Vishal Sharma

CONTACT INFORMATION	Georgia Institute of Technology, 85 Fifth Street NW, Atlanta, GA, 30332 Tel: 949-247-6061	Homepage: http://www.vishalsharma.info/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/iamviiish ✉ E-mail: visharma@gatech.edu

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology   2024
Ph.D. in Human-Centered Computing
Graduate Fellow at Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems
Major: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)
Advisor: Dr. Neha Kumar

University of California, Irvine   2019
M.S. in Information and Computer Science
Major: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)
Advisor: Dr. Bonnie Nardi

Chitkara University, India   2015
B.E. in Computer Science & Engineering
Advisor: Dr. Neha Kishore

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Research & Design Methods: Ethnography, Interviews, Surveys, Focus Groups, Participant Observations, Participatory Design, Heuristic Evaluation, Contextual Inquiry, Storyboarding, Affinity Diagrams
- Visualization Tools: Tableau, RawGraph, DataWrapper
- Design Tools: Marvel, Sketch
- Programming Languages: C/C++, Java, SQL
- Technical Softwares: Master Data Management (MDM)

FELLOWSHIP, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems Graduate Fellowship, Georgia Tech   2022–24
- COVID Disruption Funds of $29,000, Georgia Tech   2021
- IFIP TC13 Interaction Design for International Development Award, INTERACT   2019
- Council of Research, Computing, and Libraries grant of $3000, UC Irvine   2019
- Innovation and Excellence Award, Informatica LLC, Bangalore, India   2017
- Accountability & Integrity Award, Informatica LLC, Bangalore, India   2016

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Designing for Participatory Natural Resource Management**   2022
  Research Intern, ICTD Lab, IIT Delhi
  - Conducted field visits, participant observation, interviews, and focus group.
  - Examined the social, political, and identity-based factors that restricted participation in natural resource management planning and implementation process.
  - Proposed implications for designing digital technologies supporting participatory and fair natural resource management.

- **Devising a Post-growth Agenda for HCI**   2020–2022
  Graduate Research Assistant, TanDEm Lab, Georgia Tech
  - Took a theoretical approach to draw from the robust post-growth scholarship from diverse fields, including political economy, ecological economy, and sustainability sciences.
  - Devised the new domain of *Post-growth Informatics* to study, design, and develop sociotechnical systems to build a sustainable and just post-growth economy.
  - Suggested ways to orient HCI researchers, designers, practitioners, and educators towards questioning and altering computing's unsustainable growth ideology by (a) engaging with the political economy, (b) designing considering ecological limits, (c) defining scale appropriately, and (d) nurturing international solidarity.

- **Scoping the Sociotechnical Ecology of Digital Work**   2021–2022
  Graduate Research Assistant, GVU Center, Georgia Tech
  - Conducted interviews with 15 self-publishing novelists.
  - Analyzed the new forms of work that novelists perform and new forms of workers helping with digital publishing.

- Recommended design implications to create more inclusive, collective, and sustainable future of work.

- **Evaluating Algorithmic Literacy of Digital Workers** 2020–2021
  Graduate Research Assistant, GVU Center, Georgia Tech
  - Conducted interviews with 15 novelists who use online platforms for publishing, selling, and marketing novels.
  - Examined how novelists learn about algorithms, whom they turn to seek help, and the challenges caused by the continual algorithmic change. Investigated how novelists form a collective algorithmic literacy. Probed how novelists leverage their algorithmic literacy to work with and around algorithms to recruit new readers, maintain existing readers, and make sales.
  - Suggested guidelines to design online labor platform that support algorithmic knowledge-making of workers.

- **Analyzing Makerspaces as Sites of Community-driven Innovation** 2019–2020
  Graduate Research Assistant, TanDEm Lab, Georgia Tech
  - Conducted an ethnographic study at a community-led makerspace, located in Mumbai, India to investigate community knowledge networks and understand the potential of makerspaces situated in resource-constrained settings for driving community-led innovation.
  - Recommended design guidelines to create more inclusive and safe sociotechnical avenues of makerspaces for community-led development.

- **Expanding Volunteering Outreach of a Humanitarian Aid Organization** 2019–2019
  Graduate Research Assistant, TanDEm Lab, Georgia Tech
  - Conducted interviews with the staff and volunteers at MedShare, a humanitarian aid organization located in Georgia, USA.
  - Performed comparative analysis of charity websites and social media analysis of MedShare.
  - Proposed actionable guidelines to promote MedShare's volunteer outreach online.

- **Scoping Social Media use to Address Water Crisis** 2017–2019
  Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Informatics, UC Irvine
  - Conducted a field study in Bangalore, India. Investigated social media use to abate, combat, and avert water crisis through an empirical examination of tweets and Facebook posts. Conducted 30 interviews to understand social media use by different stakeholders—celebrities, the public, and the government—to raise awareness and foster participation during the crisis.
  - Extended HCI work on understanding social media's role in addressing crises.
  - Awarded Council of Research, Computing, and Libraries (CORCL), UCI, grant of $3000.

