

# VIBHA SUNEEL NAVALE

+1 (312) 459-9536 ◊ Chicago, IL

vibha.navale@outlook.com ◊ www.linkedin.com/in/vibha-navale ◊ github.com/VibhaNavale ◊ vibha-navale.netlify.app

## EDUCATION

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**University of Illinois Chicago, IL**  
Master of Science in Computer Science

Jan 2024 – Dec 2025  
GPA: 4.00

**RNS Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, India**  
Bachelor of Engineering in Information Science

2017 – 2021  
GPA: 9.08

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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### Frameworks & Technologies

React, Angular, Node.js, AWS, REST API, Express, SumoLogic, New Relic

### Languages & UX Research

JavaScript/TypeScript, Java, Python, PostgreSQL, Mixed Methods Research

### Tools

Git, Docker, Jira, Postman, DBeaver, Supabase, VS and VS Code, Jupyter Notebook

## EXPERIENCE

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### Software Engineer

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Aug 2021 – Dec 2023  
*Bengaluru, India / Remote*

- Developed and implemented various **REST containerized microservices** using **Node.js** and **Express** for a logistics product, optimizing shipping processes and saving up to **\$100K annually**. Built front-end components with **React** and **Angular**, and managed databases with **PostgreSQL**.
- Enhanced **API performance** by implementing caching mechanisms for frequently accessed data, reducing response time by **40%** (from **900 ms** to **530 ms**) and lowering costs associated with third-party API calls.
- Utilized **AWS services (ECS, EC2, Lambda, API Gateway, Secrets Manager)** and deployed infrastructure using **CloudFormation** to maintain infrastructure as code. Enhanced security with **WAF**, automated secrets rotation, and secure **S3** access.
- Migrated logs from **Sumo Logic** to **New Relic**, cutting logging and monitoring costs by **75%** and consolidating monitoring capabilities into a single platform.

### Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of Illinois Chicago

Aug 2024 – Dec 2025  
*Chicago, IL / On-site*

- Grade **Software Engineering** assignments, projects, and exams, providing timely feedback on implementation quality, testing depth, and documentation.
- Facilitate **coding project demos**, guiding students through key technical concepts and development processes.
- Support students individually and in groups with **coding**, project requirements, and software engineering principles, including Git branching, CI checks, and code review etiquette.

## PROJECTS

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### Tech Support for Older Adults – MS Project (UX Research, OS-ATLAS, React, FastAPI, OpenCV)

Jan – May 2025

- Led a **mixed-methods study** to evaluate older adults' preferences for video-based vs. traditional tech support workflows.
- Built an **accessible React interface** for an automated system that generates **image-based step-by-step guides** by extracting UI elements from tutorial videos using OpenCV.

### MindBridge (HCI, Figma, React)

Sep – Dec 2024

- Conducted **user interviews and usability testing** to inform the design of a secure mental healthcare intake experience.
- Designed **high-fidelity Figma prototypes** emphasizing **accessibility, clarity, and workflow efficiency**, with React-based implementation considerations.

### Find Your Roof (React, Next.js, Supabase, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS)

Jan – Apr 2024

- Built a **responsive frontend application** using React and Next.js to help unhoused individuals discover shelters, housing, and job resources.
- Focused on **accessibility and user-centered navigation**, ensuring fast and intuitive resource discovery.

## PAPER PUBLICATIONS

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### How BYOD Sessions Support Ongoing Digital Engagement in Older Adults

Apr 2025

*HCI, Interaction Analysis — Submitted to ACM ASSETS 2025*

- Analyzed **13 BYOD sessions** with **83 older adults**, identifying assistance patterns, spatial behaviors, and privacy constraints.
- Co-authored a paper translating findings into **design considerations** for accessible, user-friendly technology support interfaces.