Welcome.

We are delighted that you are joining us for our virtual introduction to Computer Science and Engineering at Michigan.

We have created a special week for you that will allow you to gain valuable insight about our program so you can feel informed about the opportunities available to Michigan CSE graduate students. You will have time to speak with our faculty and students, and to gain a little insight into your future life as a PhD student.

We know that research opportunities in CSE will be of interest to you, and highlighting research will be an important component of the visit. Please also note that with 19 world-class schools and colleges at the University of Michigan, including a major medical school, students in CSE have extraordinary opportunities to collaborate on impactful and highly interdisciplinary research.

As we encourage you to do your doctoral training with us, it is important we also inform you that our community has faced some difficult issues recently, due to recent cases of alleged sexual misconduct by faculty. There is no place in Michigan CSE for sexual harassment or other exploitation in any form, and we are addressing this issue with the urgency and seriousness it deserves. Cases involving behavior connected to the university have been investigated and appropriate actions are being taken based on the findings. We believe that open and frank conversations across the community will be essential to repair the harms to our climate, and I encourage you to ask questions and raise any concerns you have with people you meet this week. The faculty and I are committed to establishing Michigan CSE as a leader on campus and nationally in ensuring a supportive and inclusive environment for all, and we are eager to share with you information about our current activities and plans in this area.

Finally, because you can’t come and join us in person, we’ve recreated Tishman Hall, the atrium of our building, in Gather.town for our poster session on Monday afternoon.

We hope you are able to imagine yourself at Michigan, and invite you to learn more about the opportunities that await you if you join the Michigan CSE community.

Enjoy your time, and please ask questions.
VISIT WEEK SCHEDULE

Below is the schedule for the week’s main events. Please check the visit week webpage throughout the week for the most current updates on event times and additional student- and faculty-led events.

Monday, March 8

12:00pm – 2:00pm  Welcome & Introduction to the CSE Ph.D. Program
Zoom link | Passcode: 102882
Opening Remarks
Michael Wellman, Richard H. Orenstein Division Chair of Computer Science and Engineering
Welcome
Prof. Alanson Sample, CSE Graduate Admissions Co-Chair
CSE Research Highlights
• Computer Engineering Lab – Prof. Scott Mahlke
• Artificial Intelligence Lab – Prof. Rada Mihalcea
• Interactive Systems Lab – Prof. Mark Guzdial
• Systems Lab – Prof. J. Alex Halderman
• Theory of Computing Lab – Prof. Euiwoong Lee
• Q&A ~10min
Break
Current CSE Ph.D. Student Panel with Q&A
• Emily Bao
• Ryan Feng
• Kevin Loughlin
• Lauren Biernacki
• Fahad Kamran
• Allison McDonald
Break
Note: In the event you are unable to attend any of the above sessions live, recordings will be made available shortly afterwards on the visit week webpage.

2:30pm – 4:30pm  Poster and Demo Session
Gather.town instructions and link

Tuesday, March 9

By appointment  One-on-One Meetings with Faculty
Students and faculty will be emailed by March 7th regarding their assigned meeting time.
Wednesday, March 10

Mentoring, Climate and DEI Discussion with Faculty (Optional)

Zoom link | Passcode: 406769

Students with questions about CSE activities, challenges, and values related to climate, diversity, equity, and inclusion are welcome to come to this session. A discussion with faculty and students will be followed by a closed-to-faculty panel with graduate students.

Mentoring, Climate and DEI Discussion with Current PhD Students (Optional)

Zoom link | Passcode: 406769

Following the faculty-led discussion on Mentoring, Climate, and DEI, prospective students will have the opportunity to ask questions to current graduate students and hear their perspectives on department climate in this closed-to-faculty panel.

Meet CSE’s Graduate Chair, Prof. Emily Mower Provost (Optional)
(with Ashley Andreae, Graduate Programs Coordinator)

Zoom link | Passcode: 604258

Learn more about the PhD program including: milestones to candidacy, qualification exam, and support along the way. Time will be available for questions after the presentation.

