Talie Massachi

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Research Interests

Building social support through social media. Creating clinical and personal tools to increase the availability of mental health services. Personalized affect detection, prediction over private messages.

Education

Brown University, Providence, RI   August 2019 – Present
PhD Candidate, Computer Science
MSc Computer Science   May 2022
Advised by: Jeff Huang

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA   August 2014 – May 2018
B.S. Computer Science, Psychology
Minor: Mathematics
Thesis: Image Priors for Image Colorization
Advised by: James Storer

Research Projects

Chime Website   January 2020 – Present
A social mood-tracking mobile app encouraging social support through emoji-only communication.
- Publicly available on the Apple and Google app stores
- "Chime: Understanding Social Support Among Anonymous Cohorts Using Emojis" under review at CSCW 2023

Sochiatrist Website   August 2019 – Present
A data extractor for social messaging data used to predict signals of mental health.
- Desktop app and web versions made available to researchers upon request
- Used in multiple clinical studies to extract data, with consent, from over 350 participants
- "Sochiatrist: Signals of Affect in Messaging Data" published in CSCW 2020

Publications

Matthew Jörke, Yasaman S Sefidgar, **Talie Massachi**, Jina Suh, Gonzalo Ramos. *"Pearl: A Technology Probe for Machine-Assisted Reflection on Personal Data."* to appear in IUI 2023

Gabriela Hoefer*, **Talie Massachi***, Neil G Xu, Nicole Nugent, Jeff Huang. *"Bridging the Social Distance: Offline to Online Social Support during the COVID-19 Pandemic."* CSCW 2022 PDF

Hari Dandapani, Natalie Davoodi, Lucie Joerg, Melinda Li, Daniel Strauss, Kelly Fan, **Talie Massachi**, Elizabeth Goldberg. *"Leveraging Mobile-Based Sensors for Clinical Research to Obtain Activity and Health Measures for Disease Monitoring, Prevention, and Treatment."* Frontiers in Digital Health 2022 PDF

Talie Massachi*, Grant Fong*, Varun Mathur*, Sachin Pendse*, Gabriela Hoefer, Jessica Fu, Chong Wang, Nikita Ramoji, Nicole Nugent, Megan Ranney, Daniel Dickstein, Michael Armey, Ellie Pavlick, Jeff Huang. *"Sochiatrist: Signals of Affect in Messaging Data."* CSCW 2020 PDF Video

Mathieu Chollet, **Talie Massachi**, Stefan Scherer. *"Racing Heart and Sweaty Palms."* IVA 2017 PDF

* denotes equal contribution

Extended Abstracts

Catherine Li, **Talie Massachi**, Jordan Eschler, Jeff Huang. *"Understanding the Needs of Enterprise Users in Collaborative Python Notebooks."* to appear in CHI Case Studies 2023

Teaching Experience

Brown University

Primary Instructor, *UI/UX Workshop*   Spring 2023

Curriculum Developer, *Digital Health Innovation Certificate (DHIC), Design Course*   Summer 2022
- Developed class activities and materials for two modules in a post-grad certification course
- Guest lecturing

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *User Interfaces and User Experience*   Fall 2020

Brandeis University

Teaching Assistant, *Introductory Java and Python*   September 2015 – December 2017
Mentor, *Introductory Computer Programming*   September 2016 – December 2016

Work Experience

Microsoft Research, HUE group: Research Intern   April 2022 – July 2022
- Helped design & implement a system, later named Pearl, to inform users of their current online habits and encourage personalized healthy routine changes

Brown University: PhD Student and Research Assistant   August 2019 – Present
- Managed a team of three students working on research projects focusing on affect detection and emotional disclosure over social media and private messaging
- Collaborated with psychologists and clinical researchers to develop systems to increase the availability of mental health services

Constructor.io: Software Engineer   June 2018 – June 2019
- Implemented Boolean expression simplification algorithm for performant query expansion
- Designed and developed APIs for creating, updating, and retrieving synonym data
- Prototyped system to broaden results for unsuccessful searches through token removal

University of Southern California: Research Assistant   June 2016 – August 2016
- Designed and implemented real-time functionality to improve a virtual reality system aiming to treat public speaking anxiety
- Developed and ran an experiment with 25 participants to measure the effect of audience response on speaker's emotional state

Service

Brown University

PhD Admissions Committee, *Computer Science Department*   November 2021 – December 2021
Sheridan Teaching Center Grad Liaison, *Computer Science Department*   September 2021 – Present
Communications Director, *Graduate Labor Organization (GLO)*   October 2020 – February 2022
Grad Student Diversity Initiative, *Computer Science Department (unofficial)* September 2020 – Present
PhD Admit Events Organizer, *Computer Science Department*   February 2020 – March 2020

Brandeis University

Undergraduate Department Representative, *Computer Science Department*   May 2017 – May 2018
Lead Organizer, *Codestellation (Brandeis Hackathon)*   May 2016 – May 2018

Reviewing
CHI (2022), CIKM (2020), CSCW (2023)

Awards and Certifications

Invitation & travel grant for CRA-W Grad Cohort Workshops   2021
GHC Scholarship for Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing   2016

Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning, *Certificate I: Reflective Teaching*   December 2021
Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning, *Certificate II: Course Design*   May 2022

Student Mentoring

Gabriela Hoefer, Master's student, now at IBM   August 2019 – December 2021
John Roy, Undergraduate, now at Google   January 2020 – May 2022
Lauren Choi, Undergraduate   January 2020 – August 2021
Eindra Kyi, Visiting summer research assistant   June 2020 – September 2020
Jordan Idehen, Summer undergraduate research assistant, now at Spotify   July 2020
Catherine Li, Undergraduate, now at Index.app   January 2021 – December 2021
Neil Xu, Undergraduate   May 2021 – December 2021
Cat Mai, Visiting summer research assistant, now at NYU   June 2021 – September 2021
Anika Ahluwalia, Undergraduate   September 2022 – Present