

Jaitun Patel

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SUMMARY

Curious and enthusiastic graduate student with 2 years of research experience in Human-Computer Interaction(HCI); designing and conducting mixed-methods user studies and presenting research findings to diverse audiences.

EDUCATION

- **Virginia Tech** Master of Science in Computer Science & Applications; GPA: 3.90
August 2021 - August 2023
- **Ashoka University - Young India Fellowship** Postgraduate Diploma in Liberal Studies; GPA: 3.48
July 2019 - June 2020
- **A. D. Patel Institute of Technology (ADIT)** Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering; CGPA: 8.44
August 2014 - May 2018

EXPERIENCE

- **Weather Data Scientist**
AgWeatherNet *October 2023 - Present*
 - Developing and implementing data quality initiatives, ensuring the delivery of high-quality weather data to users through standardized procedures
 - Coordinating web portal redesign project, employing user-centered design principles to enhance user experience and functionality
 - Bridging the gap between developers and users by initiating efforts for data collection and iterative improvements based on user feedback through design and distribution of online surveys and user interactions
 - Collaborating with government agencies such as National Weather Service, EPA/AirNow to integrate environmental data into web portal design, enhancing data accessibility for users
- **Graduate Research Assistant**
Virginia Tech *August 2021 - June 2023*
 - Informed the design of technology for sustainable trail management by conducting **qualitative and quantitative research** through user surveys, focus groups, and field usability studies under Dr. Scott McCrickard
 - Identified **user needs, attitudes, emotions and behaviors** of individuals during hiking by analyzing 5 years of **social media data** from Reddit, Instagram, and Trail Journals
 - Reported barriers and opportunities for digital technology through **axial coding and thematic analysis** of 20 **semi-structured interviews** with trail managers
 - Generated design ideas by conducting a 2-hour **participatory workshop** with 17 long-distance hikers
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Virginia Tech *January 2022 - May 2023*
 - Assisted in teaching by resolving student queries, mentoring for projects, grading and analyzing student performance for courses- Introduction to Programming in Java, Software Design & Quality, HCI Capstone: *Designing Outdoor Games*
- **Graduate Intern - Technology and Digital Solutions**
Stanford Health Care *May 2022 - August 2022*
 - Presented **data-driven strategies** to reduce around 2% of patient no-shows for appointments in the MyHealth while advocating for patients, clinicians and management needs
 - Enhanced user experience in MyHealth, mobile and web applications, by including user's voice in the design through **user interactions** with hospital staff and working in cross-functional teams for the deployment of Wayfinding functionality
- **Software Engineer**
Carobar Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd *July 2020 - May 2021*
 - Delivered a LIMS system in a fast-paced environment that accelerated COVID-19 testing during the pandemic by understanding and incorporating complex technical, business and client requirements throughout the product development cycle
 - Provided customer support by troubleshooting and resolving queries related to the system usage
- **Image Processing Engineer**
Spectral Insights - an nference Inc Company *September 2018 - July 2019*
 - Designed and developed functionalities for customer-facing modules to process whole slide medical images of pathological samples using Computer Vision, and ML algorithms resulting in a 20% increase in workflow efficiency in pathology labs

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Knowledge Areas:** Human-Computer-Interaction (HCI), User-Centered Design, UX Research, Machine Learning, Agile Methodology, Data Analysis & Visualization
- **UX Research Methods:** Contextual Inquiry, Usability Testing, A/B testing, Participatory Design Workshops, Diary Studies, Design Thinking, User Interviews, Surveys, Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis, Storyboarding, Wireframing, Rapid Prototyping, Formative Evaluation, Logs analysis, Web design
- **Tools & Programming Languages:** Prodigy, Google Analytics, Qualtrics, Figma, Sketch, Marvel Pop, Jamboard, Google Suite, Python, SQL, HTML/CSS

PUBLICATIONS

- [APA 2023] Shalini Misra, Norhan T Abdelgawad, Morva Saaty, **Jaitun V Patel**, Kris Wernstedt, and Scott McCrickard. *Poster: Toward a Public Interest Technology Framework for Trail Infrastructure Management*. Accepted in the Society for Environmental, Population and Conservation Psychology at American Psychological Association Convention 2023
- [COMPASS 2022] Saaty, Morva, **Jaitun V. Patel**, Norhan Abdelgawad, Jeffrey Marion, D. Scott McCrickard, Shalini Misra, and Kris Wernstedt. *Note: Studying Sustainable Practices of Appalachian Trail Community based on Reddit Topic Modelling Analysis*. In ACM SIGCAS/SIGCHI Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS), pp. 560-563. 2022
- [CHI 2022] Saaty, Morva, **Jaitun V. Patel**, Derek Haqq, Timothy L. Stelter, and D. Scott McCrickard. *Integrating social media into the design process*. arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.04315 (2022).

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- **Leading** a multidisciplinary capstone project with undergraduate student teams, fostering collaboration and practice of Agile UX research methodologies at AgWeatherNet, Washington State University 2024-2025
- **Organized and Conducted** Mobile-Game Design Workshop for Diversity and Outdoors at CAPWIC 2023
- **Mentored** student teams for HCI Capstone Projects at Virginia Tech
- **Presented research findings** at ACM SIGCAS & SIGCHI Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS '22) and at CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '22)
- **Volunteered** for trail maintenance work with Outdoor Club at Virginia Tech, 2022
- **Participated** in a devise theatre workshop at Virginia Tech, 2022 for the outreach of community efforts
- **Ashoka Alumni Mentor 2021** advised students around the relevance of an interdisciplinary career and opportunities in tech
- **Teaching Volunteer, Barefoot Edu, September 2020 - March 2021**
 - Assisted a government school in India in online transitioning by contributing to the design of classes and course structure
 - Engaged around 30 primary-grade students in the subjects of History and Environmental Studies