

SUKRIT VENKATAGIRI

CONTACT

Address: Center for an Informed Public, University of Washington

Email: sukritv@uw.edu **Website:** sukritv.com

EMPLOYMENT

- August 2023 – **Swarthmore College**, Swarthmore, PA
present *incoming* Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science
- July 2022 – **University of Washington**, Seattle, WA
July 2023 Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for an Informed Public. Mentors: Kate Starbird, Emma Spiro
- 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
Research Intern, Department of Statistics. Mentor: Abhyuday Mandal

EDUCATION

- 2017 – 2022 **Virginia Tech**, Blacksburg, VA, USA
Ph.D. in Computer Science with a focus in Human–Computer Interaction
Dissertation: *Supporting and Transforming High-Stakes Investigations with Expert-Led Crowdsourcing*
Committee: Kurt Luther (chair), Chris North, Eugenia Rho, Tanushree Mitra, Kate Starbird
- 2017–2020 M.Sc. in Computer Science
- 2013 – 2017 **PES University**, Bangalore, India
B.E. in Computer Science
Thesis: *Understanding Mentor–Mentee Relationships through Network Analysis*

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2021 AI Journal Fellowship for HCOMP 2021 Doctoral Consortium
- 2020 Atlantic Council DFR Lab Open Source Intelligence Scholarship
- 2019, 2023 Special Recognition for Outstanding Review, ACM CHI Conference
- 2019 Special Recognition for Outstanding Review, ACM CSCW Conference
- 2019 Best Demo Award (#1 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

GRANTS

- [g-3] Analyzing the Spread of Cross-Platform Visual Content in a Voter Fraud Rumor Campaign. University of Washington: Center for an Informed Public Innovation Fund. **Sukrit Venkatagiri** (PI), Kristen Engel (student co-author). 2023. Total: \$20,000.
- [G-2] Exploring the Impact of Human-AI Collaboration on Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) Investigations of Social Media Disinformation. Virginia: Commonwealth Cyber Initiative H-4Q21-010. Kurt Luther (PI), Aaron Brantly (Co-PI), David Hicks (Co-PI), and **Sukrit Venkatagiri** (graduate student co-author), 2021–2022. Total: \$65,000.
- [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, and ^ indicates equal contribution.

Refereed Journal Articles & Papers in Conference Proceedings

- DIS 2023 **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Anirban Mukhopadhyay*, David Hicks, Aaron Brantly, Kurt Luther. CoSINT: [C-6] Designing a Collaborative Capture the Flag Competition to Investigate Misinformation. *Proceedings of the ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference 2023* (DIS 2023). Pittsburgh, PA. 2023. (174/726 = 24% acceptance rate)
- FACCT 2023 Jacob Thebault-Spieker, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Naomi Mine, Kurt Luther. Diverse Perspectives [C-5] Can Mitigate Political Bias in Crowdsourced Content Moderation. *Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency* (FACCT 2023). Chicago, IL. 2023. (154/608 = 25.3% acceptance rate)
- WWW 2023 Tianjiao Yu*, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Ismini Lourentzou, Kurt Luther. Sedition Hunters: A [C-4] Quantitative Study of the Crowdsourced Investigation into the 2021 U.S. Capitol Attack. *The ACM Web Conference* (WWW 2023). Austin, TX. 2023. (365/1900 = 19.2% acceptance rate)
- CHI 2022 Yasmine Belghith*, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. Compete, Collaborate, Investigate: [C-3] Exploring the Social Structures of Open Source Intelligence Investigations. *Proceedings of the 40th ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI 2022). New Orleans, LA. 2021. (637/2579 = 24.7% acceptance rate)
- JOLIS Tim Gorichanaz, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. The Expanding Circles of Information Behavior and [J-4] Human–Computer Interaction. *Journal of Librarianship & Information Science*. 2021. (impact factor: 1.08)
- CSCW 2021 **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Aakash Gautam, Kurt Luther. CrowdSolve: Managing Tensions in an [J-3] Expert-Led Crowdsourced Investigation. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, 118, Vol. 5 (CSCW 1). CSCW 2021.
- CHI 2021 Miriah Steiger, Timir J. Bharucha, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Martin J. Riedl, Matthew Lease. The [C-2] Psychological Well-Being of Content Moderators: The Emotional Labor of Commercial Moderation and Avenues for Improving Support. *Proceedings of the 39th ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI 2021). Yokohama, Japan. 2021. (739/2844 = 26% acceptance rate)
- CSCW 2019 **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Jacob Thebault-Spieker, Rachel Kohler, John Purviance, Rifat Sabbir [J-2] 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). CSCW 2019. (703/2958 = 23.7% acceptance rate)

