

KANCHI BHAWALKAR

User Experience Designer

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SELECT WORK EXPERIENCE

Interaction Design Research Assistant

Sep 2016 - Present

Michigan Information Interaction Lab - Prof. M. Nebeling

Researched and designed an Amazon Alexa based conversational interface to a cross device virtual lab assistant. Developed context-aware VUI's to integrate tasks like recording attendance, updating Trello tasks and posting to Slack to reduce time spent in performing them.

Data Visualization UX Research Intern

June 2016 - Present

Digital Project Studio, Clark Library, University of Michigan

Developed a JavaScript based UI framework to generate stereoscopic 3D network visualizations. Used the framework to conduct user studies for gauging the effectiveness of the 3D visualizations by juxtaposing them against their corresponding 2D, Hiveplot and Heatmap representations.

UX Designer II

Jan 2016 - Apr 2016

UX Design Clinic, University of Michigan

Designed a "Create your own adventure" UI that helped users learn better by facilitating context based browsing of MOOC's on the UofM Entrepreneurship Greenhouse website.

AMTS - Software Designer and Developer

Jul 2012 - Jul 2015

TIBCO Software, R&D Engineering Team, Pune, India

Managed and outlined product requirements, spearheaded design and development of an SDK and a RESTful server in Java for TIBCO Espresso. Developed 3 product enhancements and optimized performance of the TIBCO BusinessWorks platform by resolving over 20 critical production bugs with an average turnaround time of 2 business days.

SELECT PROJECTS

Aria - Interactive tool for YouTube based guitar learners (CHI - 2017)

Designed a tangible interface that could be placed atop a guitar and synced with a video player to ease the consumption of YouTube based guitar lessons. Mapped complex interactions to simple gestures with the aim of reducing unnecessary time wastage, loss of motivation, and similar issues faced by online self - learners.

Mira - Smart mirror for skincare analysis

Led a team of 4 to design and prototype an IoT enabled, context aware smart-mirror to ease the process of maintaining a skin-care regime. Conducted surveys, photo diary studies & user - enactments to come up with an multi-modal interface that responds to gesture and voice input. Prototyped the mirror using Leap Motion controller and Snowboy's Voice API.

Fix it - Mobile interaction design

Conceptualized and designed a mobile application to simplify the process of tenant landlord communication by designing for transparent tracking of maintenance requests.

Blob - Smart alarm clock & wearable

Designed a smart, personified alarm clock and a wearable device to influence development of good sleeping habits. The design promoted positive motivation and behavior change through the overall physical form, contextually engaging interactions, actionable visualizations and sounds like yawning.

VOLUNTEER WORK

DolIIT Lab, School of Information

Designing the audio experience for soundscape composition tabletop tool to enhance imaginative storytelling with tangible objects.

EDUCATION

University of Michigan

April 2017

Ann Arbor

MS in Information - Human Computer Interaction

University of Pune

May 2012

Bachelor of Engineering - Computer Science

SKILLS

UX DESIGN

Wireframing, Sketching, Interactive Prototyping, Rapid Prototyping, Usability Testing, Paper Prototyping, 3D Modelling, User Story Mapping, 3D Printing

UX RESEARCH

User Interviews, Personas and Scenarios, Surveys, Heuristic Evaluation, Cultural Probes, Photo diary studies, User Enactments

TECHNICAL

D3.js, Plotly.js, HTML/CSS, Python, JQuery, Amazon AWS, Bootstrap, JavaScript, Java

TOOLS

Sketch, Illustrator, Photoshop, Axure, Principle App, Rhino 3D

LEADERSHIP

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Interaction Design Course

Mentoring & evaluating 25 graduate students for individual projects that run the length of the UX Design lifecycle from ideation to hi-fidelity prototyping.

AWARDS

Full Tuition Waiver from the School of Information under the Graduate Student appointment.

Winner of the Nutanix Design Jam

RELEVANT COURSES

Interaction Design, Personal Informatics Design, Pervasive Interaction Design, Fundamentals of Human Behavior, Integrated Product Development, Usability Evaluation, Contextual Inquiry, Design of Websites, Information Architecture, Information Visualization