Trivia Night (Optional)

Zoom link | Passcode: 553244

Meet the student panelists

Emily Bao
Natural Language Processing with a focus on language grounding and acquisition

Fahad Kamran
Causal inference, survival analysis, sports analytics, and combining machine learning with wearable sensors to detect and prevent physiological harm.

Lauren Biernacki
Integrating integrity and confidentiality protections in computer architecture

Kevin Loughlin
Creating novel hardware interfaces for software systems to afford the programmer maximal control of the security, speed, and resource utilization of their code

Ryan Feng
Problems in adversarial machine learning at the intersection of security and AI

Allison McDonald
Studying how technology exacerbates marginalization and impacts digital safety
Aditya Anand
I am a final year student in the dual degree (B.Tech and M.Tech) program at the department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Broadly, I am interested in all kinds of problems in algorithm design. More specifically, I like working on graph algorithms, fixed parameter tractability and approximation algorithms.

James Anibal
I graduated from Case Western Reserve University in 2020, and I spent this past working at the National Cancer Institute, where I develop machine learning algorithms for high-dimensional data in cancer immunology. Broadly, I am interested in the healthcare applications of machine learning and plan to study this further during my PhD. When I am not coding, I like to hike, swim, cook, and watch Netflix.

Jenny Blessing
Jenny Blessing is a master’s student at MIT studying computer science and public policy and a research assistant at MIT’s Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL). Her research is broadly at the intersection of system security, applied cryptography, and public policy. She graduated with a B.S. in Computer Science from the University of Connecticut, where she worked at the Center for Voting Technology Research (VoTeR Center) on the security of electronic pollbook systems and contributed to Connecticut’s post-election audit system. Outside of academia, she has spent three summers as a software engineering intern on various security and privacy teams at Google. [Website]

Jacqueline Bruen
Jacqueline is a current undergraduate student of computer science at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. During her undergraduate career she has held an industry role in finance and a research role in robotics. Her research interests in graduate school lie at the intersection of computer architecture and scientific computing. After completing her Ph.D. she hopes to further the advances in computer science and share her understanding with others as a research and teaching professor. In her free time she enjoys an array of artistic pursuits ranging from miniature polymer clay sculpture to needlework.
Alper Çakan  
Theoretical CS

Trenton Chang  
Trenton Chang is a Master’s student in artificial intelligence at Stanford University, where he has worked on machine learning robustness in computer vision applications at the HazyResearch lab (Christoper Re). He is also a member of the Stanford Alexa Prize Grand Challenge team building an open-domain conversational system for informal social chitchat. Outside of computer science; Trenton is an avid member of the musical theatre community at Stanford. [Website]

Xinyue Chen  
Hi, I'm Xinyue Chen, an undergraduate student at Peking University, China. I conduct research in the intersection of Human-Computer Interaction, Collaboration and Education. My research aims to explore ways to promote online learning that enhances social presence and learning efficiency through understanding emerging teaching and learning behaviors online, especially in online video communities. I also explore the cognitive processes behind online group collaboration, working to improve online discussion, collaboration, and mutual understanding. Based on the insights, I'm developing collaboration tools to support online learning and discussion.

Valerie Choung  
I'm a computer science major from Carnegie Mellon University. My research interests lie in low-level systems security, and I would like to explore practical methods for building secure systems. Additionally, I am interested in discovering how flaws in low-level design can appear as security vulnerabilities in user applications, such as web browsers. Outside of research, I also enjoy competing in Capture-the-Flag security competitions. As a fun fact, I like to play poker and drink oolong tea!

Jae-Won Chung  
Interested in systems for ML and ML for systems. From Seoul National University in South Korea. [Website]
Rachel Cleaveland
My name is Rachel Cleaveland and I am currently finishing my undergraduate degree in Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University. My research interests are in the fields of formal methods and cyber-physical systems. I have been doing research with Dr. Andre Platzer at CMU in formal verification of cyber-physical systems and theorem proving for three years, focusing in on aircraft collision avoidance in the past year.

Josh Clune
I'm a prospective PhD student from Carnegie Mellon interested in program analysis and logic.

