Abhraneel Sarma

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Education

University of Michigan School of Information

MS in Information | HCI & Data Science Specialization

Ann Arbor, MI 2016 - 2018

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

Bachelor of Design | Minor in Mechanical Engineering

Guwahati, India 2012 - 2016

Experience

Research Assistant

University of Michigan School of Information, Ann Arbor

Oct 2016

- Designed and implemented a survey to study the effects of different visual representations of statistical data on interpretation of uncertainty.
- Analysed the responses using bayesian mixed-effects and item-response theory models to compare the effects of different visual representations.

User Experience Intern

Academic Innovation, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

May - Aug 2017

- Designed new features for a tool to explore of U-M course data. Conducted 7
 usability tests to evaluate the new designs, and identified several UI changes.
- Developed an interview protocol to explore user attitudes towards the current features, and identify design requirements for future.

Projects

Analysis of the effectiveness of storytelling and interactivity in InfoVis

Master's Thesis Project

Jun - Apr 2017

- Designed and conducted a study on MTurk to compare effectiveness of narrative and interactivity as visualization strategies on recall and comprehension.
- Designed a survey using principles of learning theory to test interpretation of visualization, and analysed the results using a bayesian mixed-effects model.

Elevate - Ensuring access to food for food-insecure populations

UX Research | Finalist, CHI SDC 2017

Nov 2016 - Jan 2017

- Created interview protocol and conducted 13 user interviews to assess the needs, motivation, and problems faced by food-insecure population.
- Analysed findings into actionalble insights. Conceptualised an accessible solution to provide access to information for places which serve free food.

Pheme - Designing an alternate paradigm for news consumption

UX Research, UX Design

Jan - Apr 2017

- Created research design to understand daily news consumption behavior of college students. Conducted week long photo diary study with 6 participants.
- Analysed findings and identified design guidelines for a concept mobile-based app based on research findings.

About Me

I am a UX researcher with strong quantitative and qualitative skills and knowledge of statistics. I am passionate about using data-driven methods for understanding user behavior and creating better user experience.

Skills

Quantitative

Python, Pandas
R
Javascript, D3.js
Data Visualization
Survey Design
Survey Analysis
Bayesian Data Analysis
Data Manipulation
NLP, Predictive models

Qualitative

Contextual Inquiry
Affinity Analysis
Photo / Diary Studies
Usability Studies
Heuristic Evaluation
User Journeys

Achievements

Runners-up, Football, Inter IIT Sports Meet 2014

Semi-Finalist, Annual Intra-University Tennis Tournament (2014, 2016)

Semi-Finalist, Annual Intra-University Football Tournament (2016)