

SUKRIT VENKATAGIRI

CONTACT **Address:** Virginia Tech Research Center – Arlington
900 North Glebe Road, Arlington VA, USA **Email:** sukrit@vt.edu
Website: sukritv.com

EDUCATION

- 2017 – present **Virginia Tech**, Blacksburg, VA, USA
Ph.D. in Computer Science with a focus in Human–Computer Interaction (expected July 2022)
Committee: Kurt Luther (chair), Chris North (Virginia Tech), Eugenia Rho (Virginia Tech),
Kate Starbird (Univ. of Washington), Tanushree Mitra (Univ. of Washington)
Dissertation: *Supporting High-Stakes Investigations with Expert-Led Crowdsourcing*
- 2020 **Virginia Tech**, Blacksburg, VA, USA
M.Sc. in Computer Science with a focus in Human–Computer Interaction
- 2017 **PES University**, Bangalore, India
B.E. in Computer Science
Advisor: Snehanshu Saha
Thesis: *A Graph Theoretical Analysis of Mentor-Mentee Relationships*
- Outstanding Final Year Project (top 3 of 47)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2017 – present **Virginia Tech**, Blacksburg, VA
Graduate Research Assistant, Crowd Intelligence Lab. Advisor: Kurt Luther.
- Summer 2021 **Facebook**, New York, NY
User Experience Research Intern, Facebook for Business Research.
- Summer 2020 **Microsoft Research AI**, Redmond, WA
Research Intern, Adaptive Systems & Interaction Group. Mentors: Siddharth Suri, Liane Scult.
- 2015 – 2017 **PES University**, Bangalore, India
Data Analysis Team Lead, SciBase. Mentors: Snehanshu Saha, B.S. Daya Sagar.
- Summer 2016 **University of Georgia**, Athens, GA
Undergraduate Research Intern, Department of Statistics. Mentor: Abhyuday Mandal.

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2020 Atlantic Council DFR Lab Open Source Intelligence Scholarship
2019 Special Recognition for Outstanding Review, ACM CHI Conference
2019 Special Recognition for Outstanding Review, ACM CSCW Conference
2019 Best Poster/Demo Award (#1 poster/demo of 25 submissions), AAAI HCOMP 2019
2018 Graduate Student Fellow, Misinformation Solutions Forum, Rita Allen Foundation
2017 Outstanding Final Year Project (top 3 of 47), PES University (Electronic City)
2014 Runner Up (#2 of 87), inGenius Hackathon, ACM India & PES University (Electronic City)

GRANTS

- [g-1] The Capabilities and Creativity of the Crowd in the Co-Production of Policing Services. Virginia Tech ICAT SEAD Student Grant. Leanna Ireland (Co-PI), **Sukrit Venkatagiri** (Co-PI), Eunju Namkung (Co-PI), 2020. Total: \$1,000.

PUBLICATIONS

Note: * indicates a student co-advised by Sukrit Venkatagiri.

Refereed Journal Articles

- [J-4] Tim Gorichanaz, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. The Expanding Circles of Information Behavior and Human–Computer Interaction. *Journal of Librarianship & Information Science*. 2021. (impact factor: 1.08)
- [J-3] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Aakash Gautam, Kurt Luther. CrowdSolve: Managing Tensions in an Expert-Led Crowdsourced Investigation. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 118, Vol. 5 (CSCW 1). 2021.
- [J-2] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Rachel Kohler, John Purviance, Rifat Sabbir Mansur, Kurt Luther. GroundTruth: Augmenting Expert Image Geolocation with Crowdsourcing and Shared Representations. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 107, Vol. 3 (CSCW). 2019. (703/2958 = 23.7% acceptance rate)
- [J-1] Gouri Ginde, Snehanshu Saha, Archana Mathur, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Sujith Vadakkepat, Anand Narasimhamurthy and B. S. Daya Sagar. ScientoBASE: A Framework and Model for Computing Scholastic Indicators of Non-local Influence of Journals via Native Data Acquisition Algorithms. *Scientometrics*, 108(3), 1479–1529. 2016. (impact factor: 3.23)

Refereed Papers in Conference Proceedings

- [C-2] Miriah Steiger, Timir J. Bharucha, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Martin J. Riedl, Matthew Lease. The Psychological Well-Being of Content Moderators: The Emotional Labor of Commercial Moderation and Avenues for Improving Support. *ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2021)*. Yokohama, Japan. 2021. (739/2844 = 26% acceptance rate)
- [C-1] **Sukrit Venkatagiri** and Amy X. Zhang. Response to “Heuristics for the Online Curator”: Combating Misinformation by Improving Online Conversation. *Curbing the Spread of Misinformation: Insights, Innovations, and Interpretations from the Misinformation Solutions Forum*, Brian G. Southwell and Vanessa Boudewyns (Eds.). 9–10. RTI Press. Washington, D.C., USA. 2018. (invited submission)

Refereed Workshop Papers

- [w-3] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Vikram Mohanty, Tianjiao Yu*, Kurt Luther. Sedition Hunters: Countering Extremism Through Collective Action. *CSCW 2021 Workshop on Addressing Challenges and Opportunities in Online Extremism Research*. Virtual. 2021.
- [w-2] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Kurt Luther. Designing for Coordinated Action: Challenges and Opportunities of Working with Experts. *CSCW 2019 Workshop on Mapping the “How” of Collaborative Action*. Austin, TX, USA. 2019.
- [w-1] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Aliza Camacho*, Kurt Luther. Localness and Urbanness in Geographic Crowd Work. *CSCW 2018 Workshop on Rural Computing: Beyond Access & Infrastructure*. Jersey City, NJ, USA. 2018.