- **Analyzing Safety & Inclusivity on Indian Matrimonial Websites** 2017–2018
  Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Informatics, UC Irvine
  - Analyzed Indian matrimonial websites to understand their affordances of safety. Interviewed 20 matrimonial websites' users to evaluate safety measures on these sites.
  - Examined how matrimonial sites open marital possibilities for people with disabilities, with digital and English low literacy, and for inter-caste marriages, providing alternatives for dating websites, in the Indian context.
  - Suggested how to design technologies without disrupting the culture, but honoring traditional cultural values. Recommended design implications for dating websites to promote safety and inclusivity of users from varied backgrounds and identities.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Vishal Sharma**, Kirsten Bray, Neha Kumar, and Rebecca Grinter. Romancing the Algorithms: Navigating Constantly, Frequently, and Silently Changing Algorithms for Digital Work. Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, no. CSCW, 2022.

- Sarah Cooney, **Vishal Sharma**, Joshua Palmer, Neha Kumar, and Barath Raghavan. Alternative Pathways to Caring for Limits: The Case of Ecospirituality. LIMITS '22: Workshop on Computing within Limits, 2022

- Gabriela Molina León, Lynn Kirabo, Marisol Wong-Villacrés, Naveena Karusala, Neha Kumar, Nicola Bidwell, Pedro Reynolds-Cuéllar, Pranjal Protim Borah, Radhika Garg, Sushil K Oswal, Tee Chuanromanee, and **Vishal Sharma**. Following the Trail of Citational Justice: Critically Examining Knowledge Production in HCI. Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, no. CSCW, 2021

- Débora de Castro Leal, Gabriela Molina León, Kristin Williams, Marisol Wong-Villacrés, Pedro Reynolds-Cuéllar, Sushil K. Oswal, Teresa Cerratto Pargman, and **Vishal Sharma**. Citational Practices: Interrogating Hegemonic Knowledge Structures in Computing Research in Latin America. In X Latin American Conference on Human Computer Interaction, 2021

- **Vishal Sharma**, Bonnie Nardi, Juliet Norton, and A. M. Tassan. Towards Safe Spaces Online: A study of Indian Matrimonial Websites. Proceedings of the 17th International Federation for Information Processing International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, INTERACT 2019, Paphos, Cyprus. **Interaction Design for International Development Award**

- **Vishal Sharma**. Social Media During Slow Crises. Master's thesis. UCI. 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	

- CS 4873: Computers and Society, Dr. Rebecca Grinter, School of Interactive Computing, Georgia Tech — Fall 2021
- CS 3750: User Interface Design, Dr. Maribeth Coleman, School of Interactive Computing Georgia Tech — Spring, Summer 2020
- CS 3600: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, Dr. Mark Riedl, School of Interactive Computing, College of Computing, Georgia Tech — Fall 2019
- INF 191: Senior Design Project, Dr. Hadar Ziv, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Science, UCI — Winter, Spring 2018
- INF 191: Senior Design Project, Dr. Darren Denenberg, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Science, UCI — Fall 2018
- INF 191: Senior Design Project, Dr. Hadar Ziv, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Science, UCI — Spring 2018
- INF 121: Software Design, Dr. Andre Van Der Hoek, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Science, UCI — Winter 2018
- ICS 3: Internet and Society, Dr. Judith Gregory, Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Science, UCI — Fall 2017

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Software Engineer, Informatica LLC, Bangalore, India — 2016–2017
- Software Engineer Trainee, Informatica LLC, Bangalore, India — 2015–2016
- Software Engineer Intern, Informatica LLC, Bangalore, India — 2014–2015

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Chief of Staff, Graduate Student Government Association, Georgia Tech — 2021–ongoing
- Election Chair, Graduate Student Government Association, Georgia Tech — 2021–ongoing
- Executive Officer, Graduate Student Government Association, Georgia Tech — 2020–ongoing
- Student Volunteer Social Chair, CSCW — 2021
- VP of Conference Funds, Student Government Association, Georgia Tech — 2020–2021

SERVICES

- Student Assistant, ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems — 2022
- Search Committee, Executive Director for Student Engagement, Georgia Tech — 2021–2022
- Committee Member, Cultural Centers Planning Committee, Georgia Tech — 2020–2021
- Committee Member, Students Honor Committee, Georgia Tech — 2020–2021
- Committee Member, Academic Integrity Committee, Georgia Tech — 2020–2021
- Associate Chair, CHI Late-Breaking Work — 2021–2020
- Reviewer, CHI — 2022–2020
- Reviewer, CSCW — 2022–2020
- Reviewer, INTERACT — 2019
- Judge, Honeywell STEM Challenge, Georgia Tech — 2020
- Student Volunteer, ACM SIGCHI-sponsored summer school on Expanding the Horizons of Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, New Delhi, India — 2019

REFERENCES

- Dr. Neha Kumar, Assistant Professor, School of Interactive Computing & Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Tech, neha.kumar@gatech.edu
- Dr. Bonnie Nardi, Professor Emeritus, Department of Informatics, UCI, nardi@ics.uci.edu
- Dr. Beki Grinter, Professor, School of Interactive Computing & the Scheller College of Business, Georgia Tech, beki@cc.gatech.edu