

Farnaz Jahanbakhsh

Assistant Professor
University of Michigan Ann Arbor

Email: farnaz@umich.edu
URL: <https://people.csail.mit.edu/farnazj/>

Appointments

- 08/2024– **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
School of Information (by courtesy)
- 06/-08/2025 **Stanford University**, Visiting Scholar, Stanford, CA
- 2023–2024 **Stanford University**, Stanford, CA
Postdoctoral Fellow at the Human-Centered AI Institute (HAI) & Computer Science Department
Mentors: Michael Bernstein, Sanmi Koyejo

Research Interests

Human-Computer Interaction, Social Computing, Human-Centered AI

Education

- 2017-2023 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge, MA
Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Thesis: Empowering Users on Social Media for Better Content Credibility
Committee: David Karger (advisor), Arvind Satyanarayan, Adam Berinsky
- 2021 SM in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Minor in Linguistics
- 2015-2017 **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**, Urbana, IL
M.Sc. in Computer Science
Thesis: You Want Me to Work with Who? Stakeholder Perceptions of Automated Team Formation in Project-based Courses
Advisor: Brian Bailey
- 2010-2015 **Sharif University of Technology**, Tehran, Iran
B.Sc. in Computer Engineering

Publications

Top-tier venues in human-computer interaction include ACM conferences such as CHI and CSCW.
* denotes co-first authors.

PREPRINTS

- [p.3] Gabriel Koo, Rayhan Rashed, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Value Faces: Surfacing How Self-Presentation Varies Across Relationships. **(Under Review at ACM UIST'26)**
- [p.2] Larnell Moore, Naihao Deng, Rada Mihalcea, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. DotRAG: Retrieval-Time Relational Path Reasoning for GraphRAG **(Under Review at COLM'26)** *Empowering Research with AI Award (Michigan MIDAS AI in Research Symposium'26)*
- [p.1] Ziv Epstein, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Tiziano Piccardi, Axel Peytavin, Isabel Gallegos, Shardul Sapkota, Dora Zhao, Johan Ugander, Michael Bernstein. X's feed algorithm is value misaligned for both Democrats and Republicans, but more so for Democrats **(Under Review at PNAS Brief)**

REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- [c.16] Ziv Epstein, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Tiziano Piccardi, Isabel Gallegos, Dora Zhao, Johan Ugander, Michael Bernstein. Whose Values? Measuring the (Subjective) Expression of Basic Human Values in Social Media Posts. **(to appear in ICWSM'26)**
- [c.15] Rayhan Rashed, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. What If Moderation Didn't Mean Suppression? A Case for Personalized Content Transformation. **(CHI'26)** *ACM CHI Best Paper Honorable Mention, Empowering Research with AI Award (Michigan MIDAS AI in Research Symposium'26), Best Poster Award (Michigan HCAI'25), Best Application of AI (Michigan AI Symposium'25)*
- [c.14] Matthew Kieran Prock, Ziv Epstein, Hope Schroeder, Amy Smith, Cassandra Lee, Vana Goblot, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Interpretive Cultures: Resonance, randomness and negotiated meaning for AI-assisted tarot divination. **(CHI'26)**
- [c.13] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh***, Dora Zhao*, Tiziano Piccardi, Zachary Robertson, Ziv Epstein, Sanmi Koyejo, Michael Bernstein. Value Alignment of Social Media Ranking Algorithms. **(CHI'26)**
- [c.12] Akaash Robert Kolluri, Renn Su, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Tiziano Piccardi, Dora Zhao, Michael Bernstein. Alexandria: A Library of Human Values for Realtime Re-Ranking of Social Media Feeds. **(To appear in ICWSM'26)**
- [c.11] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, David R. Karger. A Browser Extension for in-place Signaling and Assessment of Misinformation. **(CHI'24)**
- [c.10] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Yannis Katsis, Dakuo Wang, Lucian Popa, Michael Muller. Exploring the Use of Personalized AI for Identifying Misinformation on Social Media. **(CHI'23)**
- [c.9] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Amy X. Zhang, Karrie Karahalios, David R. Karger. Our Browser Extension Lets Readers Change the Headlines on News Articles, and You Won't Believe What They Did! **(CSCW'22)**
- [c.8] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Amy X. Zhang, David R. Karger. Leveraging Structured Trusted-Peer Assessments to Combat Misinformation. **(CSCW'22)**
- [c.7] Jumana Almahmoud, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Marc Facciotti, Michele Igo, Kamali Spirathi, Kobi Gal, David R. Karger. Designs for Directing Students' Attention in a Large-Scale Classroom Social Annotation Platform. **(CSCW'22)**
- [c.6] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Elnaz Nouri, Robert Sim, Ryen. W. White, Adam Fourney. Understanding Questions that Arise When Working with Business Documents. **(CSCW'22)**
- [c.5] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Gordon Pennycook, David G. Rand, Adam Berinsky, Amy X. Zhang, David R. Karger. Exploring Lightweight Interventions at Posting Time to Reduce the Sharing of Misinformation on Social Media. **(CSCW'21)**
- [c.4] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Justin Cranshaw, Scott Counts, Walter Lasecki, Kori Inkpen. An Experimental Study of Bias in Platform Worker Ratings: The Role of Performance Quality and Gender. **(CHI'20)**
- [c.3] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah, Susan T. Dumais, Xuhai Xu. Effects of Past Interactions on User Experience with Recommended Documents. **(CHIIR'20)**

