

Mohammad "Matt" Namvarpour

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Born: October 11, 1997—Karaj, Iran
Nationality: Iranian

Current position

PhD Candidate, Drexel University College of Computing & Informatics

Research Interests

Conversational User Interface (CUI) Design; Human-AI Interaction; Machine Learning; Natural Language Processing

Education

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| 2023-Present | PHD in Information Science, Drexel University |
| 2020-2023 | MSc in Artificial Intelligence, K. N. Toosi University of Technology |
| 2016-2020 | BA Sc in Mechanical Engineering, Iran University of Science and Technology |

Thesis and Selected Academic Work

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| 2020-2023 | Master's Thesis: “ <i>Speech Emotion Recognition Using Neural Attention-Based Architectures</i> ”
Developed and evaluated four deep learning architectures, including CNNs and transformer-based models (Wav2vec2.0), for automatic emotion recognition in speech. Used PyTorch and Scikit-learn for model implementation and evaluation. Achieved 94.8% accuracy on EMODB and strong performance on IEMOCAP and ShEMO datasets. This work provided foundational technical experience in AI and deep learning, supporting later research in Human-AI interaction and safe, user-centered AI systems. |
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Publications & Talks

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2025 Namvarpour, M., and Razi, A. 2025. "The Art of Talking Machines: A Comprehensive Literature Review of Conversational User Interfaces." In Proceedings of the 7th ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '25). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 45, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3719160.3736621>
- 2025 Namvarpour, M., Aghakhani, E., Ekstrand, M.D., Rezapour, R., and Razi, A. 2025. "The Evolving Landscape of Youth Online Safety: Insights from News Media Analysis", In Proceedings of the 17th ACM Web Science Conference 2025, 261–271. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3717867.3717874>
- 2025 Namvarpour, M., Pauwels, H., and Razi, A. 2025. "AI-induced Sexual Harassment: Investigating Contextual Characteristics and User Reactions of Sexual Harassment by a Companion Chatbot." In Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGCHI Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '25). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3757548> (**Honorable Mention Award**)
- 2024 Namvarpour, M., Razi, A. "Uncovering Contradictions in Human-AI Interactions", *27th ACM SIGCHI Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)*. DOI: [10.1145/3678884.3681909](https://doi.org/10.1145/3678884.3681909)
- 2024 Namvarpour, M., Razi, A. "Apprentices to Research Assistants: Advancing Research with Large Language Models", *CHI 2024 Workshop: LLMs as Research Tools in HCI Data Work*. arXiv:2404.06404

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 Nasersharif, B., Namvarpour, M. "Exploring the Potential of Wav2vec 2.0 for Speech Emotion Recognition", *The Journal of Supercomputing*, Volume 80, Issue 16. DOI: [10.1007/s11227-024-06158-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11227-024-06158-x)
- 2022 Rezaee, M., Yeganegi, A., Namvarpour, M., Ghassemi, H. "Fluid Flow Dynamics in Deformed Carbon Nanotubes with Unaffected Cross Section", *Advances in Nano Research*, Volume 12, Issue 3, pp. 253–261 (Techno-Press)
- 2020 Rezaee, M., Namvarpour, M., Yeganegi, A., Ghassemi, H. "Comprehensive Study of Monatomic Fluid Flow through Elliptical Carbon Nanotubes", *Physics of Fluids*, Volume 32, Issue 9 (AIP Publishing)

Teaching

- Sep 2025-Present Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Computing and Security Technology — Drexel University, Philadelphia, U.S.
- Feb-Jul 2022 Teacher Assistant, Speech and Natural Language Processing — K. N. Toosi University of Technology, Tehran, Iran
- Oct-Dec 2021 Teacher Assistant, Machine Learning — K. N. Toosi University of Technology, Tehran, Iran

Service to the Profession

- 2024 Paper Reviewer — CSCW 2024 (January round), reviewed 2 submissions

Media Coverage

2025 CSCW'25 research on AI-induced sexual harassment by companion chatbots received international media attention:

- “It missed me after 6 messages:’ when AI companions cross the line” — *CTV News*, May 19, 2025. [Link](#)
- “What Happens When a Companion Chatbot Crosses the Line?” — *Drexel University News*, May 5, 2025. [Link](#)
- “It’s pretty easy to get DeepSeek to talk dirty” — *MIT Technology Review*, June 19, 2025. [Link](#)
- “What Does It Mean To Have A Chatbot Companion?” — *Science Friday*, June 6, 2025. [Link](#)
- “Cashing Feelings – KI-Chatbots und das Geschäft mit Gefühlen” — *Business Insider Germany*, June 24, 2025. Podcast interview featuring myself and my advisor discussing design implications of AI companions. [Link](#)
- “Drexel University Study Finds AI Companion Chatbots Harassing, Manipulating Consumers” — *AI News*, July 5, 2025. In-depth article citing our CSCW'25 paper and featuring quotes from myself and Dr. Razi. [Link](#)

Grants, Honours & Awards

2025 Honorable Mention Award — ACM SIGCHI Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '25) for paper “AI-induced Sexual Harassment: Investigating Contextual Characteristics and User Reactions of Sexual Harassment by a Companion Chatbot”

2018 Finalist, LG Global Challenger Competition — Research expedition to China funded by LG Electronics DFZE, Tehran Liaison Office

Licenses & Certifications

2021–2023	IELTS Academic Training — Overall Band Score: 8.0 (L: 8.5, R: 9.0, W: 7.5, S: 7.0). Credential ID: 21R010182NAMM120A. Issued by IELTS Official
Mar 2021	Deep Learning: Applications & Tools — Workshop held by IEEE Iran Section at the 26th Computer Society International Conference. Topics included deep learning applications in vision, NLP, audio, GANs, and reinforcement learning. Credential ID: 147489
Sep 2020	Deep Learning Specialization — Coursera (Credential ID: 89JQ3X8BNLWQ). Included 5 courses: Neural Networks, Optimization, Structuring Projects, CNNs, and Sequence Models
May 2020	Visual Elements of User Interface Design — Coursera (Credential ID: WWH99Z7GZHBD). Covered interface design with focus on color, typography, and imagery. Part of the UI/UX Design Specialization

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