Joe Cutler
Undergrad from Wesleyan University, interested in the theory of programming languages, including type systems, semantics, and principled language design. [Website]

Rohan Dandavati
My name is Rohan Dandavati and I’m currently a software engineer at Google in San Francisco. Previously, I was at UChicago, where I graduated from in 2019. I am a native of Holland, Michigan, and am passionate about all combinations of computer science, math, engineering, and education! I am hoping to focus on applied cryptography during grad school. Outside of school/work, I enjoy playing soccer, running, biking, cooking, and stand-up comedy.

Meron Zerihun Demissie
Most of what we do relies on technology, and we enter our data into tech systems without really knowing if we should trust them. I am interested in understanding security risks and discovering ways to incorporate protective measures into such technologies to ensure our privacy and security. I aspire to pursue my graduate studies and do research that can contribute to groundbreaking solutions to the concerning security problems we face today. Currently, I am studying Software Engineering at the Addis Ababa Institute of Technology in Ethiopia. I hope to identify and address different security risks that continue to distress the tech community in my future scholarly pursuits.
Soham Deshmukh
Hi everyone! I recently graduated from CMU and I am currently working on task-oriented Natural Language Understanding at Microsoft. My research interest lies in developing unsupervised or weakly supervised learning algorithms for speech and audio. [Website]

Rui Dong
I'm from University of Michigan and my areas of interest include program synthesis, program analysis and building interactive and intelligent systems to help programming to be easier and accessible for everyone.

Yang Du
My name is Yang Du. I’m a current U-M undergraduate student majoring in computer science. My research interest lies in cryptography, security, algorithms, and computational complexity.

Karim Elmaaroufi
CMU Alum+Professional SWE interested in researching, formal methods of verification with applications in cyber physical systems/robotics and computer vision.

Madelyn Gatchel
Madelyn Gatchel is a senior math and computer science double major at Davidson College, a small liberal arts college north of Charlotte, NC. Her research interests lie at the intersection of economics and computer science. In particular, Madelyn is interested in applying machine learning techniques to solve problems in game theory. Her current research involves developing techniques to analyze symmetric simulation-based games with a large, variable number of players, where the number of players falls within a specified range. In her spare time, Madelyn enjoys working out, playing games with friends, and exploring new places.
Riddhi Ghosal
I am currently on the verge of completing my Masters in Statistics from the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India. Previously I received a Bachelors in Statistics from the same institute. Broadly, my research interests include cryptography, security and privacy, and their interplay with statistics. Besides that, I am a hodophile and sports enthusiast who spends a big chunk of his time outside work researching the perfect fantasy English Premier League and NBA teams.

Eric Giovannini
I am currently an MSE student in Computer and Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania. I graduated from Rutgers New Brunswick in 2019, where I studied computer science and math. My research interests include programming languages, type theory, functional programming, and applications of category theory and logic to programming languages. I am excited to begin the next chapter of my academic career! [Website]

Jaewan Hong
M.S at KAIST. Interested in systems

Gary Hoppenworth
I’m an undergraduate student at the University of Central Florida. My research background is in string algorithms lower bounds, but I’m interested in everything related to graph algorithms and combinatorics.

Rhea Jain
I’m a senior studying Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University, with an additional major in Mathematics. My research interests lie in theoretical computer science, specifically, in algorithm design for graph and network problems. I’m very fortunate to be advised by Professor Anupam Gupta for my senior thesis on improving greedy algorithms for the Steiner Forest problem. Outside of research, I’ve enjoyed being a teaching assistant for many courses at CMU, and am currently the head teaching assistant for the introductory theoretical CS course. Having lived in Singapore, Venezuela, Chile, and now Hong Kong, I enjoy traveling and exploring new places. I love adventure sports, movies (anything but horror), and good food!
Insu Jang
B.S. and M.S. from South Korea. Interested in distributed systems and heterogeneous computing. [Website]

Linyi Jin
I am a master student in Robotics from the University of Michigan. My main research interest is Computer Vision and Robotics Perception. [Website]

