

Akash Chaudhary

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HCI design researcher, experienced product manager with an early stage startup and currently exploring Deep Learning AI. An innovative coder, proficient in python development and a keen explorer in psychology based UI/UX.

EDUCATION

University of California

Master of Science, Computational Media

Santa Cruz, USA

Sep 2021 - present

Advisor : Dr. Angus Forbes

M.S. Project : Novel Sound Effects Generation Techniques
for Films and Games

Indian Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Technology, Production and Industrial Engineering

Roorkee, India

Aug 2011 - May 2015

Advisor : Dr. Apurbba Kumar Sharma

B.Tech Project : Processing of Materials with Microwaves
for Joining Application

RESEARCH

Novel Sound Effects Generation Techniques for Films and Games

[ongoing]

Devised Pytorch implementation of WaveGAN and
HifiGAN in TensorFlow and PyTorch

Hansen, B., **Chaudhary, A.**

Advisor : Dr. Angus Forbes

Exploring Digital Well-Being on Online Video Streaming Platforms

DIS '22 [under review]

Designed user interface elements that could potentially
reduce digital addiction

Chaudhary, A., Saroha, J., Monteiro, K.

Advisor : Dr. Aman Parnami

Designing an Interface to Teach Context-based Intonations

Published Mobile HCI '21

Developed a voice-input smartphone app in four design
iterations

Chaudhary, A., Belani, M., Maheshwari, N.

Advisor : Dr. Aman Parnami

GUI Enabled Data Sonification

Devised a python toolbox for manipulation with MIDI and OSC messages

Chaudhary, A., Joshi, B., Adhikary, A., Sharma, P.

Advisor : Dr. Timothy Scott Moyers Jr.

Exploring Design for an Embodied Tool to Regulate Separation Anxiety in Dogs

Conducted interview study for formulating design of an un-anthropomorphic emotion regulation tool

Chaudhary, A.

Advisor : Dr. Katherine Isbister

WORK EXPERIENCE

Member | Creative Coding Lab

Sep 2021 - Present

- Member of the Creative Coding Lab at UC Santa Cruz.
- Active participant in weekly group meetings at the Creative Coding Lab, UC Santa Cruz.

Research Associate | Weave Lab

Jan 2018 - July 2021

- Made two submissions to top tier conferences - DIS and Mobile HCI, as the lead author.
- Responsible for tracking progress and providing guidance on HCI research practices to interns.
- Came up with novel ideas to connect literature of para-linguistics, voice-input, psychology, emotions and digital well-being through iterative designing.

Member | ILIAD Lab

Jan 2019 - Dec 2020

- Member of the music and sound lab at Human-Centered Design Department, IIIT-Delhi.
- Built a GUI for artists that enabled data sonification and transfer of MIDI onto various output channels, like Reaper and SuperCollider.

Research Intern | Verisk

May 2019 - Sep 2019

- Performed data analysis on the Q/A model of BERT in NLP.
- Found out parameter accuracy on domain-specific datasets.
- Responsible for processing and cleaning the deployment-ready code of the model in python.
- Presented research insights from proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).

Growth and Marketing Chief | Derbii

Nov 2015 - Dec 2017

- First employee at Derbii, a cab aggregation startup.
- Directly involved in all aspects of startup with the 2 co-founders, especially responsible for managing investor relations.
- Brought three prominent investors on the table for a pre-series A funding round.
- Handled product management and ensured end to end quality within customer experience.
- Involved directly in strategizing business growth, marketing and developing financial projections.

Operations Manager | Grofers

Jul 2015 - Nov 2015

- Responsible for managing pan-Delhi operations of Grofers, a unicorn hyper-local delivery startup in India.
- Led a team of 150 people to effectively optimize delivery logistics.
- Provided key insights for developing the UI design of delivery assistant's mobile application.

SKILLS

Hands-on coding

- Proficient in Python, C, HTML, CSS, JavaScript. Certified through Harvard course - CS50: CS50's Introduction to Computer Science (edX).
- Proficient in Paraview, Tableau.
- Knowledgeable in data structures and algorithms. Certified through Stanford courses - Divide and Conquer, Sorting and Searching, and Randomized Algorithms (Coursera), Graph Search, Shortest Paths, and Data Structures (Coursera), Greedy Algorithms, Minimum Spanning Trees, and Dynamic Programming (Coursera), Shortest Paths Revisited, NP-Complete Problems and What To Do About Them (Coursera).
- Informed in Digital Signal Processing, through a non-degree course from EPFL (Coursera).

Soft skills

- Reading - First author at two A* conference submissions.
- Communication and leadership - Led two teams towards two conference submissions with effective collaborations.

EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Sports

- Gold medal in basketball at undergraduate level in 4th year for Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee at Inter-IIT sports fest.
- Silver medal in basketball at undergraduate level in 2nd year for Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee at Inter-IIT sports fest.
- Runners up in football in inter-year sports competition at undergraduate level in 3rd and 4th year.