

Matheus Kunzler Maldaner

M.S. Student (AI Systems + HCI)

I am a first-year master's student at the University of Florida in the M.S. AI Systems Program. I am passionate about **Neurosymbolic AI** and **Human-Computer Interaction**. My research spans Differentiable Logic Gate Networks at the Florida Institute for National Security, Auditing Text-to-Image Model Outputs at Carnegie Mellon University and Designing Longer Running Agentic Systems with the Microsoft Research AI Frontiers group.



Resume



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matheusmaldaner.github.io



CV PDF



YouTube



@matheusmaldaner



@matheusmaldaner



Google Scholar



matheusmaldaner

Education

Aug. 2025 -
Present

M.S. in AI Systems

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

🏆 **UF Early Career HiPerGator Award**

Aug. 2021 -
May. 2025

B.S. in Data Science

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Thesis: *Applications of Differentiable Logic Gate Networks*

GPA: 3.9/4.0, Summa Cum Laude

🏆 **UF Hall of Fame**

🏆 **UF Outstanding Scholars and Leaders Award**

Aug. 2017 -
May. 2021

High-School Diploma

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Industry Research Experience

Summer 2025

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Research Intern, AI Frontier Group

Mentor: Dr. Hussein Mozannar, Dr. Gagan Bansal, Dr. Adam Fourney

Worked on enabling Agentic Systems to perform longer running tasks, and on the development on SentinelBench.

Academic Research Experience

Summer 2024

- Present

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Research Intern, Human Computer Interaction Institute

Mentor: Dr. Jason Hong, Dr. Motahhare Eslami, Dr. Kenneth Holstein, Wesley Deng

Developing tools to audit text-to-image models.

Fall 2023 -

Present

Florida Institute for National Security (FINS), Gainesville, FL

Research Assistant, Neurosymbolic AI

Mentor: Dr. Damon Woodard, Dr. Domenic Forte, Dr. Olivia Dizon-Paradis, Stephen Wormald

Working on the application and optimization of Differentiable Logic Gate Networks.

Leadership Experience

Fall 2023 -

Present

Data Science and Informatics (DSI) Organization, Gainesville, FL

President,

Overseeing an executive board of 30 students. Won the UF Student Organization of the Year Award.

Fall 2024 -

Present

IEEE Signal Processing Society at UF, Gainesville, FL

Co-Founder & Vice-President,

Co-founded the UF chapter of the IEEE Signal Processing Society.

Fall 2024 -

Present

UF AI Club, Gainesville, FL

Director of Research,

Leading the research initiatives for the UF AI Club.

Fall 2023 -
Spring 2024

UF American Statistical Association (ASA) Chapter, Gainesville, FL

Vice President,

Created a mentorship program to pair 60 students to mentors.

2018 - 2021

Marjory's Garden, Parkland, FL

President,

Led Marjory's Garden organization during high school achieving 1000+ volunteering hours.

2020 - 2021

National Honor Society, Parkland, FL

President,

Served as President of the National Honor Society chapter and delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

2020 - 2021

Mu Alpha Theta Calculus Team, Parkland, FL

Captain,

Led the Mu Alpha Theta Calculus competition team and hosted practice sessions.

Honors and Awards

2025 UF HiPerGator Early Career Award

2025 UF Gator Create 3 of 7 Tracks

2025 UF Gator Hack 1st Place

2025 Heidelberg Laureate Forum

1 of 200 young researchers selected to attend the annual Heidelberg Laureate Forum with Nobel Laureates and Fields Medalists.

2025 Microsoft Intern Puzzle Day Fastest Solver

2025 ITNG Best Student Paper Award

2025 ITIAS Hack Space Con Scholarship

Received scholarship to attend Hack Space Con and tour Kennedy Space Center.

2025 FGLSA Travel Support

2025 UF CLAS Excellence Award Finalist

1 of 12 finalists for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Excellence Award.