Nari Johnson
Hello! My name is Nari (rhymes with “Atari”) and I’m a Harvard College student graduating in Spring 2021. I am currently pursuing a joint Bachelor’s and Master’s in Computer Science. My research interests broadly include machine learning and theoretical computer science. I’m especially interested in building models that fulfill desiderata such as robustness and transparency in high-stakes domains. [Website]

Nimit Kalra
Studying math and computer science at UT Austin. Trying to understand and improve generalization for vision-based robotics tasks. Focused on learning visual representations that convey some meaningful structure. [Website]

Jason Kim
Hello! My name is Jason, and I’m currently a senior at U-M majoring in CSE. I’m planning on staying here for five more years, and researching hardware security and side channel attacks during that time. I’m from Champaign, IL (right next to the University of Illinois), so it’s about to be a total of nine years for me being the only family member in Michigan. I would say I’m reasonably familiar with how the CSE department here works with respect to undergraduates, but I’m aware that being in the same department as a graduate student is likely to be highly different. I’m looking forward to learn about these differences, and although it’s virtual, socialize with all of you as future colleagues or lab partners! [Website]
Jing Yu Koh
I am an AI Resident at Google Research in Mountain View, California. I work with research scientists and engineers on machine learning research, and my current interests are in multi-modal learning and generative models. Before joining Google, I completed my undergrad at the Singapore University of Technology and Design in 2019. [Website]

Tzu-Sheng Kuo
I am an undergraduate student from National Taiwan University and currently a graduate student at Stanford University. I am interested in creating interactive systems that envision or reshape the design of future technology to support human well-being. My research interest in human-computer interaction is at the intersection of digital fabrication, context-aware computing, and applications to digital healthcare, behavior change, and accessibility. [Website]

Joshua Lau
I study CS Theory, and am interested in designing efficient algorithms that solve problems on combinatorial domains, such as graphs, and identifying just how hard we can solve them. As an undergrad, I studied a dual degree in Computer Science and Mathematics at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. There, I completed my thesis in Theory on a problem of deleting vertices to minimize distances on trees. Since then, I've spent just over two years working as a Software Engineer in industry, and dabbled in some data structures research on the side. Previously, I was heavily involved in Competitive Programming, where I competed and coached students and teams at the International Olympiad in Informatics and International Collegiate Programming Competitions. [Website]

Evan Laufer
Evan Laufer is currently an undergraduate student at UC San Diego, working with Professor Deian Stefan and Professor Stefan Savage. He is broadly interested in systems and security.

David Lee
I'm a senior computer science and math major at Williams College. I'm interested in programming languages, data structures, and machine learning. My research experience is in concurrent program analysis and probabilistic data structure design. I am currently working on adaptive filters for my undergraduate thesis. [Website]
Yunzhi Li
I am currently a second-year master's student at Georgia Tech, major in Computer Science. My research interests lie in the intersection of HCI and Ubiquitous Computing. I am passionate about developing novel sensing and interaction techniques, and context-aware interfaces in general. [Website]

Sylvia Li
Sylvia is a recent graduate of Georgia Institute of Technology’s B.S. in Computer Science program. She is interested in the field of affective computing and its applications in mental health. In her non-research time, Sylvia likes to do comedic improv and engage in arts and crafts. [Website]

Bu Li
I graduated from Beihang University in China and completed my ECE Master's Degree in Georgia Tech. My interest of research is sensing and novel interface, subarea of Human Computer Interaction. I am addicted to movies and thrilling novels.

Chen Liang
Chen Liang is currently a master student at Texas A&M University. Previously he received his B.S. in Computer Science and Engineering from The Ohio State University. His research interests include Human Computer Interaction, Computer Vision, and Data Analytics.

Georgianna Lin
My name is Georgianna Lin, but I go by Blue (like the color; a nickname from elementary school) I am currently working on neural-interfaces at a start-up called Biocircuit. I did my undergrad and grad at Georgia Tech. My goal is to research inclusive designs and account for those often forgotten. [Website]
Yaowei Long
I am currently an undergraduate student at Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences, Tsinghua University. I maintain a broad interest in theoretical computer science, especially in graph algorithms, and I have worked on a project that designed efficient distance oracles for planar graphs. I like playing the guitar in my spare time, and my favorite sport is badminton.

