

Ali Alkhatib

Interim Director, Center for Applied Data Ethics

Last updated [November 16, 2022](#)

Contact Information

hi@al2.in

<https://ali-alkhatib.com>

Education

	Stanford University	Stanford, CA
Sep 2014 to Dec 2019	<i>Ph.D. Computer Science</i> (on leave) (Advisor: Michael Bernstein)	
	University of California, Irvine	Irvine, CA
Aug 2012 to Jun 2014	<i>B.A. Anthropology</i> Honors thesis: “Quantified Self: Ethnography of a Digital Culture” (Advisor: Tom Boellstorff) <i>B.S. Informatics</i> Specialization: Human–Computer Interaction <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>	

Affiliations

	University of San Francisco	San Francisco, CA
Jan 2020 to current	<i>Center for Applied Data Ethics</i> DIRECTOR Research & advocacy in data ethics and algorithmic justice Managing independent data ethics research fellows	
	Stanford University	Stanford, CA
Aug 2014 to Dec 2019	<i>Stanford Computer Science</i> PHD STUDENT Research & advocacy in data ethics and algorithmic justice Managing independent data ethics research fellows	
	Microsoft Research	Redmond, WA
Jun 2015 to Sep 2015	<i>FUSE Labs</i> RESEARCH INTERN Conducted study of piecework (or gig) workers Designed front–end for worker–centric labor market platform	
	University of California, Irvine	Irvine, CA
Apr 2014 to Jun 2014	<i>Evoke Laboratory & Studio</i> RESEARCHER Ethnographic research of values in design Assembled guide for data co–ownership	
Jan 2013 to Jun 2013	<i>Multidisciplinary Design Program</i> RESEARCHER Studied use of space on campus grounds Brainstormed changes to sociofugal spaces to promote sociopetality	

Publications

- 2021 **Ali Alkhatib**. “To Live in Their Utopia: Why Algorithmic Systems Create Absurd Outcomes”. In: *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClGlosevT0Y>). CHI ’21. Yokohama, Japan: Association for Computing Machinery, 2021. ISBN: 9781450380966. DOI: [10.1145/3411764.3445740](https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445740). URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445740>
- 2020 **Ali Alkhatib**. “We Need to Talk about Digital Contact Tracing”. In: *Interactions* 27.4 (July 2020), pp. 84–89. ISSN: 1072-5520. DOI: [10.1145/3404205](https://doi.org/10.1145/3404205). URL: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3404205>
- 2019 **Best Paper** **Ali Alkhatib** and Michael Bernstein. “Street-Level Algorithms: A Theory at the Gaps Between Policy and Decisions”. In: *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (Glasgow, Scotland UK). CHI 2019. Glasgow, Scotland UK: ACM, 2019, 530:1–530:13. ISBN: 978-1-4503-5970-2. DOI: [10.1145/3290605.3300760](https://doi.org/10.1145/3290605.3300760). URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/3290605.3300760>
- 2018 **Ali Alkhatib**, Justin Cranshaw, and Andrés Monroy-Hernández. “Laying the Groundwork for a Worker-Centric Peer Economy”. In: *CoRR* abs/1807.08189 (2018). arXiv: [1807.08189](https://arxiv.org/abs/1807.08189). URL: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1807.08189>
- 2017 **Honorable Mention** **Ali Alkhatib**, Michael S. Bernstein, and Margaret Levi. “Examining Crowd Work and Gig Work Through The Historical Lens of Piecework”. In: *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (Denver, Colorado, USA). CHI 2017. Denver, Colorado, USA: ACM, 2017, pp. 4599–4616. ISBN: 978-1-4503-4655-9. DOI: [10.1145/3025453.3025974](https://doi.org/10.1145/3025453.3025974). URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/3025453.3025974>
- 2015 **Honorable Mention** Niloufar Salehi, Lilly C. Irani, Michael S. Bernstein, **Ali Alkhatib**, Eva Ogbe, Kristy Milland, and Clickhappier. “We Are Dynamo: Overcoming Stalling and Friction in Collective Action for Crowd Workers”. In: *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. CHI ’15. ACM, 2015, pp. 1621–1630. ISBN: 978-1-4503-3145-6. DOI: [10.1145/2702123.2702508](https://doi.org/10.1145/2702123.2702508). URL: <http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2702123.2702508>
- 2014 **Ali Alkhatib** and Tom Boellstorff. “Quantified Self: Ethnography of a Digital Culture”. In: *UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Symposium* (University of California, Irvine, USA). UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Symposium. 2014
- 2013 Erin Costino, **Ali Alkhatib**, Fady Barsoum, Ian Brown, Wendy Yang, Geoffrey Bowker, Judith Gregory, and Sanjay Mazumdar. “Values in Design: Designing for Hesitation and Presence”. In: *UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Symposium* (University of California, Irvine, USA). UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Symposium. 2013

Presentations

- 2022 “Race Data Science Lecture Series” – *Columbia University Data Science Institute*. New York, NY, USA. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1v2KIdL5Rs>
- 2021 “To Live in Their Utopia: Why Algorithmic Systems Create Absurd Outcomes” — *CHI ’21*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClGlosevT0Y>
- 2019 “Street-Level Algorithms and Seeing the Forest for the Trees in AI” — *University of San Francisco Center for Applied Data and Ethics Seminar*. San Francisco, CA, USA
- 2019 “Street-Level Algorithms: A Theory at the Gaps Between Policy and Decisions” — *CHI 2019*. Glasgow, Scotland UK
- 2017 “Examining Crowd Work and Gig Work Through The Historical Lens of Piecework” — *CHI 2017*. Denver, Colorado, USA
- 2015 “Designing Worker-Centric Labor Markets” — *Platform Cooperativism*. New York, NY
- 2014 “Quantified Self: Ethnography of a Digital Culture” — *UC Irvine Undergraduate Research Symposium*. University of California, Irvine, USA

Press and Other Appearances

2022	“Elon Musk Has Fired Twitter’s ‘Ethical AI’ Team” (WIRED) “Musk wanted transparency in Twitter, yet fired the team behind it” (Analytics Insight)
2021	“Google AI chief Jeff Dean sparks cries of hypocrisy as he urges marginalized groups to work with its researchers: ‘After what you did to Timnit?’” (Yahoo News) Individual Profile (Offscreen Magazine) “Center for Applied Data Ethics suggests treating AI like a bureaucracy” (Venture Beat) “Data Ethics Researcher Cautions Against Algorithmic Reordering of Society” (The Newstack) “You can poison the data that Big Tech uses to monitor you” (Tribune)
2020	“Open Letters by Tech Industry, Google Employees Criticize Google’s Lack of Transparency in AI Research” (The Swaddle) “Is your boss spying on you while you work remotely?” (WHYY Podcast) “Google workers reject company’s account of AI researcher’s exit as anger grows” (The Guardian) “The Dark Side of Big Tech’s Funding for AI Research” (WIRED)

Service

2021	Reviewed for CSCW	<i>Virtual</i>
2020	Reviewed for CHI	<i>Virtual</i>
2019	Reviewed for CSCW	<i>Austin, Texas, USA</i>
2018	Reviewed for CHI	<i>Glasgow, Scotland, UK</i>
2017	Reviewed for CSCW	<i>New York, New York, USA</i>
2017	Reviewed for CHI	<i>Montreal, Canada</i>
2017	Reviewed for DIS	<i>Hong Kong</i>
2016	Lunch@CHI co-chair — CHI 2016	<i>San Jose, CA, USA</i>
2015	Student Volunteer — CHI 2016 Program Committee Meeting	<i>San Jose, CA, USA</i>