Vinay Koshy

Website: `vinyoshy2.github.io`
Email: `vkoshy2@illinois.edu`

Research Interests

My research aims to democratize online community governance. I approach this problem in two ways. First, I conduct computational social science research to build models of longitudinal community dynamics. In this work, I develop natural language processing-based approaches to measuring social phenomena. Second, I build new tools to help online community moderators guide and adapt to the norms of the groups they run. I adopt qualitative, user-centered design approaches to inform early prototypes, and larger scale quantitative analyses to evaluate impact.

Education

2019-2025 **PhD in Computer Science**, University of Illlinois - Urbana-Champaign
Advisor: Karrie Karahalios

2015-2019 **BA in Computer Science**, University of California - Berkeley
Research Mentors: Gireeja Ranade, Eric Friedman

Publications

2025 *(In Submission)* Venire: A Machine Learning-Guided Panel Review System for Community Content Moderation.
Computer-Supported and Cooperative Work (CSCW)
Vinay Koshy, Frederick Choi, Yi-shyuan Chiang, Hari Sundaram, Eshwar Chandrasekharan, Karrie Karahalios.

2025 *(In Submission)* Organize, Then Vote: Exploring Cognitive Load in Quadratic Survey Interfaces
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)
Ti-Chung Cheng, Yutong Zhang, Yi-Hung Chou, Vinay Koshy, Tiffany Wenting Li, Karrie Karahalios, Hari Sundaram.

2025 *(In Submission)* Placebo Effects of Control Settings Are Not Always Strong
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)
Silas Hsu, Vinay Koshy, Kristen Vaccaro, Christian Sandvig, Karrie Karahalios.

2025 Creator Hearts: Investigating the Impact Positive Signals from YouTube Creators in Shaping Comment Section Behaviors
arXiv preprint
Frederick Choi, Charlotte Lambert, Vinay Koshy, Sowmya Pratipati, Tue Do, Eshwar Chandrasekharan

2024 Not What it Used to Be: Characterizing Content and User-base Changes in Newly Created Online Communities
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)
Alex Atcheson*, Vinay Koshy*, Karrie Karahalios
🏵 Best Paper Honorable Mention Award

2023 Measuring User-Moderator Alignment on r/ChangeMyView
Computer-Supported and Cooperate Work (CSCW)
Vinay Koshy, Tanvi Bajpai, Eshwar Chandrasekharan, Hari Sundaram, Karrie Karahalios
🏆 Best Paper Award

2023   A User-Centric Evaluation of Smart Home Resolution Approaches for Conflicts Between Routines.
Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (IMWUT)
Ali Zaidi, Rui Yang, Vinay Koshy, Camille Cobb, Indranil Gupta, Karrie Karahalios

2021   "We Just Use What They Give Us": Understanding Passenger User Perspectives in Smart Homes
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)
Vinay Koshy, Joon Sung Park, Ti-Chung Cheng, Karrie Karahalios
🎗 Best Paper Honorable Mention Award

Datasets

2024   Subreddit Linguistic Distinctiveness and Userbase Diversity Dataset

Data from "Not What it Used to Be: Characterizing Content and User-base Changes in Newly Created Online Communities" Includes: two years of data on size, comment removal rate, linguistic distinctiveness, and user-base diversity for 1600 newly created Reddit subreddits.

2023   ChangeMyView User-Moderator Alignment Dataset

Data from "Measuring User-Moderator Alignment on r/ChangeMyView." Includes: case judgements from users and moderators, user support ratings for community rules (Likert), and participation statistics for user survey respondents

Honors, Awards, and Grants

2024   CHI Student Volunteer Accessibility Award (1 of 2 Awardees)

2024   CHI Best Paper Honorable Mention (Top 5% of Submissions)

2023   CSCW Best Paper Award (Top 1% of Submissions)

2021   UIUC Graduate College Travel Award (1 of 5 Dept. Awardees)

2021   CHI Best Paper Honorable Mention (Top 5% of Submissions)

Teaching Experience

2021   Social Spaces on the Internet (TA)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Under Karrie Karahalios

2019   Efficient Algorithms and Intractable Problems (Head TA)
University of California at Berkeley
Under Prasad Raghavendra and Luca Trevisan

2018   Efficient Algorithms and Intractable Problems (Head TA)
University of California at Berkeley
Under Alessandro Chiesa and Satish Rao

2018   Efficient Algorithms and Intractable Problems (TA)
University of California at Berkeley
Under Umesh Vazirani and Alessandro Chiesa

2017   Discrete Mathematics and Probability Theory (TA)
University of California at Berkeley
Under Allen Tang, Hongling Lu, and Vrettos Moulos

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

2024   CS498: Computational Social Science
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2023   Rising Stars in Social Computing Seminar
University of Iowa

2023   CS567: Social Spaces on the Internet
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2022   CS498: Antisocial Computing
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Industry Experience

2019   Infrastructure Software Engineer Intern
Salesforce, Service Cloud Performance Engineering Team

2018   Infrastructure Software Engineer Intern
Salesforce, APP SCALE Team

Mentoring

2024   Janvi Gandhi (Undergraduate)
Conducted exploratory analysis on inter-subreddit linking events on Reddit

2023   Alex Atcheson (Junior PhD Student)
Coauthored CHI Honorable Mention Award winning paper on online community evolution

Academic Service

2024   CHI Accessibility Student Volunteer

2024   TiiS, NordiCHI, CSCW, CHI Reviewer

2023   CSCW, CHI Reviewer

2022   CSCW, CHI Reviewer

2021   Just Infrastructures Speaker Series Organizer

2017   Volunteer Computer Science Tutor - Discrete Mathematics