Donald Loveland
I received my undergraduate degree from California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo where I majored in physics and minored in computer science, math, astronomy, and ethnic studies. After graduation, I began work as a staff scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Lab where I applied machine learning to improve the optimization and discovery of new materials. In tandem, I also actively researched new methods to extract actionable insights from deep learning models, particularly in the image domain. During my PhD, I intend to research similar explanation techniques in the area of graph neural networks while also considering reliability and robustness in sensitive applications.

Tiange Luo
I study machine perception, learning, and its interaction with the physical world. I did my master at Peking University and bachelor at Beihang University. [Website]

Martin Ma
I am currently a Senior student at the University of Michigan in Computer Science, with a dual degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. I have a passionate interest in natural language processing, machine learning and knowledge representation. My current research interests include grounded language processing and commonsense extraction. [Website]

Gary Ma
This is Gary from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. I am interested in Algorithmic Game Theory, and in general bringing more economic concepts into Computer Science. [Website]
Sara Mahdizadeh Shahri
I am currently a PhD student at Penn State University and plan to transfer to UMich. My research interest are computer systems, compilers and computer architecture. [Website]

Sumukh Marathe
I am currently a Research Fellow at Microsoft Research (MSR) India under the supervision of researcher Akshay Nambi. Presently, I am focusing on developing dependable and reliable IoT sensing systems. Prior to this, I obtained my bachelor’s degree in Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering from the University of Pune, India. I am motivated to build real-world systems that use novel sensing techniques and develop innovative interactions, for use-cases like environment sensing, sustainability and accessibility. Although keen to experiment with a wide range of technology to achieve these objectives, I am especially interested to work on an end-to-end technology stack that utilizes embedded-system-based components. [Website]

Natalie Maus
My name is Natalie Maus and I am a senior at Colby College majoring in Computer Science and Physics. I am interested in studying Machine Learning and Computer Vision at U Mich.

Hanna Mularczyk
I’m a current Harvard mathematics student interested in theoretical computer science and combinatorics.

Sai Krishna Chaitanya Nalam Venkata Subrahmanya
I am Chaitanya. I completed my Bachelors from IIT Madras, India and Masters from Rutgers University, New Brunswick with specialization in Algorithms. I look forward to doing research in Algorithms with keen interest in Graph, Sublinear algorithms and communication complexity. My hobbies are swimming and playing water polo.
Donayam Nega
MSC in Computer Engineering from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Hellina Hailu Nigatu
I earned my BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Addis Ababa Institute of Technology. I was also a participant in the AURA program of 2019 at UMich. My research interest lies in the domain of computer architecture for Machine Learning and Graph Processing.

Enrique Nueve
Research interests in Machine Learning, Statistical Learning Theory on non-stationary data, Information Elicitation, and Empirical Game-Theoretic Analysis applied to Computational Finance and Autonomous Agents.

Anthony Opipari
I am a recent graduate of the Master's program in Computer Science at the University of Michigan. Since graduating, I have been working at MIT Lincoln Laboratory as a machine learning algorithm developer. My research interests are in the field of perception for robotics and especially probabilistic methods that enable robots to account for their uncertainty. [Website]

Maria Paula Parga Nina
I'm originally from São Paulo, Brazil. I am currently completing my undergraduate degree at UCSD in computer science. My research interests lie in theory (broadly speaking). In the past, I've mainly done research in fine grained complexity with Russell Impagliazzo.
Áron Ricardo Perez-Lopez
I'm an SB/MEng student from Hungary at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. My current areas of interest include formal methods and computer systems broadly, like the formal verification of complex hardware and software systems, as well as building systems that are correct by construction. [Website]