- [c.2] Emily Hastings*, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh***, Karrie Karahalios, Darko Marinov, Brian Bailey. Structure or Nurture? The Effects of Team-Building Activities and Team Composition on Team Outcomes. **(CSCW'18)**
- [c.1] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Wai-Tat Fu, Karrie Karahalios, Darko Marinov, Brian Bailey. You Want Me to Work with Who? Stakeholder Perceptions of Automated Team Formation in Project-based Courses. **(CHI'17)** *ACM CHI Best Paper Award*

REFEREED SHORT PAPERS AND EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

- [s.2] Dilrukshi Gamage*, James Stomber*, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh***, Bill Skeet, Gautam Kishore Shahi. Designing Credibility Tools To Combat Mis/Disinformation: A Human-Centered Approach. **(CHI'22)**
- [s.1] Xuhai Xu, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah, Susan T. Dumais, Farheen Omar, Bogdan Popp, Robert Rounthwaite, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Understanding User Behavior For Document Recommendation. **(WWW'20)**

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

- [d.1] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Empowering Users on Social Media for Better Content Credibility. *PhD diss., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2023.*

DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM

- [dc.1] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Putting Users in Control of Social Platforms for Better Content Credibility. **(CSCW'22)**

WORKSHOP PAPERS, NON-ARCHIVAL PAPERS, POSTERS (LIGHTLY REVIEWED)

- [w.6] William Small Schulz, Tiziano Piccardi, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Michael S. Bernstein. Algorithmic Influence in Online Political Discourse. *International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2'25)*
- [w.5] Ziv Epstein, Hause Lin, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. From attention economies to intention ecologies. *CHI'25 workshop on Advancing Post-growth HCI*
- [w.4] Arjun Karanam, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Sanmi Koyejo. Towards Deliberating Agents: Evaluating the Ability of Large Language Models to Deliberate. *NeurIPS2024 Workshop on Behavioral ML and NeurIPS 2024 Workshop on Safe & Trustworthy Agents*
- [w.3] Ziv Epstein, Michael S. Bernstein, Tiziano Piccardi, Johan Ugander, Sanmi Koyejo, Isabel O. Gallegos, Dora Zhao, Zachary Robertson, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**. Measuring the Expression of Basic Values in Social Media. *International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2'24)*
- [w.2] Isabel O. Gallegos, Ziv Epstein, **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Tiziano Piccardi, Dora Zhao, Johan Ugander, Michael Bernstein. Identifying Basic Human Values in Social Media Posts with Large Language Models. *ACM CHI'24 workshop on LLMs as Research Tools*
- [w.1] **Farnaz Jahanbakhsh**, Amy X. Zhang, David R. Karger. Surfacing Trust, Assessment, and Provenance for Better News Sharing. *ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CHI'21)*

Invited Talks

- 2026 AI in Research Symposium, MIDAS, University of Michigan
- 2025 Interpersonal & Psychological Implications of Social Media course, guest lecture, School of Information, University of Michigan
- 2023 Google Jigsaw
- 2023

- Interactive Computing Seminar at University of California San Diego, Computer Science and Engineering Department
- 2022 Computer Science Ethics Course, Saint Mary's College of California
- 2022 Workshop on Co-Development of Computer Science and Law: Content Moderation [NJ]
- 2021 Private Ordering Observatory at the Leibniz Institute for Media Research |Hans-Bredow-Institut in Germany

Industry Experience

- Summer 2022 Research Intern, **IBM Research**, Almaden, CA
Mentors: Dakuo Wang, Yannis Katsis, Lucian Popa, Michael Muller
- Summer 2020 Research Intern, **Microsoft Research**, Redmond, WA
Mentors: Adam Fourney, Ryen White, Robert Sim, Elnaz Nouri
- Summer 2019 Research Intern, **Microsoft Research**, Redmond, WA
Mentors: Susan Dumais, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah
- Summer 2018 Research Intern, **Microsoft Research**, Redmond, WA
Mentors: Justin Cranshaw, Kori Inkpen, Scott Counts