RTI Press [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)

Scientometrics [J·1] Gouri Ginde, Snehanthu 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 Workshop Papers

[w·6] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**[^], Joseph S. Schafer[^], Stephen Prochaska[^]. The Challenges of Studying Misinformation on Video-Sharing Platforms During Crises and Mass Convergence Events. *ACM CHI 2023 Workshop on Building Credibility, Trust, and Safety on Video-Sharing Platforms*. Hamburg, Germany. 2023.

[w·5] Anirban Mukhopadhyay*, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kurt Luther. Designing a Flexible Expert-led Crowdsourcing Framework for Investigating Misinformation. *Workshop on Combating Misinformation: Theoretical and Design Challenges to Support a Healthy Information Ecosystem*. Syracuse University. 2022.

[w·4] Anirban Mukhopadhyay*, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, and Kurt Luther. Towards Designing a Flexible Expert-led Crowdsourcing Framework for Investigating Misinformation. *ACM CHI 2022 Workshop on Designing Credibility Tools to Combat Mis/Disinformation: A Human-Centered Approach*. New Orleans, LA, USA. 2022.

[w·3] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Vikram Mohanty, Tianjiao Yu*, Kurt Luther. Sedition Hunters: Countering Extremism Through Collective Action. *ACM 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. *ACM 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. *ACM CSCW 2018 Workshop on Rural Computing: Beyond Access & Infrastructure*. Jersey City, NJ, USA. 2018.


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

[c·8] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Kristen Engel*, Ashlyn B. Aske*, Connor Cantrell*. A Networked Approach to Study the Spread of Cross-Platform Visual Misinformation. *8th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2)*. Copenhagen, Denmark. 2023. (extended abstract)

[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) (**Best 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 Final Year Project Exhibition*. Bangalore, KA, India. 2017. (poster, demo) **(Outstanding Final Year Project)**

Technical Reports and Other Publications

Sukrit Venkatagiri, Mike Caulfield, Jevin West. How Real-Time Visualizations of Vote Count ‘Spikes’ Can Lead to Unfounded Allegations of Election Fraud. *The Election Integrity Partnership Blog*. November 13, 2022.

Researchers at the Center for an Informed Public. Beyond Twitter: The 2022 Election Social Media Ecosystem. *The Election Integrity Partnership Blog*. November 5, 2022.

Mike Caulfield, Stephen Prochaska, Kate Starbird, Renée DiResta, Emma S. Spiro, **Sukrit Venkatagiri**, Michael Grass. Rumors, Conspiracy Theories, and Unsubstantiated Claims About Voting: What to Expect On and After Election Day 2022. *The Election Integrity Partnership Blog*. November 2, 2022.

Frances Schroeder, Christopher Giles, Dan Bateyko, Emma Lurie, Ilari Papa, John Perrino, Mishaela Robison, Emily Tianshi. Charles Simon and **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. Platform Policy Analysis 2022. *The Election Integrity Partnership Blog*. October 27, 2022.

Matthew Lease, Miriah Steiger, Timir J. Bharucha, Martin J. Riedl, and **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. Promoting Psychological Wellness of Content Moderators. *Technical Report TR-20-02, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Computer Science*. June 1, 2020.

Other Research Activity

Refereed Doctoral Consortia

- [DC-2] **Sukrit Venkatagiri**. Expert-led Crowdsourcing for High-Stakes Investigations. *ACM International Conference on Supporting Group Work (GROUP 2022/23)*. 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 Camps and Workshops

NSF SaTC Aspiring PI Workshop, George Washington University. Washington, D.C. May 4–5, 2023.