Neehar Peri
Neehar is an undergraduate from the University of Maryland interested in pursuing a research career in computer vision and machine learning. He is currently interested in working on generative models, self-supervised learning and open-world visual understanding with the goal of creating systems that can generalize to the long tail of unseen data, specifically to create truly flexible, domain invariant intelligent perception systems. Neehar has worked on several projects relating to vehicle re-identification, traffic anomaly detection, adversarial machine learning, multi-spectral facial recognition, and open-world 3D tracking. [Website]

Lindsay Popowski
I am a computer science and mathematics major from Harvey Mudd College. My research interests largely fall within the category of human-computer interaction, with particular emphasis on social computing, online communities, and collaboration. I'm also more broadly interested in tech justice and ethics. I've done work in CS education, AI for human-robot interaction, and HCI in the past. I also enjoy baking, hiking, cooking, reading, and picking up new crafts.

Hannah Potter
My main research interests are in programming languages, human-computer interaction, and computer science education. I want to work on improving the programming experience, including lowering barriers to entry. This is partially motivated by my frustration of constrained views of what a programmer “looks” like as well as constrained views of what programming itself looks like. I believe that building and improving assistive programming tools is one avenue by which to tackle this problem.
I earned my bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Utah. I grew up near Salt Lake City and I love the mountains. I am currently finishing up my master's degree here at the University of Michigan and have been working with Professor Cyrus Omar on a programming assistant project for the live, functional programming environment Hazel.
Minya Rancic
My name is Minya Rancic and I'm currently finishing up my undergrad in Computer Engineering and Math at the University of Maryland. My past work has broadly been focused on computer systems, specifically interested in computer architecture and hardware systems, and I'm definitely excited to keep working on research in these fields during grad school. I'm currently really excited about domain-specific hardware acceleration - the idea of creating specialized architectures that can accelerate common tasks within certain application-domains, like networking or graph-processing. I'm also interested in answering questions about the broader implications of these architectures. For example, after accelerating some subset of a domain, how good is that architecture at representing the rest of it? I think this form of specialization is going to be very important in computer architecture, and I'm excited to explore it further!

Elijah Rivera
Hello! I'm currently a master's student in computer science at MIT, where I also completed my undergrad degree. I'm interested in the intersection of Programming Languages (PL) and Computer Science Education (CSEd), specifically ways that program synthesis and formal methods might empower classroom automation for both students and teachers. I'm a leader in the Christian community on campus, and I serve on the executive board for the MIT Latinx Grad Student Association. I additionally hold positions on the student advisory boards for the EECS department, the College of Computing, and the Office of Religious, Spiritual, and Ethical Life. In my spare time, I enjoy teaching and playing music.

Caleb Robelle
I am a mathematics and computer science double major at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. I am broadly interested in theoretical computer science. [Website]

Andrew Rouditchenko
I am currently a MEng student at MIT in EECS. I graduated from MIT with my BS in EECS in 2019. My research interests are in computer vision, speech and language processing, and multimodal machine learning.
Priscila Santiesteban
Priscila Santiesteban is a senior at Coe College in Iowa where she is majoring in Computer Science and Physics with a minor in Mathematics. Her interest in computer science research began after taking part in an internship as a Software Engineer for a local company in 2018 and conducting computational physics research at Cornell University in 2019. Eager to explore a research topic more grounded in computer science, she took up the opportunity to do research at Carnegie Mellon University in the summer of 2020, where she explored patch quality for automatic bug repair. Priscila's successful time at Carnegie and growing interest in research aspired her to pursue a PhD in computer science. In her free time, she practices relaxing through her passions in weightlifting and journaling.

Anish Saxena
I am a senior undergraduate student and member of CAR3S Group, at IIT Kanpur in India. As our computational needs increase, computer architects and system designers find innovative ways to improve performance. Occasionally in this process, design flaws and the existence of side channels make the system vulnerable and may compromise its security guarantees. My interest lies in uncovering these bugs by focusing on the microarchitecture, OS, and runtime software. I am also excited about devising architectures that are secure-by-design and enhancing the performance of modern systems. In my recent projects, I have improved the noise resilience of digital side-channel attacks, formulated frameworks to conduct microarchitectural studies on mobile devices, and designed cache policies for next-generation processors. In addition to analyzing systems for security and performance, I am curious about quantum computing, secure computation on the cloud, and emerging memory technologies. [Website]

