

GAURI KAMBHATLA

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Research Interests

Natural Language Processing (NLP), Social NLP, Pluralistic Alignment, NLP for Social Good

My research broadly examines how social science informs the design and evaluation of AI systems, and the societal implications of their real-world applications. My work involves (1) integrating social and linguistic insights to build more equitable NLP systems, (2) leveraging these systems to better understand human behavior, (3) evaluating them from a societal perspective, and (4) exploring how they can be pluralistically aligned with diverse human values and opinions.

Education

Ph.D. Computer Science, *The University of Texas at Austin*, Austin TX 2021 - Present

GPA: 4.00/4.00

Advisor: Prof. Matt Lease

Key Coursework: NLP; Neural Nets and Linguistic Structure; Social Applications and Impact of NLP

M.S. Computer Science Engineering, *The University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI 2020 - 2021

GPA: 3.98/4.00

B.S. Computer Science, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI 2016 - 2020

B.S. Cognitive Science, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor MI

GPA: 3.88/4.00

Conference & Journal Publications

- ACL 2026 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Sanjana Gautam, Angela Zhang, Alex Liu, Ravi Srinivasan, Junyi Jessy Li, and Matthew Lease. *Improving the Distributional Alignment of LLMs using Supervision*. Association for Computational Linguistics 2026. [PDF](#)
- EMNLP 2025 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Chantal Shaib, and Venkata Govindarajan. *Measuring diversity of synthetic prompts and data generated with fine-grained persona prompting*. Findings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing 2025. [PDF](#)
- EMNLP 2024 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Matthew Lease, and Ashwin Rajadesingan. *Promoting Constructive Deliberation: Reframing for Receptiveness*. Findings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing 2024. [PDF](#)
- ACL 2023 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Thuy Nguyen, and Eunsol Choi. *Quantifying Train-Evaluation Overlap with Nearest Neighbors*. Findings of Association for Computational Linguistics 2023. [PDF](#)
- FACCT 2022 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Ian Stewart, and Rada Mihalcea. *Surfacing Racial Stereotypes Through Identity Portrayal*. 2022 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FACCT '22). [PDF](#)

- EvoMUS 2021 Allison Lahnala, **Gauri Kambhatla**, Jiajun Peng, Matthew Whitehead, Gillian Minnehan, Eric Guldán, Jonathan K. Kummerfeld, Anıl Çamcı and Rada Mihalcea. *Chord Embeddings: Analyzing What They Capture and Their Role for Next Chord Prediction and Artist Attribute Prediction*. Proceedings of Computational Intelligence in Music, Sound, Art and Design – 10th International Conference, EvoMUSART, 2021. [PDF](#)
- CHI 2021 Michael Coblenz, **Gauri Kambhatla**, Paulette Koronkevich, Jenna L. Wise, Celeste Barnaby, Joshua Sunshine, Jonathan Aldrich, Brad A. Myers. *PLIERS: A Process that Integrates User-Centered Methods into Programming Language Design*. ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction, 2021. [PDF](#)

Workshop Publications

- PLAT 2019 **Gauri Kambhatla**, Michael Coblenz, Reed Oei, Joshua Sunshine, Brad Myers, Jonathan Aldrich. *A Pilot Study of the Safety and Usability of the Obsidian Blockchain Programming Language*. 10th Workshop on Evaluation and Usability of Programming Languages and Tools (PLATEAU, 2019), Oct 24, 2019. [PDF](#)

Experience

- UT Austin AI & HCC Lab**, *Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2022 – Present
Advisor: Matt Lease
- Amazon Alexa Local Search Team**, *Research Intern* July – Dec 2025
Manager: Alessandro Moschitti
- Amazon AWS Responsible AI Team**, *Research Intern* June – Sept 2024
Manager: Vanessa Murdock
- UT Austin Eunsol Lab**, *Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2021 – June 2022
Advisor: Eunsol Choi
- U. Michigan LIT Lab**, *Undergraduate, Graduate Research Assistant* Sept 2018 – Aug 2021
Advisor: Rada Mihalcea
- Carnegie Mellon U. Software & Societal Systems**, *NSF REU* May – Aug 2019
Advisors: Jonathan Aldrich, Brad A. Myers, Joshua Sunshine

Teaching

- Graduate Student Instructor, Information Retrieval (EECS 486)** Jan – May 2021
The University of Michigan
- Taught a discussion section, held office hours, created assignments, created and graded exams, and created discussion materials

Instructor Assistant, *Computer Organization (EECS 370)*

Jan – May 2019

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- Taught a discussion section, held office hours, created and graded exams, and created discussion materials for all IAs

Community & Leadership Service**Graduate Representative Association of Computer Sciences (GRACS) Board** Oct 2022 – June 2024

The University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

- Held events to help CS graduate students navigate the department and grad school
- Organized and planned social events for CS graduate students

Graduate Women & Gender Minorities in Computing (GWGMC) Board May 2022 – June 2024

The University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

- Helped restart the GWGMC organization at UT after it disbanded over the pandemic
- Organized & planned community-building events for graduate women and gender minorities, including a yearly research symposium

MIDAS Student Leadership Board

June 2020 – June 2021

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- Advised MIDAS (Michigan Institute for Data Science) leaders on data science education and research programming on Michigan's campus
- Lead a Women + Data Science community conversations event, which brought together women in various stages of their careers in academia/industry to share their experiences
- Helped develop a mentorship program for students (and faculty) in Data Science

STEM Society

Sept 2018 – May 2020

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- Interactively taught underprivileged middle and high school students Cognitive Science and other science-related concepts to promote interest in STEM subjects

Society of Women Engineers

Nov 2018 – May 2020

The University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

- Volunteered at a public high school in Chicago – taught an artificial intelligence lesson plan to historically underrepresented students

Service to Research Community

- Reviewer (ARR May 2025, ARR January 2026)
- Student Volunteer (The Web Conference '23)
- Session Chair (FAccT '22)

Awards & Honors

- Chair's Strategic Excellence Fellowship, *The University of Texas at Austin* 2021
- University Honors: all semesters, *The University of Michigan* 2016 – 2020
- Clara Carter Higgins Summer Environmental Studies Scholarship, *The Garden Club of America* 2018

- William J. Branstrom Freshman Prize (within top 5% of class), *University of Michigan* 2017

Skills & Experience

- **Languages/Frameworks:** Python, Pytorch, C/C++, Java, MATLAB, Git
- **OS:** Linux, Windows, MacOS
- **Experience:** natural language processing, Jira & project management, deep learning, user studies