# SUBIGYA NEPAL

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# **EDUCATION**

JUN 2024 (EXPECTED)

### PhD in COMPUTER SCIENCE

Dartmouth College, NH, USA

- 25+ Papers (9 first-authored), h-index: 12, citations: 1100+
- Grad-level coursework: Deep Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning & Statistical Analysis, Applications of Data Science, Cognitive Computing, Concurrent Algorithms, Robot Design & Programming, Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)
- Research Interests: Applied Machine Learning, AI, Passive Sensing, Mobile/Digital Health, Mental Health and Well-being.
- Advisor: Dr. Andrew T. Campbell

2017

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE in COMPUTER SCIENCE**

Deerwalk Institute of Technology, Kathmandu, Nepal

# RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

SEP 2018 TO PRESENT

### DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, USA

Graduate Research Assistant

- Developed apps for ubiquitous sensing devices, like mobile phones and wearables, enabling cross-device communication and in-the-wild participant tracking in mental health and wellbeing studies.
- Analyzed extensive longitudinal data with advanced machine learning and deep learning techniques to assess and predict human behavior, specifically focusing on mental health and wellbeing.
- Enhanced Android applications for research projects, ensuring seamless integration within existing codebases and maintaining functionality.
- Managed AWS servers, developing server-side scripts and web backends for efficient data handling and analysis.
- Participated in multidisciplinary, multi-university collaborative research, particularly with psychologists, psychiatrists, and brain scientists, to identify research challenges and provide technical solutions.
- Led the design, data collection, cleaning, feature engineering, and machine learning modeling for various NSF/NIH mobile sensing projects at Dartmouth College.
- Published innovative research in top-ranked journals and conferences in Computer Science, including ACM IMWUT and CHI, contributing to the fields of mobile sensing, machine learning, and human behavioral modeling.
- Actively involved as a Teaching Assistant, supporting student learning in relevant courses, and regularly presented analytical findings at various academic forums and conferences.

Core competencies: Application Development, Human-Centered Study Design, Longitudinal Data Analysis, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Digital Phenotyping, Mental Health, Digital Health, HCI, Data Visualization, Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods

Jun 2023

### Microsoft Research, Cambridge, MA, USA

TO SEP 2023

Research Intern, Human Understanding and Empathy group

- Conducted research on the efficacy of Large Language Models (LLMs) in enhancing productivity and well-being among information workers.
- Executed two studies: an initial user study followed by a subsequent study involving participant interaction with chat agents.
- Investigated prompt engineering techniques and developed prototypes comparing a chat agent with a generic dashboard to aid information workers in better understanding their workplace behaviors.
- Engaged in an iterative design process for refining hypotheses and research objectives.
- Collaborated effectively with team members and interns, actively involving additional stakeholders in the research process.
- Presented research findings to key stakeholders and led the preparation of the manuscript.

Mentors: Drs. Javier Hernandez, Mary Czerwinski

Core competencies: LLMs, User Studies, ChatGPT, Prompt Engineering, Chat Agents, Prototyping, User Experience (UX)

Jun 2022

### Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, USA

TO SEP 2022

Research Intern (Remote), Human Understanding and Empathy group

- Spearheaded two key projects aimed at investigating well-being in the workplace.
- Project 1: Understanding the dynamics between workplace rhythms and employee well-being.
- Project 2: Fundamental research on burnout among cybersecurity workers.
- Managed the entire research pipeline, encompassing study design, ethics review, data collection, analysis, and presentation of results.
- Facilitated cross-team collaboration and maintained effective communication with a diverse range of stakeholders.
- Authored two primary manuscripts; one was published at CHI 2023, and the other at CSCW 2024.

Mentors: Drs. Javier Hernandez, Mary Czerwinski

Core competencies: Project Leadership and Management, Workplace Behaviors, Employee Wellbeing Research, Burnout Analysis, Study Design and Execution, Ethics Review and Compliance, Cross-teams collaboration and Communication

# Other Professional Experience

TO AUG 2018

#### TECHLEKH SERVICES PVT. LTD., NEPAL

Co-Founder & CTO

- Co-founded TechLekh, a rapidly growing technology media startup in Nepal, during undergraduate studies
- Activities include tech media as well as software development services through a sister offshoot
- Oversaw delivery of large-scale projects including edtech platforms, machine learning products, and web applications
- Currently one of Nepal's leading tech media properties with a significant following
- Managed diverse responsibilities such as: setting organizational goals, overseeing managerial tasks, spearheading product development for sister organization