Hope Schroeder
I am a current research fellow at Stanford Law School using NLP to study legal and policy issues. Previously, I did a MSc in Social Data Science at the Oxford Internet Institute, and an undergraduate program at Stanford in Symbolic Systems. In the PhD program, I hope to use NLP to questions in computational social science.
Amrith Setlur
Hi! I am Amrith, a graduate student at the School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University pursuing a Masters degree in Language Technologies. I am fortunate to be advised by professors from both LTI and MLD: Prof. Alan W. Black (LTI), Prof. Barnabas Poczos (MLD) and Prof. Virginia Smith (MLD). My primary research interest lies in bridging the gap between machine learning theory and practice. In search of this broad goal I am currently trying to theoretically understand the empirical successes of deep learning in NLP/Vision while also striving to make these models more interpretable, computationally efficient and amenable for fast adaptation. I am particularly interested in representation learning, large-scale optimization, multi-task/ meta-learning, Bayesian methods, generative models in text/speech, causal inference for text. [Website]

Allen Shen
Allen is pursuing an MS in Computer Science at UC Berkeley, where he completed his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Data Science in 2020. Advised by Professor Josh Hug, Allen has research interests at the intersection of data science and education. Currently, Allen is working on understanding the limitations of data manipulation tools such as Pandas and SQL, and he is interested in building more sophisticated tools to address these limitations. As an undergraduate, Allen was a lecturer and a four-time teaching assistant for Berkeley’s intermediate data science course, Principles and Techniques of Data Science. As a teaching assistant, he contributed material to the online textbook, developed course content, and managed the autograding of assignments. Allen was also a software engineering intern at Amazon, in which he helped improve the compatibility of Alexa Smart Home Devices. [Website]

Keyao Shen
I earned my bachelor’s degree in Applied Mathematics from Purdue University, with minors in Computer Science and Economics, and obtained a master’s degree in Computer Science from UC Berkeley. After graduation, I worked at Microsoft as a Software Engineer, then joined Findora to build confidential and auditable financial networks. I am interested in security and cryptography, and looking forward to conducting research in these areas during my further studies.

Kshiteej Sheth
Hi! My name is Kshiteej Sheth and I am currently pursuing my master’s degree in Computer Science at EPFL in Switzerland. I am broadly interested in the area of design and analysis of algorithms. I finished my undergraduate degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar. In my spare time I like to do endurance training for running, hiking and snow shoeing in the Swiss Alps, and learning new authentic dishes to cook. [Website]
**Pradyumna Shome**  
Pradyumna Shome is a senior majoring in Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, advised by Christopher W. Fletcher. His research interests are in computer security, systems, and CS education, and his work focuses on identifying and analyzing the information leakage of next-generation microarchitectural side-channel attacks. He is the Lead Course Assistant for Illinois CS 241: System Programming, and has helped organize HackIllinois and the Reflections | Projections technology conference. He has acquired industry experience through software engineering internships at Facebook, Salesforce, and Virtusa. Most recently, he was on the Shadow Program Committee for the IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy. [Website]

**Neha Srikanth**  
My name is Neha Srikanth, and I recently graduated with my BS and MS from the University of Texas at Austin! I’m interested in Natural Language Processing, particularly in controllable language generation, abstractive summarization, and natural language inference.

**Brian Tang**  
I’m a prospective PhD student from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, interested in trusted machine-learning (ML) systems. This includes the security, privacy, and fairness of ML pipelines. My specific experiences revolve around usability-privacy, ML fairness, ML robustness, adversarial ML. Though, I also really enjoy learning about other areas in security and privacy. In my free time, I enjoy playing video games, cooking, playing piano, watching anime, and more.

