

# Harshita Diddee

PhD Student, Carnegie Mellon University

[Portfolio](#) [Github](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Email](#)

## Education

August 2023 Spring 2028	<b>Carnegie Mellon University</b> PhD, Language Technologies Institute: Advised by <a href="#">Daphne Ippolito</a> Interested in (a) data curation and evaluation for tasks that align with specific/nuanced user needs (b) adapting agents to produce legible reasoning traces that humans can verify easily and (c) exploring how agentic populations can emulate human decisions at scale.	Pittsburgh, USA
May 2017 Jun 2021	<b>Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University</b> B.Tech., Computer Science & Engineering   Department Rank: 2/120 Graduated as the Best Outgoing Student for the Class of 2021	Delhi, India

## Select Experience

May 2025 Aug 2025	<b>Amazon Core Search</b> <i>Applied Science Intern</i>   Primary Advisor: <a href="#">Dr. Tanya Roosta, Amazon Science</a> Built an end-end simulation environment for estimating the impact of treatments on Amazon Search Customers using simulated AI Agents. Conducted a click-tendency evaluation to show how LLMs drift from exact matches of user intents, hallucinate rationales, and over-permit low-quality items under certain conditions.	Palo Alto, CA
Jul 2021 July 2023	<b>Microsoft Research</b> <i>SCAI Centre Fellow</i>   Primary Advisor: <a href="#">Dr. Kalika Bali, Microsoft Research India</a> Developing edge-friendly machine translation models for extremely low-resource languages. Evaluating GPT across its (a) multi-lingual abilities (b) task-coverage and (c) capability as an evaluator.	Bangalore, India

## Select Research Publications

Complete List at [Google Scholar](#)

- [C] **NoveltyBench: Evaluating Language Models for Humanlike Diversity** [\[🔗\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)  
Yiming Zhang, Harshita Diddee ..., Daphne Ippolito  
*Proceedings of COLM 2025* [COLM 2025]
- [C] **Chasing Random: Instruction Selection Strategies Fail to Generalize** [\[🔗\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)  
Harshita Diddee, Daphne Ippolito  
*Findings of NAACL 2025* [NAACL 2025]

## Select Research Projects

<b>Retrieval Tool for Selecting the Right Benchmark</b> Advisor: <a href="#">Dr. Daphne Ippolito</a> <a href="#">[Website]</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Built a retriever that surfaces benchmark items matching a practitioner's use-case with high precision (Human Evaluation with 11 ML practitioners).</li><li>&gt; Show that this tool can help diagnose low content validity i.e., coverage gaps across close variants of the same task (Eg: Testing models excessively on formatting for json but not YAML).</li><li>&gt; and poor convergence validity i.e., getting divergent model rankings across "same-capability" benchmarks (Eg: Getting 2 different best models among n candidates when 2 'reasoning' benchmarks are used).</li></ul>	Jan'25 - Nov'25
<b>Evaluating Robustness of Post Training Data Selection</b> Advisor: <a href="#">Dr. Daphne Ippolito</a> <a href="#">[Code]</a> <a href="#">[Paper]</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Demonstrated the brittle generalization of instruction selection strategies by showing that popular strategies cannot beat random baselines consistently.</li><li>&gt; Showed that popular instruction following benchmarks have orthogonal performance trends while measuring performance of models on general instruction following capabilities which can hinder model selection.</li></ul>	Feb'24 - Sep'24