Curriculum Vitae
Matthew Dressa
PhD Student
https://matthewdressa.github.io/Personal-Portfolio/
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Education

University of California, Irvine   2022-2027
Informatics, Ph.D.
Advisor: Daniel Epstein
Research Areas: Health Tracking, Ubiquitous Computing, Wearable Computing

Cornell University   2017-2022
Information Science, B.A.   GPA: 3.11
Advisor: Cheng Zhang

Research Experience

Personal Informatics Everyday (PIE) Lab   August 2022 – Present
University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA
Graduate Student Researcher
Supervisor: Daniel Epstein
I am researching best practices for smartwatch customization interfaces in personal tracking and health applications. Specifically, we are interested in the user design properties that can best present the tools that afford people to develop their own watch faces without needing any prior knowledge.

Smart Computer Interfaces for Future Interactions (SciFi) Lab   February 2020 – May 2022
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Supervisor: Cheng Zhang
I pilot tested novel student-made wearables throughout the semester in addition to providing insight into improving the testing sessions for participants. I also reviewed and revised graduate student papers before submitting to conferences.

Cornell Social Media Lab   September 2020 – March 2021
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Undergraduate Research Assistant
Supervisor: Natalie Bazarova
I developed a set of guidelines for designing digital tools for asylum seekers and refugees and evaluated the existing ICTs for this population regarding their access to legal and health information.

Teaching Experience

IN4MATX 282: Design and Prototype   September 2022 – December 2022
University of California, Irvine
Teaching Assistant
Instructor: Sara R. Murray
I graded student assignments, exercises, held office hours to explain design principles in greater detail to master level students and aided the instructor in developing grading rubrics for student projects.

INFO 4400: Qualitative Research Methods   January 2021 – March 2021
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Teaching Assistant
Instructor: Gilly Leshed
Graded student assignments on a bi-weekly basis and answered questions regarding HCI research method papers.

INFO 3450: Introduction to HCI   February 2020 – December 2020
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Teaching Assistant
Instructor: Gilly Leshed
I explained the applications of usability and user experience principles, clarified course material such as deadlines, as well as contributed to a positive learning environment for all students.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications

Lim, H., Li, Y., **Dressa, M.**, Hu, F., Kim, J., Zhang, R., & Zhang, C. (2022). BodyTrak: Inferring Full-body Poses from Body Silhouettes using a Wristband. Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable, and Ubiquitous Technologies 6(3), 1-21 https://doi.org/10.1145/3552312

Sun, W., Chen, T., Zheng, J., Lei, Z., Wang, L., Steeper, B., He, P., **Dressa, M.**, Tian, F., & Zhang, C. (2020). Vibrosense. *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies*, *4*(3), 1–28. https://doi.org/10.1145/3411828

Press Coverage

Hackster.io *Cornell Tracks Appliances, Home Activities Using a Single Laser-Based VibroSense Sensor*

CNET *Unique Wearable Tracker Can Detect the Whole Body in 3D*

Service

Mentoring
Tim Chen, B.S. Informatics (2023)

Ethiopian Eritrean Student Association   September 2018 – January 2019
E-Board Member
I helped organize cultural events for the Eritrean and Ethiopian diaspora on the Cornell University campus.

Honors and Awards

Competitive Edge Summer Research Fellowship, UC Irvine	August 2022
Diversity Recruitment Fellowship ($2,500), UC Irvine	May 2022
Chair' Fellowship ($2,500), UC Irvine	May 2022
Community Service Award, Cornell University	May 2022
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award	May 2021
Dean's List Award	December 2021

Computing Experience

Python, Java, Figma, TensorFlow, A-frame, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Fitbit SDK, Angular

Languages

English (Native), Portuguese (Fluent), Arabic (Conversant), Spanish (Conversant)