**James Tavernor**  
Hi, I’m James! I’m from the UK, and I studied a combined undergraduate/masters in joint Mathematics and Computer Science at Imperial College London. My parents work in the UK’s National Health Service, so I have always had an interest in mental health, and I have first-hand seen the limitations and lack of scalability of mental health services. In my final years at Imperial, I became very interested in machine learning. My thesis was an automated end-to-end emotion recognition model for speech during virtual reality psychotherapy sessions. I additionally investigated the use of emotion recognition models in the detection of anxiety and depression. I hope to continue researching this area and work towards automated systems to help people who need it.
Raghuveer Thirukovalluru
I'm currently pursuing my Masters in Computer Science from University of Massachusetts, Amherst. I finished my undergrad from IIT Kanpur in Electrical Engineering. I worked for a couple of years with the Xerox Research Centre, Bangalore. My interests include Natural language processing, Machine learning. Most of my works during my masters was around utilizing knowledge graphs to improve reasoning ability of neural models. I've also worked on creating scalable models for coreference resolution. I love playing chess, table tennis, lawn tennis. I'm a foodie and love to try different desserts.

Biniyam Tiruye
I recently graduated from Addis Ababa Institute of Technology, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I majored in Software Engineering and I am interested in Computer Security, Robotics and Data Science. [Website]

Armin Vakil
I am currently a grad student at Penn State. My research interests are formal verification, and distributed systems. My past research was in computer architecture and systems. [Website]

Nick Ward
I'm a graduating MS student at Berkeley, working with Alessandro Chiesa on the theoretical and practical aspects of proof systems, as well as other areas within cryptography. I have a dual background in math and coding and hope to explore both improvements in cryptographic protocols and new real-world applications. [Website]

Eric Weiner
I am graduating from Harvey Mudd College with a degree in computer science and mathematics. I am interested in applying machine learning techniques to physical systems, whether that be in speeding up or scaling up simulations or calculations in biological or chemical applications.
Jed Yang
Jianing “Jed” Yang is a Master’s student in Machine Learning at Carnegie Mellon University. His research interests lie in multimodal NLP, dataset bias analysis, and machine learning. In particular, he is interested in developing robust algorithms and evaluation frameworks to understand human communication grounded to multimodal context. Before joining CMU, he received his Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Georgia Tech and was doing research on machine learning for healthcare. He has also worked as a Software Development Engineer at Amazon Web Services, intern and full-time. [Website]

Yuan Yao
I’m studying computer science at the University of Michigan. I’m interested in networking and systems.

Albert Yu
I am an EECS major from UC Berkeley.

Xifan Yu
I am from UChicago. I am interested in theory in general, specifically in algorithms, combinatorics, and graph theory.

Zhilin Zhang
Zhilin Zhang is a 5-year BS-MS student in Computer Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), co-advised by Professor Karrie Karahalios and Professor Lawrence Angrave. His research interests are in Human-Computer Interaction and Education, with a focus on studying how people interact with Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems, investigating societal issues such as misinformation, bias, privacy concerns caused by AI, and designing new technologies and mechanisms to address these problems. He is motivated to provide people with a more informed, fair, secure, accessible, satisfying, and engaging experience when interacting with AI systems. [Website]
Zhuohao Zhang
Hi there! I'm Zhuohao from MSCS@UIUC. I did my undergrad at Zhejiang University in China. I work on HCI and accessibility. My potential advisor is Professor Anhong Guo. [Website]

Qiang Zhang
I am an undergraduate student at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, majoring in computer science and engineering. I am interested in computer vision, machine learning and robotics.

Kaiyang Zhao
Hello. I'm Kaiyang. I received my BS in Computer Science at Purdue University. I'm interested in building systems that are efficient and secure, especially at the intersection of operating systems and hardware. Nice to meet you all!

Jin Zhou
Jin is an undergraduate student in the Division of Engineering Science at University of Toronto. He spent his second-year summer working on recommender systems at University of Toronto as a recipient of NSERC- Undergraduate Student Research Awards. He was a visiting student researcher at Massachusetts Institute of Technology working on developing deep learning-based eye tracking algorithm. Last year, He interned at Layer6 AI as a student researcher. His research interest includes data-driven information retrieval and computational social science.

Karen Zhou
I am a senior studying computer science at Cornell University. As a researcher, my interests are in the fields of natural language processing, machine learning, and computational social science.