Aatman **Vaidya**

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Education

Jul 2023 **Ahmedabad University** Ahmedabad, India Aug 2019 B.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering (CSE)

Thesis: Modelling the spread of Hate Speech on Twitter | Advisors: Prof. Amit Nanavati, Dr. Seema Nagar

Experience

Present Tattle Civic Tech [] Remote

Software Development Engineer - I and Data Engineer | Advisors: Tarunima Prabhakar, Denny George Aug 2023

- → I help build citizen centric open-source tools and datasets to understand and respond to inaccurate and harmful
- → I help build a browser extension Uli, that redact's slurs and abusive content, archive's problematic content, and collectively pushes back against online gender-based violence. Uli de-normalizes everyday violence that people of marginalized genders experience online in India. [Q] [Media Coverage: UNFPA Report]
- → I lead the development of Feluda, a configurable engine for analyzing multilingual and multimodal content. Feluda helps fact-checkers and researchers in combating misinformation. [O] [%] [Media Coverage: UNDP]
- → Feluda is being used as the back-end analysis engine on a national Deepfake detection WhatsApp helpline (Deepfakes Analysis Unit) by the Misinformation Combat Alliance for 2024 Indian Lok Sabha elections. This helpline is funded by Meta. [Media Coverage: Nieman Lab | The Hindu | World Economic Forum | Meta]
- → I build data pipelines to cluster large amount's of Audio and Video data into social media thematic labels like politics, humor, memes, devotional content etc. This work helps fact-checker's better understand, vizualize and analyze the content received on their helpline.
- → Worker with a MLCommons to develop an AI safety benchmark dataset for hate and sex related crimes. As a part of this project, I also conducted a survey on evaluating Indic LLM's for natural language tasks and online harms. [Dataset] [Report] [

May 2022 Ahmedabad University [3] Ahmedabad, India

May 2021 Undergraduate Research Fellow | Advisors: Prof. Shilpa Pandit, Prof. Keyur Joshi Projects: Analysing people's psychological and physiological effects and experiences in the second wave of COVID-19, Perceivable Image Blur Quality Index

Publications

S=In Submission, C=Conference, W=Workshop, P=Preprints, J=Journal

Improving Content Moderation for Indian Languages using Related Tasks [S.2] Aatman Vaidya, Dipankar Srirag, Aditya Joshi

[In preparation]

[S.1] Strategies to Mitigate Spread of Toxicity on a Social Network

Aatman Vaidya, Harsh Bhagat, Seema Nagar, Amit Nanavati [In preparation]

[P.1] Analysis of Indic Language Capabilities in LLMs Aatman Vaidya, Tarunima Prabhakar, Denny George, Swair Shah Report Submitted to MLCommons [%]

The Uli Dataset: An Exercise in Experience Led Annotation of oGBV [W.1]

> Arnav Arora, Maha Jinadoss, Cheshta Arora, Denny George, Brindaalakshmi...<u>Aatman Vaidya,</u> Tarunima Prabhakar Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms at North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics

★ Outstanding Paper Award

[NAACL'24]

Analysing the Spread of Toxicity on Twitter [C.3] Aatman Vaidya, Seema Nagar, Amit Nanavati

ACM International Conference on Data Science and Management of Data [CODS-COMAD'24]

[C.2] Forecasting the Spread of Toxicity on Twitter Aatman Vaidya, Seema Nagar, Amit Nanavati IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Machine Intelligence [IEEE CogMI'23]

[C.1] Overview of the 2023 ICON Shared Task on Gendered Abuse Detection in Indic Languages <u>Aatman Vaidya</u>, Arnav Arora, Aditya Joshi, Tarunima Prabhakar International Conference on Natural Language Processing [ICON'23]

Talks

"Modelling Hate Speech on a Social Network"

> Social Network Analysis Class (CSE533) Invited Speaker [%] Apr'24 (Ahmedabad University, India)

"Building NLP classifiers to detect Hate Speech"

> ACM Winter School on Network Science Invited Speaker Dec'23 (Ahmedabad University, India)

"Tools to respond to Online Gender Based Violence"

> Digital Citizen Summit Invited Speaker Nov'23 (Remote)

Achievements

Bosch Future Mobility Challenge | Semi-Finalist [♀] Programmed and Engineered an autonomous driving car to navigate a miniature city. One of the 24 teams out of 118, and only team to represent India for the finals in Cluj, Romania. [] [➡]

Outstanding Paper Award Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms at NAACL'24

Ingenious Hackathon 3.0 | Winner Open Source Track

Academic Service

Shared Task Organiser ICON'23 (Gendered Abuse Detection in Indic Languages) [%]

Reviewer ACL Rolling Review'24

Teaching and Leadership Roles

Discrete Mathematics (MAT 101), Ahmedabad University Teaching Assistant

Nov'22 - Mar'23

> Responsibilities included evaluating assignments, and helping students with the coursework.

Center for Learning and Empowerment (NGO) Volunteer Teacher [❖]

Jul'23 - Apr'23

> Taught 20+ secondary school kids mathematics for an entire academic year, at a tribal village in Jharkhand, India.

Reading Group, Ahmedabad University Organiser []

Dec'21 - May'22

> Organized a weekly Reading Group focused on reading recent and classical papers in Computer Science.

Programming Club, Ahmedabad University Content Head and Event Organiser [♠]

Jul'20 - May'22

> Co-organized and curated events around Web Development, Machine Learning and Competitive Programming.

Google Android Study Jams Facilitator Instructor [■] [�]

Dec'21 - Jan'22

> Conducted 3 sessions teaching Android Development in Kotlin to 40+ students.

Usable Pasts, Sustainable Futures Student Volunteer [❷] [■]

Ian'23

> Worked under Dr. Tejaswini Niranjana to understand how historically effective practices around Food, Clothing and Housing (roti-kapda-makan) can help mitigate climate change and public health issues.

Skills

Research Areas Languages

Databases and Developer Tools

Online Safety, Evaluation, Language Models & their Societal Impact, Content Moderation Python, JavaScript, Elixir C/C++, Kotlin, GraphQL

Frameworks/ Libraries PyTorc

PyTorch, Tensorflow, Nodejs, OpenCV, networkx, CameraX, Elasticsearch, Sequelize MySQL, PostgreSQL, Docker, AWS (S3, EKS, EC2), aws-cli, Kubernetes (kubectl), CI/CD,

Android Studio, Firebase