2025 UF Outstanding Leader Award

	Recognized as 1 of 7 graduating seniors for outstanding leadership.
2025	UF Student Organization of the Year Awarded as President of Data Science and Informatics (DSI).
2025	UF Career Influencer Award
2025	REPU Scholar
2025	UF Hall of Fame Recognized as 1 of 25 students with the highest honor given to students at the University of Florida.
2025	Summa Cum Laude Honors Thesis Completed honors thesis with distinction, unanimously approved with no revisions.
2025	UF Outstanding Scholars and Leaders Award Recognized as 1 of 7 graduating seniors for leadership and scholarship.
2025	UF Swampacks X Best AI Hack For building a differentiable logic gate visualizer for better explainability.
2025	ASA DataFest Best Visualization A weekend-long data analysis competition for students of any major.
2024	UF Gator Create 2nd Place
2024	UF Gator Hack Most Popular
2024	ShellHacks Most Popular Florida's largest hackathon, a 36-hour event where students build new technology projects and compete for prizes.
2024	FGLSAMP Scholar
2024	USCLAP 2nd Place Overall An international competition for undergraduate students to showcase their data analysis projects from their statistics courses.
2024	NSF Travel Award Awarded travel funding to present first-author demo paper at HCOMP 2024.
2024	Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar Selected as a scholar for the Hispanic Scholarship Fund.
2024	UF Joe Glover Data Science Scholarship
2024	UF AI Scholar Offers undergraduate students a stipend of \$1750 and the opportunity to collaborate in AI research.
2024	UF University Scholar

- 2024 Apple Pathways Alliance Fellow
- 2024 ASA DataFest 1st Place
A weekend-long data analysis competition where teams work to share insights from real-world data.
- 2024 OSC Hackathon Best AI Hack & 2nd Place
For developing a Discord bot that leverages sentiment analysis to keep track of server trends.
- 2024 William G. Cross Award Finalist
For excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service to the University of Florida.
- 2024 FURC Travel Award
To present a Neurosymbolic AI poster at the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference.
- 2024 UF GenAI Arts Competition 2nd Place Overall
A competition that celebrates the creative use of generative AI in various artistic domains.
- 2024 UF Gator Hack III Most Popular Award
For training and deploying differentiable logic gate networks onto FPGAs for low-latency inference.
- 2023 UF Gator Hack II Finalist
For developing AdapTree, an AI-powered educational tool that tailors learning based on a person's existing knowledge.
- 2021-2025 Dean's Honor List
For achieving a semester GPA of 3.75 or higher.
- 2021-2025 Bright Futures Program Scholar
Merit-based scholarship program that covers up to four years of full tuition for Florida residents.

Publications

- 6 **Magentic-UI: Towards Human-in-the-loop Agentic Systems**
Hussein Mozannar, Gagan Bansal, Cheng Tan, Adam Fourney, Victor Dibia, Jingya Chen, Jack Gerrits, Tyler Payne, Matheus Kunzler Maldaner, Madeleine Grunde-McLaughlin, Eric Zhu, Griffin Bassman, Jacob Alber, Peter Chang, Ricky Loynd, Friederike Niedtner, Ece Kamar, Maya Murad, Rafah Hosn, Saleema Amershi
Microsoft Research AI Frontiers (arXiv preprint). 2025.



