

Dilki Sewwandi

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EDUCATION

• University of Colombo School of Computing, Sri Lanka

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Colombo, Sri Lanka

2022 - 2025

• Sujatha Vidyalaya, Matara

G.C.E. Advanced Levels Combined Maths: A, Physics: B, Chemistry: B

2012 - 2020

EXPERIENCE

• Research Assistant

HCI Lab UCSC

April 2025 – Present

- Conducting user-centered research to design and evaluate interventions that improve deepfake literacy in Global South communities.
- Collaborating with multidisciplinary teams to understand user behaviors, cultural contexts, and digital vulnerability related to AI-generated content.
- Assisting in designing prototypes, surveys, and usability studies to assess the effectiveness of digital literacy tools and implementation.

• Volunteer Researcher

HCI Lab UCSC

March 2024 – March 2025

- Supported research initiatives at the intersection of HCI, AI policy design, and technology adoption.
- Contributed to literature reviews, research analysis, and study procedures focused on ethical technology use and user impact.
- Worked closely with international researchers from Open University UK to explore inclusive design principles.

• Software Engineer Intern

Emplity Pty Ltd – Singapore (NUS Spin-off)

Nov. 2024 – Nov. 2025

- Designed and implemented responsive user interfaces for a generative AI-based chat tool with voice emotion recognition, conducting UI testing and iterative improvements based on user feedback.
- Integrated RESTful APIs and collaborated with AI/backend teams to ensure smooth full-stack functionality and real-time data processing.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

– Labeling Synthetic Content: User Perceptions of Label Designs for AI-Generated Content on Social Media

* Paper published in CHI 2025, Yokohama, Japan. [Paper Link]

Co-authored with international researchers at the Open University, UK, and UCSC, Sri Lanka, exploring ethics, technology, and policy design in AI.

– Comparative Evaluation of Warning Label Formats in Mitigating Deepfake Sharing on Social Media

* Paper presented at ICWSM-Global 2025, Copenhagen, Denmark. [Paper Link]

– Exploring Interventions to Reduce the Harm Created by Deepfakes in the Global South

Leading as the first author, exploring interventions to mitigate deepfake-related harm, with a focus on Global South communities. Currently under review at CHI 2026.

CONFERENCES

• **CHI 2025, Yokohama, Japan**

Presented a paper about user perceptions on labeling AI-generated content.

• **ICWSM 2025, Copenhagen, Denmark**

Presented a working paper on warning label formats; participated in workshops and paper sessions to exchange insights with global peers.

• **3rd ACM Europe Digital Humanism Summer School, TU Wien, Austria**

Explored Digital Humanism, Trustworthy AI, Ethics, and the EU AI Act; gained hands-on experience with AI tools.

• **Winter School by Colombo ACM SIGCHI Chapter, Sri Lanka**

Learned about Human-Centered AI, research methodologies, experimental design, and research ethics.

• **Heidelberg Laureate Forum**

Selected to attend the 12th HLF, an international forum honoring laureates in Computer Science and Mathematics.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Soft Skills: Strong analytical & problem-solving skills, technical writing & documentation, effective team collaboration, excellent communication & organization skills, eager to learn new technologies.

Programming Languages: JavaScript, Python, Scala, R, HTML, CSS.

Frameworks and Libraries: React.js, Next.js, Tailwind CSS.

Tools and Technologies: Git, GitHub, Figma, Trello, Canva, Qualtrics, Prolific.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

– IEEE Student Branch UCSC , Industry Engagement Lead	2023-2024
– Rotaract Club of UCSC , Director - Club Service Avenue	2023-2024
– AIESEC in UOC , Business to Business Manager	2022-2023
– Yale-NUS Asia Pacific Model United Nations , Delegate - ECOFIN Council (GA2)	2017
– Sri Lanka Model United Nations , Delegate - African Union	2016
– Women's Hockey, University of Colombo , Freshers' 1st Runners Up, Inter Faculty 1st Runners Up	2023
– Women's Tennis, University of Colombo , Freshers' Runners Up	2023

REFERENCES

Dr. Dilrukshi Gamage

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Prof. Arosha Bandara

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