Shramay Palta

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Education

2021–present **University of Maryland, College Park**, *Ph.D. in Computer Science*
Advisor: Professor Rachel Rudinger

2021–2023 **University of Maryland, College Park**, *M.S. in Computer Science*
Advisor: Professor Rachel Rudinger

2017–2021 **Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani**, *B.E. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering*
Advisors: Professor Ashok Agrawala (UMD) and Professor Navneet Goyal (BITS)

Publications

Preprints, Under Review and Works in progress.

Under Review **Shramay Palta**, Peter Rankel, Sarah Wiegreffe, Rachel Rudinger. *Everything is Plausible: Investigating the Impact of LLM Rationales on Human Notions of Plausibility.*

Preprint, **Shramay Palta**, Nirupama Chandrasekaran, Rachel Rudinger, Scott Counts.
Under Review *Speaking the Right Language: The Impact of Expertise Alignment in User-AI Interactions.* 2025.

Conference Papers

EMNLP 2024 **Shramay Palta**, Nishant Balepur, Peter Rankel, Sarah Wiegreffe, Marine Carpuat,
Findings Rachel Rudinger. *Plausibly Problematic Questions in Multiple-Choice Benchmarks for Commonsense Reasoning.* Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.

ECCV 2024 Gowthami Somepalli, Anubhav Gupta, Kamal Gupta, **Shramay Palta**, Micah Goldblum, Jonas Geiping, Abhinav Shrivastava, Tom Goldstein. *Investigating Style Similarity in Diffusion Models.* European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV).

ACL 2024 Nishant Balepur, **Shramay Palta**, Rachel Rudinger. *It's Not Easy Being Wrong:*
Findings *Large Language Models Struggle with Process of Elimination Reasoning.* Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

ACL 2023 **Shramay Palta**, Rachel Rudinger. *FORK: A Bite-Sized Test Set for Probing Culinary Cultural Biases in Commonsense Reasoning Models.* Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

Professional Experience

Industry

2025 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft*
Hosted by Dr. Mengting Wan and Michael Bentley in the Office AI team. Worked on developing an optimal model router to accurately route user queries for enterprise customers.

2024 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*
Hosted by Dr. Scott Counts. Built and evaluated a classifier for user and agent expertise in AI chat interactions, which led to a research paper on the implications of User-AI expertise alignment. The classifier is scheduled for adoption by IDEAS in E+D.

2019 **Data Science Intern**, *TurnoutNow*
Using real-time location data from IoT BLE Beacons and natural language generation tools with live data connections to generate narratives for end users.

Academia

2021–present **Research Assistant**, *CLIP Lab*, UMD
Advised by Professor Rachel Rudinger on evaluating Large Language Models in cases of uncertainty in commonsense reasoning and how they deviate from human values.

2021 **Research Assistant**, *HDI Lab*, UMD
Advised by Professor Leo Zhicheng Liu on using Natural Language Processing Techniques to harvest design feedback from visualization comments on social media platforms like Reddit.

2020 **Research Intern**, *Global Health Center*
Hosted by Dr. Amandeep Gill. Researched the role of micro-narratives as proxy variables to fill in missing data and developing human-centered benchmarks for digital health.

Selected Invited Talks

2025 **Graded Judgments of Plausibility in Commonsense Reasoning**, *Invited Guest Lecture*, Rutgers University
Graduate NLP Class.

2024 **Uncertainty and its impact on Commonsense Reasoning**, *Guest Lecture*, UMD
Graduate NLP Seminar.

2023 **Prompting, In-context Learning, and Instruct Tuning**, *Guest Lecture*, UMD
Undergraduate Natural Language Processing course.

Academic Service

Reviewing

○ ACL Rolling Review (ARR): 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

Other

○ Reviewer: UMD CS Graduate Admissions Committee

○ Member: CS Department Council, CS MS Strategic Growth Committee

○ President: CS GradCo: an organization aimed to improve the experiences of all CS graduate students as they progress through their program.

Selected Honor and Awards

2021–2023 **Dean's Fellowship and Chair's Fellowship**, *UMD*
Awarded the Graduate School Dean's Fellowship and the Chair's Fellowship Award for outstanding academic achievement.