PAVITHRA RAMASAMY

User Experience Designer & Researcher

Education

Masters of Science in Human Computer Interaction

University of Maryland, College Park May 2019(Expected), GPA: 3.97/4

Bachelors of Technology in Information Technology

SSN College of Engineering, Anna University, Chennai, India August 2012 - April 2016, GPA: 9.15/10, University Rank 3. Recepient of Merit Scholarship for all years.

Work Experience

Graduate Research Assistant(Accessibility), Trace R&D Center

September 2017 - Present: University of Maryland, Maryland, US

- Conducting a Research Study on Microsoft Word Ribbon Simplification.
- Research on reading and text comprehension for People with Dyslexia.
- Curating accessibility strategies and how to implement the strategies for the GPII DeveloperSpace MasterList.
- Developed two-factor authentication systems suited for use by people with disabilities for the Global Public Inclusive Infrastructure.
- Conducted research on how effective social activities are towards longevity of people with disabilities and the older generation in general.
- Developed a prototype of a keypad(including most common actions of keyboard) for people with motor disabilities using HIDMacros.

UX Design Intern, Dassault Systemes SolidWorks Corporation

June 2018 - August 2018 : Waltham, Massachusetts, US

- Redesigned the homepage and login experiences of the 3DContentCentral website.
- Performed User Research for upcoming products and facilitated Usability Tests for xDesign and analysed results.
- Conducted accessibility audits and wrote Accessibility Conformance Reports(VPAT v2.1) for SolidWorks Web Products: SolidWorks, MySolidWorks, AppsForKids and 3DContentCentral.
- Authored a Web Accessibility checklist for future projects to be adhered to in the product or feature design phase.
- Improved readability of user interaction pages and suggested measures for accessible designs for MySolidWorks.

Product Analyst, Temenos Banking Software Systems

July 2016 - June 2017 : Chennai, India

- Gathered business requirements based on interactions with clients on a daily basis.
- Performed user **need-finding** analysis, conducted interviews and surveys to identify issues faced by the clients.
- Introduced design level changes on the flagship software T24 to provide better user experience and support.

Project Experience

Smithsonian Archives of American Art(AAA) Website Redesign

Sep 2018 - May 2019: Captone Research and Design with Smithsonian AAA

Working as an Information Architect on the year long Capstone project on redesigning the website interface to improve discovery and findability of resources and collections. Conducted 20 contextual inquiries and had interpretations sessions to analyse the data collected.

Simple Go - Growing from Easy to Advanced Internet Use

Jan 2018 - May 2018: Designing for Human Disability and Aging

Designed an interface to support those who require a little more assistance using the computer - especially those who are just starting out with the computer, afraid of using the computer, or finding the computer complicated to use. - Designing for Accessibility

Inbox by Gmail - A Usability Study

Jan 2018 - May 2018 : Advanced Usability Testing

Worked in a team of 4 to conduct field testing sessions using UserZoom, compile usability issues, and provide recommendations to improve the usability of the web application.

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UX Skills

User Research & Design

Semi-structured interviews
Contextual Inquiries
Field Research
Personas & Scenarios
Inclusive Design
Wireframing & Prototyping
Storyboarding
Usability Testing
Cognitive Walkthroughs
Heuristic Evaluation
A/B Testing
Comparative Analysis
Surveys
Focus Groups

UX Tools

UX, Visual Design & Usability

Sketch
Adobe Illustrator
Adobe InDesign
Adobe Photoshop
Figma
UserZoom

Prototyping

InVision Axure RP Adobe XD Marvel POP

3D Design Tools

SolidWorks Autodesk Fusion 360

Programming

HTML
CSS
JavaScript
Python
C/ C++
Java
D3.js

Publications

An Economical Air Writing System
Converting Finger Movements to Text
using Web Camera - Pavithra
Ramasamy; G. Prabhu; R.
Srinivasan(IEEE, 2016)

An Efficient Transfer of EHRs on the Cloud using Decaying Window Principle - Pavithra Ramasamy; Savitaa Venkateswaran; S. Vidhusha(IEEE, 2015)