

# GAURI KAMBHATLA

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## Research Interests

### Natural Language Processing, NLP for social good, computational social science, social NLP

Both (1) using social science insights to help create more responsible, socially-aware NLP systems, and (2) using NLP models to create more inclusive social interactions and better understand social behaviors.

## Education

**Ph.D. Computer Science**, *The University of Texas at Austin*, Austin TX 2021 - Present

GPA: 4.00/4.00

Advisor: Prof. Matt Lease

Key Coursework: NLP; Neural Nets and Linguistic Structure; Social Applications and Impact of NLP

**M.S. Computer Science Engineering**, *The University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI 2020 - 2021

GPA: 3.98/4.00

**B.S. Computer Science**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI 2016 - 2020

**B.S. Cognitive Science**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI

GPA: 3.88/4.00

## Preprints

May 2025 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Sanjana Gautam, Angela Zhang, Alex Liu, Ravi Srinivasan, Junyi Jessy Li, and Matthew Lease. *Improving the Distributional Alignment of LLMs using Supervision*. Arxiv 2025. [PDF](#)

## Conference & Journal Publications

EMNLP 2025 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Chantal Shaib, and Venkata Govindarajan. *Measuring diversity of synthetic prompts and data generated with fine-grained persona prompting*. EMNLP Findings 2025. [PDF](#)

EMNLP 2024 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Matthew Lease, and Ashwin Rajadesingan. *Promoting Constructive Deliberation: Reframing for Receptiveness*. EMNLP Findings 2024. [PDF](#)

ACL 2023 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Thuy Nguyen, and Eunsol Choi. *Quantifying Train-Evaluation Overlap with Nearest Neighbors*. ACL Findings 2023. [PDF](#)

FAccT 2022 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Ian Stewart, and Rada Mihalcea. *Surfacing Racial Stereotypes Through Identity Portrayal*. In 2022 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT '22). [PDF](#)

EvoMUS 2021 Allison Lahnala, **Gauri Kambhatla**, Jiajun Peng, Matthew Whitehead, Gillian

Minnehan, Eric Guldán, Jonathan K. Kummerfeld, Anıl Çamcı and Rada Mihalcea.  
*Chord Embeddings: Analyzing What They Capture and Their Role for Next Chord Prediction and Artist Attribute Prediction*. In Proceedings of Computational Intelligence in Music, Sound, Art and Design – 10th International Conference, EvoMUSART, 2021.  
[PDF](#)

CHI 2021 Michael Coblenz, **Gauri Kambhatla**, Paulette Koronkevich, Jenna L. Wise, Celeste Barnaby, Joshua Sunshine, Jonathan Aldrich, Brad A. Myers. *PLIERS: A Process that Integrates User-Centered Methods into Programming Language Design*. ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction, 2021. [PDF](#)

## Workshop Publications

PLAT 2019 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Michael Coblenz, Reed Oei, Joshua Sunshine, Brad Myers, Jonathan Aldrich. *A Pilot Study of the Safety and Usability of the Obsidian Blockchain Programming Language*. 10th Workshop on Evaluation and Usability of Programming Languages and Tools (PLATEAU, 2019), Oct 24, 2019. [PDF](#)

## Experience

**UT Austin AI & HCC Lab**, *Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2022 – Present  
 Advisor: Matt Lease

**Amazon Alexa Local Search Team**, *Research Intern* July – Dec 2025  
 Manager: Alessandro Moschitti

**Amazon AWS Responsible AI Team**, *Research Intern* June – Sept 2024  
 Manager: Vanessa Murdock

**UT Austin Eunsol Lab**, *Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2021 – June 2022  
 Advisor: Eunsol Choi

**U. Michigan LIT Lab**, *Undergraduate, Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2018 – Aug 2021  
 Advisor: Rada Mihalcea

**Carnegie Mellon U. Software & Societal Systems**, *NSF REU* May – Aug 2019  
 Advisors: Jonathan Aldrich, Brad A. Myers, Joshua Sunshine

## Teaching

**Graduate Student Instructor, Information Retrieval (EECS 486)** Jan – May 2021  
 The University of Michigan

- Taught a discussion section, held office hours, created assignments, created and graded exams, and created discussion materials

**Instructor Assistant, Computer Organization (EECS 370)** Jan – May 2019  
 The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

- Taught a discussion section, held office hours, created and graded exams, and created discussion materials for all IAs

## Community & Leadership Service

**Graduate Representative Association of Computer Sciences (GRACS) Board** Oct 2022 – June 2024  
The University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX

- Held events to help CS graduate students navigate the department and grad school
- Organized and planned social events for CS graduate students

**Graduate Women & Gender Minorities in Computing (GWGMC) Board** May 2022 – June 2024  
The University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX

- Helped restart the GWGMC organization at UT after it disbanded over the pandemic
- Organized & planned community-building events for graduate women and gender minorities, including a yearly research symposium

**MIDAS Student Leadership Board** June 2020 – June 2021  
The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

- Advised MIDAS (Michigan Institute for Data Science) leaders on data science education and research programming on Michigan's campus
- Lead a Women + Data Science community conversations event, which brought together women in various stages of their careers in academia/industry to share their experiences
- Helped develop a mentorship program for students (and faculty) in Data Science

**STEM Society** Sept 2018 – May 2020  
The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

- Interactively taught underprivileged middle and high school students Cognitive Science and other science-related concepts to promote interest in STEM subjects

**Society of Women Engineers** Nov 2018 – May 2020  
The University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

- Volunteered at a public high school in Chicago – taught an artificial intelligence lesson plan to historically underrepresented students

## Service to Research Community

- Student Volunteer (The Web Conference '23)
- Session Chair (FAccT '22)

## Awards & Honors

- Chair's Strategic Excellence Fellowship, *The University of Texas at Austin* 2021
- University Honors: all semesters, *The University of Michigan* 2016 – 2020
- Clara Carter Higgins Summer Environmental Studies Scholarship, *The Garden Club of America* 2018
- William J. Branstrom Freshman Prize (within top 5% of class), *University of Michigan* 2017

## Skills & Experience

- **Languages/Frameworks:** Python, Pytorch, C/C++, Java, MATLAB, Git
- **OS:** Linux, Windows, MacOS
- **Experience:** natural language processing, Jira & project management, deep learning, user studies