Project



PDF



Blog



Code

- C5 **Seeing Twice: How Side-by-Side T2I Comparison Changes Auditing Strategies**
Matheus Kunzler Maldaner, Wesley Hanwen Deng, Jason I. Hong, Ken Holstein, Motahhare Eslami
ACM CI. 2025.
[Project](#) [PDF](#) [Preview](#)
- C4 **eXpLogic: Explaining Logic Types and Patterns in DiffLogic Networks**
Stephen Wormald, David Koblah, Matheus Kunzler Maldaner, Domenic Forte, Damon L. Woodard
ITNG. 2025.
[Project](#) [PDF](#) 🏆 **Best Student Paper Award**
- C3 **MIRAGE: Multi-model Interface for Reviewing and Auditing Generative Text-to-Image AI**
Matheus Kunzler Maldaner, Wesley Hanwen Deng, Jason I. Hong, Ken Holstein, Motahhare Eslami
HCOMP. 2024.
[Project](#) [PDF](#) [Preview](#)
- J2 **Abstracting General Syntax for XAI after Decomposing Explanation Sub-Components**
Stephen Wormald, Matheus Kunzler Maldaner, Kristian O'Connor, Olivia P. Dizon-Paradis, Damon L. Woodard
Springer AI. 2024.
[Project](#) [PDF](#)
- 1 **Efficient and Transparent Machine Learning: Exploring Applications of Differentiable Logic Gate Networks**
Matheus Kunzler Maldaner
Undergraduate Thesis, University of Florida. 2025.
[Project](#)

Press

Apr. 2025	"UF's Maldaner mixes and mingles with global AI experts," UF Department of Engineering Education
Apr. 2025	"FINS Team Wins 1st Place @ UF AI Days," Florida Institute for National Security
Apr. 2025	"UF AI Scholar Matheus Kunzler Maldaner," University of Florida AI ² Center
Apr. 2025	"Matheus Kunzler Maldaner Biography," UF Center for Undergraduate Research
Apr. 2025	"Knowledge Should Be Accessible To All," UF Research Computing
Apr. 2025	"Parkland's Matheus Kunzler Maldaner Named to UF Hall of Fame," Parkland Talk
Apr. 2025	"DSI Wins Org of the Year," UF Artificial Intelligence and Informatics Research Institute
Apr. 2025	"UF AI Scholar Matheus Kunzler Maldaner inducted in the UF Hall of Fame," UF Artificial Intelligence and Informatics Research Institute
Mar. 2024	"What has UF been doing with AI so far?," The Independent Florida Alligator
Mar. 2025	"Third annual DataFest brings together students from across UF," UF PHHP
Oct. 2024	"HCOMP 2024 — HCII coverage," CMU HCII
Apr. 2024	"A whirlwind of big data — DataFest 2024 recap," UF PHHP

Mentoring

2024	Maryam Elfakir <i>Undergraduate Student</i> Mentored as part of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) mentorship program.
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Service

Organizer

Data Science and Informatics Symposium (**DSI Symposium**) at
University of Florida 2025
UF AI2 Summit (**AI2 Summit**) at University of Florida 2025

Program Committee

Reviewer

ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (**CHI**) at
ACM SIGCHI 2025
SEA Workshop @ NeurIPS (**SEA**) at NeurIPS 2025
AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (**AIES-25**) at AAAI &
ACM 2025

Institutional

IEEE EMBS at UF — Cancer/Mental Health Awareness Design-a-thon
(Judge), October 2025

Member

2025 — Present	Association for Computer Machinery (ACM)
2024 — Present	IEEE Signal Processing Society (IEEE SPS)
2024 — Present	Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
2024 — Present	ACM Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI)
2024 — Present	Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)
2024 — Present	National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)
2023 — Present	Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
2023 — 2024	American Statistical Association (ASA)

References

Dr. Damon L. Woodard, Professor; Director, Florida Institute for National
Security
Florida Institute for National Security (FINS), ECE
University of Florida
ece.ufl.edu/people/faculty/damon-woodard

Dr. Jason I. Hong, Professor Emeritus
Human-Computer Interaction Institute
Carnegie Mellon University
hcii.cmu.edu/people/jason-hong

Dr. Hussein Mozannar, Senior Researcher
AI Frontiers
Microsoft Research
husseinmozannar.github.io

Dr. Cátia Silva, Instructional Associate Professor
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
University of Florida
ece.ufl.edu/people/faculty/catia-silva

Dr. Elizabeth Johnson, Associate Instructional Professor
Department of Statistics
University of Florida
stat.ufl.edu/people/faculty/