Core competencies: Entrepreneurship and Startup Management, Strategic Planning and Goal Setting, Software Development & Engineering, Team Management and Collaboration, Project Leadership and Execution

# SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (FULL LIST: GOOGLE SCHOLAR | DBLP | ACM DL)

### ACCEPTED OR **PUBLISHED**

- 8. S Nepal et al., Capturing the College Experience: A Four-Year Mobile Sensing Study of Mental Health, Resilience and Behavior of College Students during the Pandemic, ACM UbiComp 2024. [Accepted]
- 7. S Nepal et al., Burnout in Cybersecurity Incident Responders: Exploring the Factors that Light the Fire, ACM CSCW 2024. [Accepted]
- 6. S Nepal et al., Workplace Rhythm Variability and Emotional Distress in Information Workers, ACM CHI 2023. Acceptance rate: 34%.
- 5. S Nepal et al., COVID Student Study: A Year in the Life of College Students during the COVID-19 Pandemic Through the Lens of Mobile Phone Sensing, ACM CHI 2022. Acceptance rate: 12.5%.
- 4. S Nepal et al., Assessing the Impact of Commuting on Workplace Performance Using Mobile Sensing, IEEE Pervasive Computing Magazine **2021**. Impact factor: 3.175.
- 3. S Nepal et al., Current practices in mental health sensing, ACM XRDS Magazine 2021.
- 2. S Nepal et al., Detecting Job Promotion in Information Workers Using Mobile Sensing, ACM UbiComp 2020. Acceptance rate: 24%.
- 1. S Mirjafari et al., Differentiating higher and lower job performers in the workplace using mobile sensing, ACM UbiComp 2019. Acceptance rate: 20%

### IN-PREP OR REVIEW

- 5. S Nepal et al., MoodCapture: Depression Detection using In-the-Wild Smartphone Images, Under Review at ACM CHI 2024.
- 4. S Nepal et al., Social Isolation and Serious Mental Illness: The Role of Context-Aware Mobile Interventions, Under Review at IEEE Pervasive Computing Magazine 2024.
- 3. S Nepal et al., Multi-Study Pooling and Adaptation to Boost Mental Health Diagnosis using Mobile Sensing and Deep Learning, In-preparation for Journal of Medical Internet Research, 2024.
- 2. S Nepal et al., From User Surveys to Telemetry-Driven Agents: Exploring the Potential of Personalized Productivity Solutions, In-preparation for ACM CSCW 2024.
- 1. S Nepal et al., A Survey of Passive Sensing in the Workplace, arXiv 2022.

### Volunteering & Awards

# VOLUNTEER

- Founding Board Member, Better Life Social Organization USA
- -> A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working for disadvantaged children mainly in Nepal
- Founding Member, Dartmouth Nepali Students Association
- -> Dartmouth student club for students of Nepali origin

### REVIEWER

• ACM UbiComp 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023 • ACM CHI 2021, 2024 • ACM CSCW 2021, 2022 • Scientific Reports 2021

# **AWARDS**

- Special Recognition for Outstanding Review at CSCW 2023 and CHI 2024
- Best Poster Award at Dartmouth Digital Health Summit (2023), Dartmouth College, USA
- Distinguished Paper Award (2023), ACM UbiComp, Cancún, Mexico
- Neukom Outstanding Graduate Research Award (2023), Dartmouth College, USA
- Guarini Travel Award (2023), Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies, Dartmouth College, USA
- Neukom Travel Grant (2023), Neukom Institute for Computational Science, Dartmouth College, USA
- Best Paper Honorable Mention (2020), IEEE Pervasive Computing Workshop

### Miscellaneous

TECH SKILLS

- Python Java JavaScript Bash Script Android Git Nginx SQL MongoDB PyTorch R PHP
- Flask Laravel Docker HuggingFace FastAl Scikit-learn AWS Azure Cloud Storage REST Mlxtend

#### MEDIA

- Technology fueled America's youth mental health crisis, but it can help end it. Washington Post, September 2023.
- Pandemic exposed mental health divide among college students, study says. Washington Post, May 2022.
- Smartphone intervention feasible for Severe Mental Illness. HealthDay, Nov 2021.
- Wearable tech confirms wear-and-tear of work commute. Dartmouth News, Nov 2021.
- Rates of anxiety and depression among college students continue to soar, researchers say. Washington Post, June 2021.
- Coronavirus has made already-stressed college students even more anxious & depressed. Washington Post, July 2020.
- Researchers developed a sensing system to constantly track the performance of workers. TechCrunch, June 2019.

LANGUAGES • English (fluent) • Hindi (fluent) • Nepali (native)

REFERENCES • Available upon request