Refereed Nonarchival Conference Papers (posters, demos, extended abstracts)

- [c·7] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Sarwat Kazmi*, Efua Akonor*, Kurt Luther. It's QuizTime: A Study of Online Verification Practices on Twitter. *7th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2019)*. Stevenson, WA, USA. 2019. (poster)
-  [c·6] Jacob Thebault-Spieker, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, David Mitchell*, Chris Hurt, Kurt Luther. PairWise: Mitigating Political Bias in Crowdsourced Content Moderation. *7th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2019)*. Stevenson, WA, USA. 2019. (demo, poster) **(Best Poster/Demo Award, #1 out of 25 submissions)**
- [c·5] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. Geolocating Images with Expert-Led Crowdsourcing and Shared Representations. *Algorithms That Make You Think, 4th Annual Virginia Tech Workshop on the Future of HCI*. Blacksburg, VA, USA. 2019. (poster)
- [c·4] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Kurt Luther. Verifying Truth from the Ground: Leveraging Human Strengths in the Image Geolocation Process. *Human-Computer Interaction Conference (HCIC 2018)*. Watsonville, CA, USA. 2018. (poster)
- [c·3] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. The Absence of Racial Bias in Content Evaluation (on Amazon Mechanical Turk). *34th Annual Graduate School Assembly Research Symposium, Virginia Tech*. Blacksburg, VA, USA. 2018. (poster)
- [c·2] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. The Absence of Racial Bias in Content Evaluation (on Amazon Mechanical Turk). *Designing Socio-Technical Systems of Truth, 3rd Annual Virginia Tech Workshop on the Future of HCI*. Blacksburg, VA, USA. 2018. (poster)
-  [c·1] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Deepika Anna, Vimal Patel. A Graph Theoretical Analysis of Mentor-Mentee Relationships in Indian Classical Music. *PES University (Electronic City) Final Year Project Exhibition*. Bangalore, KA, India. 2017. (poster, demo) **(Outstanding Final Year Project)**

Refereed Doctoral Consortia

- [DC·2] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. *Expert-led Crowdsourcing for High-Stakes Investigations*. ACM International Conference on Supporting Group Work (GROUP 2022). Virtual.
- [DC·1] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. *Supporting High-Stakes Investigations with Expert-led Crowdsourcing*. 9th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2021). Virtual.

RESEARCH UNDER REVIEW AND IN PREPARATION

- [·] Yasmine Belghith*, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. *Compete, Collaborate, Investigate: Exploring the Social Structures of Professional OSINT Investigations*. Under review at ACM CHI 2022.
- [·] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Anirban Mukhopadhyay*, Kurt Luther. *CuriOSINTy: Curbing Misinformation through Capture the Flag Competitions*. Under review at ACM CSCW 2022.
- [·] Jacob Thebault-Spieker, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Paul Blackburn, David Mitchell*, Christ Hurt, Kurt Luther. *Towards Combating Disinformation and Bias in Political Content Moderation*. Under review at ACM CSCW 2022.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Conference *Student Volunteer Co-Chair*, ACM CSCW 2020. Virtual.
- Organizing *Student Volunteer*, ACM CSCW 2019. Austin, TX, USA.
Student Volunteer, ACM CSCW 2018. Jersey City, NJ, USA.
Student Volunteer, ACM CHI 2018. Montréal, QC, Canada.
- Reviewing Note: ‡ indicates one Outstanding Review recognition.
ACM CHI: 2019‡, 2020, 2021, 2022
ACM CSCW: 2019‡, 2020, 2021
ACM IUI: 2020
- Virginia Tech *Lab Manager*, Crowd Intelligence Lab, 2020 – *present*
Student Panel Member, Alumni Advisory Board, Department of Computer Science, 2019
Volunteer, Algorithms That Make You Think, 4th VT Workshop on the Future of HCI, 2019
Volunteer, Department of Computer Science Recruiting Weekend, 2018
Volunteer, Socio-Technical Systems of Truth, 3rd VT Workshop on the Future of HCI, 2018
Reviewer, Graduate School Travel Fund Program, 2017
- PES University *Treasurer*, ACM Student Chapter, 2016 –2017
Organizing Committee Member, ACM Student Chapter, 2014 – 2016
Secretary, IEEE Student Branch, 2016 – 2017
Organizing Committee Member, IEEE Student Branch, 2014 – 2016

