

Expression of Interest

I am particularly interested in this workshop because I see a need to rethink how datasets for foundation models are being curated when building AI systems that engage with people at their most vulnerable. With the advent of AI chatbots being used as companions, mediators, and even therapists, there are serious concerns about how personal and sensitive disclosures are collected, stored, and used in training data. The key challenge, as I see it, is designing datasets that not only support effective AI models but also uphold principles of fairness, privacy, justice, and responsibility.

My background in Health Informatics has shown me how critical it is to maintain privacy and ethical safeguards when working with sensitive patient data. Currently, as I am expanding my research focus into Human-Computer Interaction and AI, I am curious about how we can responsibly handle personal information in conversational systems. Like, for example, if a user shares details to make a chatbot behave like a close friend, or if teenagers disclose deeply personal experiences to chatbots acting as companions or therapists, what responsibilities do we have in managing that data? How should companies address these ethical risks, and how can we design systems that deliver meaningful interactions while still protecting user privacy? I believe attending this workshop will allow me to connect these concerns with broader discussions of responsible dataset practices at scale and help me gain further perspectives.

Through this workshop, I hope to gain a clearer understanding of frameworks and tools for ethical dataset curation, particularly as they apply to conversational agents and companion AI. I am especially interested in learning from interdisciplinary perspectives on how we can move from abstract principles of responsible AI to concrete, actionable practices in dataset design. By engaging with this community, I aim not only to strengthen my own research trajectory but also to contribute to the shared goal of developing just and ethical AI systems that truly support human wellbeing.