

# Vinay Koshy

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## 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 Illinois - Urbana-Champaign  
*Advisor: Karrie Karahalios*

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

## Publications

- 2025 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 Placebo Effects of Control Settings Are Not Always Strong  
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)  
Silas Hsu, [Vinay Koshy](#), Kristen Vaccaro, Christian Sandvig, Karrie Karahalios.  
🏆 Best Paper Award
- 2025 Creator Hearts: Investigating the Impact Positive Signals from YouTube Creators in Shaping Comment Section Behaviors  
Computer-Human Interaction (CHI)  
Frederick Choi, Charlotte Lambert, [Vinay Koshy](#), Sowmya Pratipati, Tue Do, Eshwar Chandrasekharan
- 2024 Venire: A Machine Learning-Guided Panel Review System for Community Content Moderation.  
arXiv preprint  
[Vinay Koshy](#), Frederick Choi, Yi-Shyuan Chiang, Hari Sundaram, Eshwar Chandrasekharan, Karrie Karahalios.
- 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 Cooperative 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

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- 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

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- 2025 CHI Best Paper Award (Top 1% of Submissions)
- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 2019 Infrastructure Software Engineer Intern  
*Salesforce, Service Cloud Performance Engineering Team*
- 2018 Infrastructure Software Engineer Intern  
*Salesforce, APP SCALE Team*

## Mentoring

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- 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

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- 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