health outcomes by designing user-centric experiences and developing prompt engineering techniques.
- Designed and developed high fidelity experimental UX wireframes and prototypes to prevent bias and ensure a low participation drop off rate.
- Published research at AAMAS 2024 (Foodlens paper) with additional papers submitted to CHI, including an opinion piece for CHI Late Breaking Work, focusing on Augmented Humans and Coaching LLMs, in collaboration with Google Research teams.

Center of Applied Values & Ethics in Emerging Technologies | UCSC

2021 - 2022

Twitter Algorithm Research Project Lead

Part-time leadership engagement that began as a CAVEAT internship

- Developed an interactive GUI using Python to visualize NLP Twitter data, making insights on ethics, society, and technology accessible to non-technical professionals.
- Led research on Twitter's hate speech algorithm, analyzing its ethical implications and social impact.
- Designed data visualization tools to identify patterns and trends in AI-driven content moderation.
- Collaborated with sponsors, researchers, and ethicists to validate data and ensure its usability in informing policy and public discourse.
- Facilitated discussions on censorship and free speech, exploring the broader societal impact of AI in content moderation.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Social Media Research Assistant 2021 | Lee Taber's HCI Lab, UCSC

- Conducted pilot studies on different affordances between social media sites
- Coded interviews and analyzed responses

PlaceMap Research Assistant 2020 - 2021 | Social Emotional Technology Lab, UCSC

- Tested the high fidelity prototype, conducted user testing and interviewed and analyzed and filtered results
- Brought project from abstraction to concept by thinking through various iterations

SKILLS

- **Psychology & Cognitive Neuroscience:** Deep understanding of human cognition, behavior, and decision-making processes, with a focus on their implications for technology and user experience.
- **Ethical Awareness & Technological Understanding:** Strong grasp of the social impact of technology, balancing its potential benefits and risks, particularly in AI and human-centered design.
- **Research & Data Analysis Expertise:** Proficient in designing studies, collecting and analyzing data, and applying advanced statistical methods to derive actionable insights.
- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Skilled at bridging the gap between humans and AI, combining psychology, design, and technology to tackle complex problems holistically.
- **Design & Creative Capabilities:** Ability to translate complex concepts into engaging visuals and user-centric experiences, ensuring products are both functional and intuitive.

LANGUAGES & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C, C++, Java, AIML
- **Certifications:**
 - Python for Data Science, IBM (June 2020)
 - Python: XML, JSON, and the Web, LinkedIn (August 2020)