NSF CISE CAREER Workshop. Virginia Tech. Virtual. April 17, 2023.

CSST 2022: Summer Research Institute for the Science of Socio-Technical Systems. Austin, TX. June 6–9, 2022.

HCIC: Human–Computer Interaction Consortium Workshop: AI and HCI. Watsonville, CA. June 24–28, 2018.

TEACHING

As Instructor at University of Washington

Directed Research Group: Election Rumors and Misinformation Online
Cross-listed in Information School (Emma Spiro) + Dept. of Human Centered Design and Engineering (Kate Starbird)

Spring 2023 - 17 students: 10 graduate, 7 undergraduate
Winter 2023 - 23 students: 13 graduate, 10 undergraduate

As Graduate Teaching Assistant at Virginia Tech

Spring 2018 CS2505 Computer Organization I (undergraduate, 262 students)
Fall 2018 CS2506 Computer Organization II (undergraduate, 177 students)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference Organizing Committees

Member, ACM CSCW Steering Committee, Dec 2021–present
Student Volunteer Co-Chair, ACM CSCW 2020. Virtual.

Technical Program Committees

PC Member, Crowdsourcing and Human Computation, The Web Conference 2022

Reviewing

Note: † indicates one Outstanding Review recognition.

ACM CHI: 2019†, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023†

ACM CSCW: 2019†, 2020, 2021, 2023

ACM DIS: 2023

AAAS Science Advances: 2023

ACM IUI: 2020

University of Washington

Member, Postdoctoral Scholar Search Committee, Center for an Informed Public, 2023
Organizer, Invited Speaker Series, Center for an Informed Public, 2022–2023

Virginia Tech

Lab Manager, Crowd Intelligence Lab, 2020–2022
Alumni Advisory Board, Department of Computer Science, Virginia Tech
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

Other Service

Judge, Drexel University: Philly Codefest 2022. Philadelphia, PA, USA.
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.

ADVISING

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

Graduate Research Advisees

1. Preetam Dammu, Ph.D. Student, iSchool, University of Washington, 2023
2. Connor Cantrell, MLIS Student, iSchool, University of Washington, 2023
- [c-8]
3. Kristen Engel, Ph.D. Student, iSchool, University of Washington, 2022–present
- [c-8]
4. Sydney DeMets*, Ph.D. Student, iSchool, University of Washington, 2022–present
5. Taylor Agajanian*, Researcher, iSchool, University of Washington, 2022–present
6. Tianjiao Joey Yu*, Ph.D. Student, Virginia Tech, 2021–2023
- [w-3] [C-4]
7. Anirban Mukhopadhyay*, Ph.D. Student, Virginia Tech, 2021–2023
- [w-4] [w-5] [C-6]
8. Yasmine Belghith*, B.S. and M.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020-2021
- [C-3]
- *Now: Ph.D. student in Human-Centered Computing at Georgia Tech*

Undergraduate Research Advisees

1. Caroline B. Wills, B.S. Information Science, University of Washington, 2023
2. Ashlyn B. Aske, B.E. Human Centered Design and Eng., University of Washington, 2023
- [c-8]
3. Emily Atland*, B.S. Computer Engineering (Cybersecurity), Virginia Tech, 2020
4. Ryan Bui*, B.S. Information Technology and Cybersecurity, Virginia Tech, 2020
5. Charles Cabauatan*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
6. Katie Fanz*, B.A. National Security and Foreign Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2020
7. Alex Howell*, B.S. Business Information Technology, Virginia Tech, 2020
8. Yunis Hussein*, B.S. Computational Modeling and Data Analytics, Virginia Tech, 2020
9. Mariela Jardon*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
10. Rissa McGill*, B.S. National Security and Foreign Affairs, Virginia Tech, 2020
11. Brandon Nguyen*, B.S. National Security and Diplomacy, Virginia Tech, 2020
12. Raymar Raya*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
13. Sophia Pentakalos*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
14. Paul Blackburn*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2020
15. Sarwat Kazmi*, B.S. Info. Science & B.A. Government & Politics, University of Maryland
- [c-7]

