Manami Nakagawa

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EDUCATION

University of California, Davis, USA - PhD in Computer Science, Current GPA 3.94

Sep 2024 - Present

- Research at CSC Lab alongside Prof. Hao-Chuan Wang, focusing on **Al-mediated communication**, Human-Al Collaboration, **Human-Computer Interaction (HCI)** and **Computer-Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW)**
- Head TA for ECS 164 HCI, coordinating and facilitating lectures for 150 students

University of Bristol, UK – Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Upper Second-Class Honours

Jul 2024

PUBLICATION

• UbiLearn: Supporting English-as-a-Foreign-Language Learners in Reflecting on Conversations Using a Smartwatch *Riku Arakawa, Manami Nakagawa, Hiromu Yakura - MobileHCl'25* https://doi.org/10.1145/3743735

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

SB Intuitions Corp., HCI Research Intern	Oct 2025 – Dec 2025
OMRON SINIC X, Corp., The University of Tokyo, Research Intern	Jun 2025 – Sep 2025
OMRON SINIC X, Corp., The University of Tokyo, Visiting Researcher	Jun 2024 – Sep 2024
OMRON SINIC X, Corp., The University of Tokyo, Research Intern	Apr 2023 - Aug 2023

- Led a collaborative HCI research project as first author, investigating the effect of LLM-generated real-time pseudo reactions on receivers' perception
- Designed and implemented three prototypes (desktop, script-based, web) in 7 days to evaluate effectiveness
- Developed a new prototype and designed follow-up experiments to extend a prior Al-only scenarios study, assessing system performance in realistic Al-human collaboration scenarios
- Directed user experiments with semi-structured interviews and mixed-method analysis

SELECTED PROJECT

Vinterview, Project Manager - Demo

Mar 2023 – Sep 2023

- Built the MVP of Vinterview, an Al-powered mock interview platform simulating social pressure, within 3 days after GPT 3.5 API release
- Pitched the MVP to recruit collaborators by clearly communicating the product vision, enabling team members to take ownership and contribute autonomously
- Won **Best Award** among 48 groups at a UTokyo-backed hackathon (100 Program)
- Awarded 4th place and received selective funding for acceleration from Matsuo Lab (University of Tokyo)
- Launched the web application on Product Hunt, attracting 260 users in the first 1.5 months

SELECTED INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

Google, STEP (Student Training in Engineering Program)

May 2023 - Jun 2023

Selected as one of the top 40 students for an intensive algorithms and security training program

Matsuo Institute, Inc. | Matsuo Lab (UTokyo), Software Engineering Intern

Aug 2022 - Sep 2022

• Deployed a book sales prediction model by analyzing and identifying Japanese top publisher needs

Souzoh, Inc. | Mercari group, Software Engineering Intern

Aug 2022 - Sep 2022

• Optimized an existing price prediction model to enhance accuracy and efficiency for listing items- Tech Blog

SKILLS

Python, Java, C++, JavaScript, Go, SQL, FastAPI, Flask, Spring Boot, SQLite3, MySQL, Docker, AWS, Git, OpenCV

PRIZE

Best User Interview Award at a Hackathon (100Program) - "Vinterview" Mar 2023

• Awarded a prize among 48 teams at a hackathon, supported by the University of Tokyo

Best Prize at 1week Hackathon (Build@Mercari2022) - GitHub - "Al Checker" May 2022

• Awarded the 1st prize among 13 teams at a hackathon, held by Japanese company Mercari