For me, there is nothing more fascinating than the field of Human Computer Interaction. It is the perfect blend of the subjects I love; computer science and psychology and I want to pursue a Ph.D. in this field and solve deep meaningful questions.

Having worked in the Human computer interaction mini lab as research intern, studying and analyzing “the effects of confirmation bias on information seeking and evaluation in online environments”, I was fortunate to come across and learn a great deal about bias in human behavior at online medium. Its widespread, prevalent and often unnoticed. Researching on this, solidified my love for this field. My work in the lab included data collection, often firsthand, organizing data, rigorous analysis using statistical software and techniques, and interpreting the results to identify patterns and trends related to confirmation bias and social media impact among various other tasks. Together with these, we tried to find answer to important and intriguing questions.

I am interested to continue these pursuits and intern under Aalto, choosing it because it’s offering several projects in the human computer interactions area and due to its rich culture, knowledgeable supportive staff. It’s long been my dream to do my future doctorate studies here. I am a well-suited candidate for this program as I possess all the necessary skills from good python programming skills to familiarity with data science methods and statistical models needed to complete these projects. My experience as teaching assistant and Intern at startup has provided me with strong work experience and ethics which will further aid me in this.

I am interested in Professor Juhi Kulshrestha’s project of impact of the COVID19 pandemic on people’s web browsing behavior. I have read their previous work and paper on bias, something that I closely worked on. I am curious to find the full impact of pandemics on the ways in which they can alter our lives, behaviors, and choices, providing valuable information for future crisis preparedness and response efforts through this project. I am excited about the possible insights that it can provide on the psychological impact of the pandemic on people and how they have used the internet as a coping mechanism, including seeking out information, connecting with others, and engaging in online activities. I want to contribute, through this project, to our understanding of the role that technology and the internet play in shaping human behavior, as well as how they can be utilized in times of crisis.

I find Professor Juhi’s project about Information overload extremely interesting too. Having personally experienced it, I found it exhausting leading to decision paralysis and reduced productivity. As technology continues to advance, it is important to understand how it influences our perceptions and decision-making, and the ways in which it can enhance or hinder our ability to effectively process information. Dealing with this is a necessary survival skill in 21st century. I am determined to learn and find a solution to it, helping the individuals and organizations manage the information they receive.

I am also interested in Professor Robin Welsch’s Placebo effect of AI technology, something which I have been individually studying in medical setting. With the AI gaining popularity, it’s more important and relevant now than ever before to study this. We can study the people's perceptions of AI for the fields of healthcare, mental health, and well-being and find the placebo affect’s role in it. It may provide insights into the ways in which people's beliefs and expectations shape their experiences and outcomes. Studying the placebo effect of AI technology can lead to the development of more effective and ethical AI systems. By understanding and completing this placebo study, I hope to help other developers design AI systems that are more effective, engaging, and trustworthy. Furthermore, this study can also answer deeper philosophical questions about the power of perception, and the ethics of technology.

I plan to work on these above projects on my university summer break from June to August in the Aalto’s laboratories. I am confident that participating in the Aalto program will provide me with the opportunity to gain valuable research experience, broaden my knowledge and understanding of the subject, and develop my skills as a researcher. Additionally, I am excited to work with and learn from a diverse group of students and faculty and to contribute to the vibrant research community at Aalto. I believe that this program will help me get closer to my career goals of becoming a researcher.

I am excited to attempt to find comprehensive solutions and information on these projects while also trying to get few steps closer to my career dreams of becoming a professor eventually.

If your university studies are English, then a clear statement of this fact on your CV and cover letter.

Anything else which in your judgement clearly indicates your English level.

(Not compulsory) Any other document you wish to attach to support your application. In general, it is better to have further documents available on a website and specify the link in your cover letter and/or CV.

Hello there,

I am writing to enquire about few of my doubts on Aalto summer research internship.

I am Nandan N, a computer science sophomore at PES University, India. I am a research intern in human computer interactions lab where our research topic was “Analyzing and studying the effects of confirmation bias on information seeking and evaluation in online environments”. While scrolling through Aalto projects section for the summer internship, I came across your project and work and noticed that you have done interesting works on bias, which is why I’m especially excited about this and I have applied to all your projects for the internship.

I am writing to enquire about the following two questions.

1. What are the ways to maximize my chances of getting selected? I feel that as an Indian student from tier 3 college, I feel that I underqualified as there are students applying from top students across the world.
2. Any tips on essays and applications? This is my first time working on application and I’m nervous

Any tips or pointers are highly appreciated no matter how small it is. Thank you so much in advance!