Selected Honors and Awards

- 2026 CHI 2026 Best Paper Honorable Mention [c.15]
- 2019 Neekeyfar Fund Award, Office of Graduate Education, MIT
- 2017 CHI 2017 Best Paper Award [c.1]
- 2017 Feng Chen Memorial Award, Department of Computer Science, UIUC, 2017

Advising and Mentoring

PhD Advisees

- 2025- Rashon Poole
Rackham Merit Fellowship, 2025
- 2024- Rayhan Rashed
- 2024- Larnell Moore
Co-advised with Rada Mihalcea
Rackham Merit Fellowship, 2024

Thesis Committees (Ph.D.)

- 2025 Junghwan Kim (Computer Science and Engineering, University of Michigan)
Dissertation: Representation Learning for Writing Style: Method, Interpretation and Applications
- 2025 Erika Arias (Sociology, University of Michigan)
Dissertation: Relational and Reproductive Autonomy Among Voluntarily Childless Singles: A Sociotechnical Inquiry into Demographic Patterns, Goal Navigation, & Affordances of Online Dating Environments
- 2025 Shubham Atreja (School of Information, University of Michigan)
Dissertation: Community-based Research and Development of Moderation Tools: A Case Study of Designing AppealMod with Reddit Moderators

Master's Students

2024- Sina Elahi Manesh (University of Saarland, Germany)

Student Visitor

2025 Shmeelok Chakraborty (University of Michigan)

Undergraduate Students

2026 Aly Ayyob (University of Michigan)
2025 Bhavesh Vuyyuru (University of Michigan)
2025 Gabriel Koo (University of Michigan)
2025 Matthew Kieran Prock (University of Michigan)
2025 Anusha Chinthamaduka (University of Michigan)
2024 Akaash Kolluri (Stanford University)
2024 Renn Su (Stanford University)

Teaching

Instructor

University of Michigan 480/498/598 Social Computing Systems
593 Human-Computer Interaction

MIT 6.033 Computer System Engineering: Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant

MIT 6.S082 Design for the Web: Spring 2020, Spring 2023 (D. Karger & L. Verou)

UIUC Computer Architecture: Fall 2016 (C. Zilles)

Sharif University of Technology Compiler Design and Automata (Fall 2015), Digital System Design (Spring 2014, Fall 2013), Computer Architecture (Fall 2015, Spring 2014), Digital Logic Design (Spring 2014, Spring 2013, Spring 2012), Operating Systems (Spring 2013), Advanced Programming (Spring 2012–Head TA), Introduction to Programming (Fall 2013, Fall 2011)

Professional Activities

Program Committee

2026 ACM CHI, ACM UIST

2025 ACM CHI

2024 ICWSM workshop: Reliable Evaluation of LLMs for Factual Information (REAL-Info)

2024 NAACL workshop: Data Science with Human in the Loop

Organizations

2026 Co-organizer of campus-wide workshop: Using AI to Develop A Sustainable Future, University of Michigan

2024-present Founder and Co-organizer of the Michigan HCI Seminar, a cross-departmental, cross-school initiative bringing together HCI researchers

2022 Co-organizer of ACM CHI workshop: Designing for Mis/Disinformation

2018-2019 Elected Vice President of Student Life at the Graduate Student Association (GSA), MIT EECS

Spring 2017 Facilitator at the GIRLS WHO CODE club, UIUC

Reviewer

CHI'26*'25*'24*'23*'22'21 CSCW'26'25'24*'23'22'21*'20 UIST'24*'22 ICWSM'26* IMX'24
CSUR'23 TOCHI'23'20 DIS'23

* **Special Recognition for Outstanding Review**

Selected Press Coverage

- 03/2026 **University of Michigan CSE News** "Be your own mod: U-M researchers introduce framework for custom content moderation"
- 10/2025 **FOOM—Independent reporting from the edge of AI science** "Social media feeds 'misaligned' when viewed through AI safety framework, show researchers"
- 08/2024 **MIT Technology Review** "A tool that lets users fight misinformation online"
- 05/2024 **MIT News** "New tool empowers users to fight online misinformation"
- 05/2024 **The Hindu** "How a browser extension can help combat misinformation online?"
- 12/2022 **Big Think** "Could letting social media users rank accuracy help stop misinformation?"
- 11/2022 **TN (Todo Noticias—Argentina)** "Trustnet, la red social ficticia que involucra a los usuarios para combatir la desinformación"
- 11/2022 **MIT News** "Empowering social media users to assess content helps fight misinformation"