

Mohammad "Matt" Namvarpour

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

Current position

PhD Student, Drexel University College of Computing & Informatics

Research Interests

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

Education

2023-Present	PhD in Information Science, Drexel University
2020-2023	MSC in Artificial Intelligence, K. N. Toosi University of Technology
2016-2020	BASc in Mechanical Engineering, Iran University of Science and Technology

Thesis and Selected Academic Work

2020-2023	<p>Master's Thesis: <i>"Speech Emotion Recognition Using Neural Attention-Based Architectures"</i></p> <p>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.</p>
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Publications & Talks

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 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)*. DOI: 10.48550/arXiv.2504.04299
- 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
- 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 Naser Sharif, 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
- 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

- 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](#)

Grants, Honours & Awards

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: 21IR010182NAMM120A. 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