

# Aneesha Sampath

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## **SUMMARY**

I am a third-year Ph.D. candidate specializing in speech and language processing, with the ultimate goal of making AI socially intelligent. Recognizing that current AI tools lack the empathy and engagement inherent in human interactions, I focus on developing methods to advance models' social awareness and engagement.

## **EDUCATION**

### **University of Michigan**

*Ph.D. Candidate in Artificial Intelligence*

*M.S. in Computer Science*

Ann Arbor, MI

Expected 2028

May 2025

Research: Computational Human AI Lab (Prof. Emily Mower Provost)

### **Carnegie Mellon University**

*B.S. in Artificial Intelligence*

Pittsburgh, PA

May 2023

*Concentration: Language Technologies*

*Minor: Drama*

Research: MultiComp Lab (Prof. Louis-Philippe Morency)

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Michigan**

*Graduate Research Assistant*

Ann Arbor, MI

August 2023 – Present

- CHAI Lab (Computational Human AI) with Prof. Emily Mower Provost
- Developing aspect-based sentiment analysis models using LLMs to generate actionable insights from reviews
- Developing models to disentangle various dimensions of emotion

### **Carnegie Mellon University**

*Undergraduate Research Assistant*

Pittsburgh, PA

August 2021 – May 2023

- MultiComp Lab (Multimodal Machine Learning) with Prof. Louis-Philippe Morency
- Conceptualized and implemented method for recovering an annotator rating distribution from an aggregated label in emotion recognition.

### **Microsoft Core Search & AI**

*Applied Research Intern*

Mountain View, CA

May 2022 – August 2022

- Developed two new pipelines for Bing's search result title generation (mining-based and deep learning-based) and increased title quantity by 3%; increased title quality in 60% of new titles
- Designed a new dataset for Bing title generation with generative models and evaluated on two baseline models

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Microsoft**

*Software Engineer Intern*

Redmond, WA

May 2021 – August 2021

- Designed and implemented (end-to-end) querying language to integrate an internal monitoring tool into Jupyter Notebooks. Feature reduced context switching and manual querying for all teams using the services.

### **Google**

*Software Engineer Intern*

New York, NY

May 2020 – August 2020

- Conceptualized and implemented full-stack web application from scratch as part of a team of three interns.

## **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

### **Computer Science and Engineering Graduate Student Organization**

*Admissions Committee Student Representative*

Ann Arbor, MI

May 2024 – Present

- Represent the student voice on admissions-related initiatives and organize admissions events
- Work with AI faculty admissions committee to train current PhD students to give feedback on AI applications

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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- P1. "SEER: The Span-based Emotion Evidence Retrieval Benchmark", **Sampath, A.**, Aran, O., Provost, EM., Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: IJCNLP-AACL 2025.
- P2. "What You Feel Is Not What They See: On Predicting Self-Reported Emotion from Third-Party Observer Labels", El-Tawil, Y.\*., **Sampath, A.\*.**, Provost, EM., *under review* 2025.
- P3. "Efficient Finetuning for Dimensional Speech Emotion Recognition in the Age of Transformers", **Sampath, A.\***, Tavernor, J.\*., Provost, EM., in *ICASSP 2025-2025 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*. IEEE, 2025.
- P4. "Beyond Binary: Multiclass Paraphasia Detection with Generative Pretrained Transformers and End-to-End Models." Perez, M., **Sampath, A.**, Niu, M., Provost EM., in Interspeech 2024.
- P5. "SeedBERT: Recovering Annotator Rating Distributions from an Aggregated Label", **Sampath, A.**, Lin, V., Morency, LP., arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.13196, 2023.