TEACHING

- As Graduate Teaching Assistant at Virginia Tech:
- Spring 2018 CS2505 Computer Organization I (undergraduate, 262 students)
Fall 2017 CS2506 Computer Organization II (undergraduate, 177 students)
- As Instructor at PES University, held informally:
- Fall 2016 Introduction to Python (undergraduate, 50 students)
Spring 2015 Introduction to Processing and Arduino (undergraduate, 75 students, with Suryoday Basak)

ADVISING

Graduate Research Co-Advisees (with Kurt Luther)

1. Tianjiao Joey Yu, Ph.D. Student, Virginia Tech, 2021–present
- [·] 2. Anirban Mukhopadhyay, Ph.D. Student, Virginia Tech, 2021–present
- [·] 3. Yasmine Belghith, B.S. and M.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020-2021
- *Now: Ph.D. student in Human-Centered Computing at Georgia Tech*

Undergraduate Research Co-Advisees (with Kurt Luther)

1. Emily Atland, B.S. Computer Engineering (Cybersecurity), Virginia Tech, 2020
2. Ryan Bui, B.S. Information Technology and Cybersecurity, Virginia Tech, 2020
3. Charles Cabauatan, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
4. Katie Fanz, B.A. National Security and Foreign Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2020
5. Alex Howell, B.S. Business Information Technology, Virginia Tech, 2020
6. Yunis Hussein, B.S. Computational Modeling and Data Analytics, Virginia Tech, 2020

7. Mariela Jardon, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
8. Rissa McGill, B.S. National Security and Foreign Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2020
9. Brandon Nguyen, B.S. National Security and Diplomacy, Virginia Tech, 2020
10. Raymar Raya, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
11. Sophia Pentakalos B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
- [·] 12. Paul Blackburn, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
- [c·7] 13. Sarwat Kazmi, B.S. Info. Science & B.A. Government & Politics, University of Maryland
- [c·7] 14. Efua Akonor, B.S. Computer Science, Wellesley College & S.B. Computer Science, MIT
15. David Mitchell, B.S. Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 🏆 *Best Poster/Demo Award, AAAI HCOMP 2019*
- [c·6] 16. Daniel Ocheltree, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2019
17. Puriwat Lahpong, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2019
18. Levi Shipley, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
19. Ben Hinkle, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
- [w·6] 20. Aliza Camacho, B.A. Computer Science & B.A. Anthropology, Wellesley College, 2018
21. Anne Hoang, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
- 🏆 *3rd Place, Faculty Choice Award, VTURCS Symposium 2018*
22. Ankush Arunkumar, B.E. Computer Science, PES University, 2015–2017
23. Aditya Agarwal, B.E. Computer Science, PES University, 2015–2017

INVITED TALKS

Managing Tensions in an Expert-Led Crowdsourced Investigation

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| Nov. 2021 | 1. INFO310: Human-Centered Design Process and Methods, Drexel University |
| Oct. 2021 | 2. CS5724: Social Computing and CSCW, Virginia Tech, Instructor: Sang Won Lee |
| Oct. 2021 | 3. Center for HCI, Social Informatics Group, Virginia Tech |

Cutting Through the Red Tape: Estimating the Value and Overheads of Freelancer Engagement on Upwork

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| Aug. 2020 | 1. Adaptive Systems and Interaction Group, Microsoft Research AI |
| Aug. 2020 | 2. Enterprise Services Group, Upwork |

Augmenting Expert Image Geolocation with Crowdsourcing & Shared Representations

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| April 2020 | 1. CS5984: Open Source Intelligence Lab, Virginia Tech, Instructor: Kurt Luther |
| May 2020 | 2. INFO150: Ubiquitous Computing, Drexel University, Instructor: Tim Gorichanaz |
| Nov. 2019 | 3. CS5724: Social Computing and CSCW, Virginia Tech, Instructor: Sang Won Lee |
| Nov. 2019 | 4. Center for HCI Hack n' Snack, Virginia Tech |

PRESS

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| December 2019 | <i>Voice of America (Russia)</i> : AI Comes to the Rescue of Journalists and Intelligence Agencies
https://www.golos-ameriki.ru/a/usa-technology-face-recognition-ai-photo-geotag/5189483.html |
| November 2019 | <i>Forbes</i> : The Future of Crowdsourcing
https://www.forbes.com/sites/chrisancialosi/2019/11/21/the-future-of-crowdsourcing/ |
| October 2019 | <i>KOMO News</i> : How Crowd Sourcing Helps Police Solve Cold Cases
https://komonews.com/news/local/law-enforcement-turns-to-the-public-for-help-in-solving-cold-cases |

REFERENCES

1. **Kurt Luther** (kluther@vt.edu)
Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Virginia Tech
2. **Kate Starbird** (kstarbi@uw.edu)
Associate Professor, Department Human Centered Design & Engineering, University of Washington
3. **Jacob Thebault-Spieker** (jacob.thebaultspieker@wisc.edu)
Assistant Professor, School of Information, University of Wisconsin – Madison