

VIBHA SUNEEL NAVALE

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EDUCATION

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

SKILLS

Research Methods	Mixed Methods Studies, Semi-Structured Interviews, Surveys, Observational Studies
Analysis & Synthesis	Usability Testing, Thematic Analysis, Figma Prototyping
Technical Tools	React, Next.js, Node.js, REST APIs, PostgreSQL, AWS, Docker, Git, Supabase, Postman

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer Cimpres	Aug 2021 – Dec 2023 <i>Bengaluru, India / Remote</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Delivered logistics features that saved up to \$100K annually by building containerized Node.js/Express services and accessible React/Angular interfaces informed by customer feedback and support tickets.Partnered with product managers and designers to translate pain points into measurable API and UI requirements, documenting acceptance criteria and edge cases for each release.Improved user experience by adding targeted caching for high-traffic endpoints, reducing API latency by 40% (900 ms to 530 ms) and lowering third-party dependency costs.Worked with operations, support, and finance to migrate observability from Sumo Logic to New Relic, cutting monitoring expenses by 75% and consolidating dashboards for faster incident triage.	

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Software Engineering

University of Illinois Chicago	Aug 2024 – Dec 2025 <i>Chicago, IL / On-site</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Guide student teams through semester projects, steering planning, iteration reviews, and user-focused requirements.Facilitate coding demos and office hours that connect architecture decisions to end-user impact, helping teams unblock features and maintain usability goals.Provide individualized feedback on user stories, technical designs, and demos to strengthen communication between research, design, and engineering roles.	

PROJECTS

Tech Support for Older Adults – MS Project (Mixed Methods, OpenCV, FastAPI, OS-ATLAS)	Jan – May 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted a mixed-methods study (pre/post surveys, screen recordings, interviews) with older adults to compare video vs. written tech support.Synthesized findings into requirements for an automated guide builder that converts tutorial videos into step-by-step image flows using OpenCV and FastAPI.	
MindBridge (HCI Research, Usability Testing, Figma, React)	Sep – Dec 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Led user interviews and usability testing for a mental-health intake platform, translating insights into prioritized requirements and accessibility heuristics.Built a React prototype capturing proposed flows and interaction patterns, providing implementation guidance for future iterations.	
Find Your Roof (React, Next.js, Supabase, TypeScript, Tailwind CSS)	Jan – Apr 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed and implemented a resource discovery platform for unhoused Chicago residents, aggregating shelter, housing, and job information.Led accessibility reviews and navigation restructuring, grounding design decisions in insights from community briefings.	

PUBLICATIONS

How BYOD Sessions Support Ongoing Digital Engagement in Older Adults <i>HCI, Interaction Analysis — Submitted to ACM ASSETS 2025</i>	Apr 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted interaction analysis of 13 BYOD sessions with 83 older adults, examining assistance patterns, spatial formations, and privacy behaviors.Co-authored a paper synthesizing findings into design considerations for tools supporting independent digital engagement and peer-based support.	