16. Efua Akonor*, B.S. Computer Science, Wellesley College & S.B. Computer Science, MIT
- [c-7]
17. David Mitchell*, B.S. Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 🏆 *Best Demo Award, AAAI HCOMP 2019* [c-6]
18. Daniel Ocheltree*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2019
19. Puriwat Lahpong*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2019
20. Levi Shipley*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
21. Ben Hinkle*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
22. Aliza Camacho*, B.A. Computer Science & B.A. Anthropology, Wellesley College, 2018
- [w-6]
23. Anne Hoang*, B.S. Computer Science, Virginia Tech, 2018
- 🏆 *3rd Place, Faculty Choice Award, VTURCS Symposium 2018*
24. Ankush Arunkumar, B.E. Computer Science, PES University, 2015–2017
25. Aditya Agarwal, B.E. Computer Science, PES University, 2015–2017

OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Invited Panels

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| Oct. 2022 | 1. Bias and Fairness in Mis-/Disinformation, Disinformation Day, University of Texas, Austin |
| Sept. 2022 | 2. Identifying and Combating Disinformation in the Quad, U.S. Department of State |

Invited Talks

A Rapid-Response Framework for Mitigating Online Disinformation

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| June 2023 | 1. Humphrey Fellowship Program at UW, U.S. State Department (with Kate Starbird) |
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Supporting High-Stakes Investigations with Expert-Led Crowdsourcing

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| June 2023 | 1. Humphrey Fellowship Program at UW, U.S. State Department |
| May 2023 | 2. Future of Technology and Society Group, University of Oxford |
| May 2022 | 3. HCI Club, University of Chicago |
| Jan. 2022 | 4. Department of Computer Science, Swarthmore College |
| Jan. 2022 | 5. Center for an Informed Public, University of Washington |

Managing Tensions in an Expert-Led Crowdsourced Investigation

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| May 2023 | 1. Problematic Information Guest Lecture, UW, Instructor: Emma Spiro |
| | 2. Social Computing and CSCW Guest Lecture, Virginia Tech, Instructor: Sang Won Lee |
| Oct. 2021 | 3. Center for HCI Invited Speaker, Social Informatics Group, Virginia Tech |
| Oct. 2021 | |

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

SELECTED PRESS AND COMMENTARY

- Dec. 2022 **NPR KOUW, SoundSide Podcast.** The Ethical Dilemma Posed by Online Sleuths.
<https://www.kuow.org/stories/the-ethical-dilemma-posed-by-online-sleuths>
- Nov. 2022 **Reuters.** Fact Check: Election Graphs Published By Mike Lindell Do Not Indicate U.S. Voter Fraud. <https://www.reuters.com/article/factcheck-midterms-fraud/fact-check-election-graphs-published-by-mike-lindell-do-not-indicate-u-s-voter-fraud-idUSL1N32K1IQ>
- Nov. 2022 **Snopes.** Supposed 'Ballot Drops' Did Not Swing 2022 Election Results.
<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/ballot-drops-election-results/>
- Nov. 2022 **PolitiFact.** Why Vote Spikes on Graphs Shared by Mike Lindell are Not Evidence of Stolen Elections. <https://www.politifact.com/article/2022/nov/11/why-vote-spikes-graphs-shared-mike-lindell-are-not/>
- Nov. 2022 **New York Times.** Biggest Surge of Misinformation May Arrive After Election Day, Researchers Say. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/07/technology/biggest-surge-of-misinformation-may-arrive-after-election-day-researchers-say.html>
- Nov. 2022 **Washington Post (Editorial Board).** Here's the Sad Truth About Election-Related Misinformation. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/11/09/election-disinformation-interference-solutions/>
- June 2021 **Virginia Tech.** This Lab Teaches Students to Debunk False Information.
<https://vtx.vt.edu/articles/2021/05/unirel-opensourcecelab.html>
- Nov. 2019 **Forbes:** The Future of Crowdsourcing
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/chrisencianosi/2019/11/21/the-future-of-crowdsourcing/>