

Samir Ghosh

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Education

University of California, Santa Cruz

PhD Student in Computational Media

Advisor: Katherine Isbister

Santa Cruz, California

2022 – Present

University of Southern California

BS in Computational Linguistics

BA in Cognitive Science

Los Angeles, California

2018

Honors and scholarships

Dean's Travel Grant

2025

Finalist, UC Santa Cruz Grad Slam

2023

Regents Fellowship

2023

CITRIS Tech For Good Award

2022

Dean's Fellowship

2022

Publications

“Let's Jump into More Creative Avatars and Take this Brainstorm to the Flying Platform:” Playful Prototypes of VR Meeting Support Tools

Anya Osborne, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, Alexandra Leeds, George Butler, **Samir Ghosh**, and Katherine Isbister

DIS 2025

Introducing Booksnake: A Scholarly App for Transforming Existing Digitized Archival Materials into Life-Size Virtual Objects for Embodied Interaction in Physical Space, using IIIF and Augmented Reality

Sean Fraga, Christy Ye, Henry Huang, Zack Sai, Michael Hughes, April Yao, and **Samir Ghosh**

CHI EA '25

Purposeful XR: Affordances, Challenges, and Speculations for an Ethical Future

Elizabeth Childs, **Samir Ghosh**, Sebastian Cmentowski, Andrea Cuadra, Rabindra Ratan

CHI EA '25

Designing Shared VR Tools for Spatial Scientific Sensemaking About Wildfire Evacuation

Samir Ghosh, Yuhui Wang, William Zhou, Kelly Lin, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, and Katherine Isbister.

CHI EA '24

Eye Ball: Gazing as a Dilemma in a Competitive Virtual Reality Game

Michael Lankes, **Samir Ghosh**, Charles Bishop Lesser, and Katherine Isbister.

CHI EA '24

The Cuteness Factor: An Interpretive Framework for Artists, Designers and Engineers

Angela Y.H. Fan, Chen Ji, Ella Dagan, **Samir Ghosh**, Yuhui Wang, Katherine Isbister.

DIS 2023.

Workshop Papers

Designing Interaction Approaches for Shared Sensemaking in XR

Samir Ghosh, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, and Katherine Isbister.

Sensemaking Workshop, CHI '24

Social Physiological Data Awareness in Collocated Mixed Reality Movement

Samir Ghosh, Charles Lesser, Kaia Rae Schweig, Sofia De La Vega Mireles, and Katherine Isbister.

PhysioCHI Workshop, CHI '24

Revealing Aspects of Hawai'i Tourism Using Situated Augmented Reality

Karen Abe, Jules Park, and **Samir Ghosh**

With or Without Permission Workshop, CHI '24

Designing a mixed-initiative multi-user VR interface for wildfire mitigation

Samir Ghosh, Yanglan Wang, Kecheng Cheng, Anthony Angeles, Andrew Moskovich, Kenichi Soga, and Katherine Isbister.

HCI for Climate Change Workshop, CHI 2023.

Selected projects

Booksnake AR

NEH funded iOS AR app displaying assets from the Library of Congress and other archival information. Early design, software architecture, and project management contributions.

Bunker Hill VR

Historical recreation of 1930s downtown Los Angeles using civil engineering data. Project management, documentation, and technical contributions

Stanza Del Segnatura

WebGL 3D app that overlays primary sources over frescoes from The Vatican. Build and distribution contributions.

Bodyscape

Internationally exhibited (e.g. SIGGRAPH, Ars Electronica) wearable technology fashion piece by Behnaz Farahi. Contributions in gait responsive algorithms, circuit design, safety systems, and generative design

Research positions

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz

May 2023 - *present*

Coastal Climate Resilience Center and UC Santa Cruz Visualization Lab

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz

May 2023 - *present*

Catalyst Program, UC Open Source Program Office

Visiting Scholar, Blekinge Institute of Technology

May 2023 - June 2023

HINTS Project, Department of Computer Science

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz June 2023 - April 2023
Virtual Reality for Scientific Sensemaking, Social Emotional Technology Lab
Supported by the [Sloan Foundation](#)

Industry
experience

Ahmanson Lab USC Harman Academy Los Angeles, California
Assistant Director Jan 2019 - Aug 2022

YUR Inc. Los Angeles, California
VR Developer Jul 2021 - Dec 2021

Intel Corporation Santa Clara, California
Intern Summer 2016, Summer 2018, Fall 2018

Enlighted Inc. Sunnyvale, California
Intern Summer 2014

Teaching

Teaching assistant, UC Santa Cruz Winter 2022
CMPM 115: Lead By Design

Seminars, Talks,
and Tutorials

Revisiting the for Loop Nov 2023
Slugworks, UC Santa Cruz

A Career in HCI and VR Oct 2023
Cognitive Science Student Association, UC Santa Cruz

Generative Art in Virtual Reality Using p5js Jun 2023
Digital Arts and New Media, UC Santa Cruz

Wildfires in Virtual Reality Mar 2023
UC Santa Cruz Grad Slam, Kuumbwa Jazz Center

Multi-user VR workshop Feb 2023
Digital Arts and New Media, UC Santa Cruz

Surveillance and the Attention Economy Mar 2022
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Computational Art Feb 2022
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

WebRTC, WebGL, and other web protocols Jan 2022
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Techniques with Graphics Code Sep 2021 - Oct 2021
Emergent Technology Series, Ahmanson Lab at USC

VR Web Development Sep 2021 - Oct 2021

Emergent Technology Series, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Object recognition, privacy rights, and data collection Sep 2021
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Sensors, lights, and motors Sep 2021
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

3D Modeling Basics Sep 2021
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Glitch + D3.js Oct 2020
Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC

VR with Mozilla Hubs Oct 2020
Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC

p5js Sep 2020
Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Applied Neural Networks Apr 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Introduction to Creative Code Apr 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

STEM Speaker Series Mar 2020
Katherine Johnson STEM Academy

Deepfake Detection Mar 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Practical Arduino Mar 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Data Surveillance and Digital Rights Feb 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Introduction to 3D Printing and the Makerbot Replicator Feb 2020
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Wearable Technology Oct 2019
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Get your own climate data Oct 2019
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Introduction to 3D Printing and the Makerbot Replicator Sep 2019
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Service	Practical Arduino Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2019
	WebVR Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Nov 2019
	Promise and Peril of Algorithmic Living USC Visions and Voices	Apr 2018
	Google Summer of Code <i>UC Open Source Program Office</i> Mentor	Summer 2022
	Creative Code Collective Community Lead	2023 – <i>Present</i>
	Committee for Planning and Budget <i>Academic Senate, UC Santa Cruz</i> Graduate Representative	2023 – <i>Present</i>
	MIT Reality Hack Mentor	2025
	ACM Halfway to the Future Symposium 2024 Social Media Chair	2023-2024
	Google Summer of Code <i>Processing Foundation</i> Mentee, Contributor	Summer 2022
	Corpus Callosum (Student Org.) Viterbi School of Engineering, USC Technical Director	Fall 2015 - Spring 2018
Personal information	Citizenship: USA Languages: English (native), French (proficient), Korean (basic) Email: samir.ghosh@ucsc.edu Website/Portfolio: samir.tech Misc. interests: capoeira, open water swimming, creative code	