

Samir Ghosh

Updated July 29, 2025

Education

University of California, Santa Cruz
PhD Student in Computational Media
Advisor: Katherine Isbister
Expected Graduation: December 2026

Santa Cruz, California
2022 – *Present*

University of Southern California
BS in Computational Linguistics
BA in Cognitive Science

Los Angeles, California
2018

Honors and scholarships

Dean's Travel Grant	2025
Finalist, UC Santa Cruz Grad Slam	2023
Regents Fellowship	2023
CITRIS Tech For Good Award	2022
Dean's Fellowship	2022

Publications

“Let's Jump into More Creative Avatars and Take this Brainstorm to the Flying Platform:” Playful Prototypes of VR Meeting Support Tools

Anya Osborne, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, Alexandra Leeds, George Butler, **Samir Ghosh**, and Katherine Isbister
DIS 2025

Introducing Booksnake: A Scholarly App for Transforming Existing Digitized Archival Materials into Life-Size Virtual Objects for Embodied Interaction in Physical Space, using IIIF and Augmented Reality

Sean Fraga, Christy Ye, Henry Huang, Zack Sai, Michael Hughes, April Yao, and **Samir Ghosh**
CHI EA '25

Purposeful XR: Affordances, Challenges, and Speculations for an Ethical Future

Elizabeth Childs, **Samir Ghosh**, Sebastian Cmentowski, Andrea Cuadra, Rabindra Ratan
CHI EA '25

Designing Shared VR Tools for Spatial Scientific Sensemaking About Wildfire Evacuation

Samir Ghosh, Yuhui Wang, William Zhou, Kelly Lin, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, and Katherine Isbister.
CHI EA '24

Eye Ball: Gazing as a Dilemma in a Competitive Virtual Reality Game

Michael Lankes, **Samir Ghosh**, Charles Bishop Lesser, and Katherine Isbister.
CHI EA '24

The Cuteness Factor: An Interpretive Framework for Artists, Designers and Engineers

Angela Y.H. Fan, Chen Ji, Ella Dagan, **Samir Ghosh**, Yuhui Wang, Katherine Isbister.

DIS 2023.

Workshop Papers

Designing Interaction Approaches for Shared Sensemaking in XR

Samir Ghosh, Joshua McVeigh-Schultz, and Katherine Isbister.

Sensemaking Workshop, CHI '24

Social Physiological Data Awareness in Collocated Mixed Reality Movement

Samir Ghosh, Charles Lesser, Kaia Rae Schweig, Sofia De La Vega Mireles, and Katherine Isbister.

PhysioCHI Workshop, CHI '24

Revealing Aspects of Hawai'i Tourism Using Situated Augmented Reality

Karen Abe, Jules Park, and **Samir Ghosh**

With or Without Permission Workshop, CHI '24

Designing a mixed-initiative multi-user VR interface for wildfire mitigation

Samir Ghosh, Yanglan Wang, Kecheng Cheng, Anthony Angeles, Andrew Moskovich, Kenichi Soga, and Katherine Isbister.

HCI for Climate Change Workshop, CHI 2023.

Selected projects

Booksnake AR

NEH funded iOS AR app displaying assets from the Library of Congress and other archival information. Early design, software architecture, and project management contributions.

Bunker Hill VR

Historical recreation of 1930s downtown Los Angeles using civil engineering data. Project management, documentation, and technical contributions

Stanza Del Segnatura

WebGL 3D app that overlays primary sources over frescoes from The Vatican. Build and distribution contributions.

Bodyscape

Internationally exhibited (e.g. SIGGRAPH, Ars Electronica) wearable technology fashion piece by Behnaz Farahi. Contributions in gait responsive algorithms, circuit design, safety systems, and generative design

Research positions

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz

June 2025 - *present*

Coastal Climate Resilience Center and UC Santa Cruz Visualization Lab

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz

June 2025 - *present*

Catalyst Program, UC Open Source Program Office

Visiting Scholar, Blekinge Institute of Technology

May 2025 - June 2025

HINTS Project, Department of Computer Science

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Santa Cruz June 2023 - April 2025
Virtual Reality for Scientific Sensemaking, Social Emotional Technology Lab
Supported by the [Sloan Foundation](#)

Industry
experience

Ahmanson Lab USC Harman Academy Los Angeles, California
Assistant Director Jan 2019 - Aug 2022

YUR Inc. Los Angeles, California
VR Developer Jul 2021 - Dec 2021

Intel Corporation Santa Clara, California
Intern Summer 2016, Summer 2018, Fall 2018

Enlighted Inc. Sunnyvale, California
Intern Summer 2014

Teaching

Teaching assistant, UC Santa Cruz Winter 2022
CMPM 115: Lead By Design

Seminars, Talks,
and Tutorials

Virtual Reality and Scientific Sensemaking June 2025
Department of Industrial Design, TU Eindhoven, Netherlands

Virtual Reality and Scientific Sensemaking June 2025
German Aerospace Agency (DLR) Braunschweig, Germany

Virtual Reality and Scientific Sensemaking May 2025
Department of Computer Science, Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden

Revisiting the for Loop Nov 2023
Slugworks, UC Santa Cruz

A Career in HCI and VR Oct 2023
Cognitive Science Student Association, UC Santa Cruz

Generative Art in Virtual Reality Using p5js Jun 2023
Digital Arts and New Media, UC Santa Cruz

Wildfires in Virtual Reality Mar 2023
UC Santa Cruz Grad Slam, Kuumbwa Jazz Center

Multi-user VR workshop Feb 2023
Digital Arts and New Media, UC Santa Cruz

Surveillance and the Attention Economy Mar 2022
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Computational Art Feb 2022
Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

WebRTC, WebGL, and other web protocols Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Jan 2022
Techniques with Graphics Code Emergent Technology Series, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2021 - Oct 2021
VR Web Development Emergent Technology Series, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2021 - Oct 2021
Object recognition, privacy rights, and data collection Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2021
Sensors, lights, and motors Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2021
3D Modeling Basics Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2021
Glitch + D3.js Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Oct 2020
VR with Mozilla Hubs Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Oct 2020
p5js Generative art-a-thons, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Sep 2020
Applied Neural Networks Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Apr 2020
Introduction to Creative Code Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Apr 2020
STEM Speaker Series Katherine Johnson STEM Academy	Mar 2020
Deepfake Detection Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Mar 2020
Practical Arduino Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Mar 2020
Data Surveillance and Digital Rights Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Feb 2020
Introduction to 3D Printing and the Makerbot Replicator Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC	Feb 2020
Wearable Technology	Oct 2019

Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Get your own climate data

Oct 2019

Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Introduction to 3D Printing and the Makerbot Replicator

Sep 2019

Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Practical Arduino

Sep 2019

Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

WebVR

Nov 2019

Polymathic Making Workshops, Ahmanson Lab at USC

Promise and Peril of Algorithmic Living

Apr 2018

USC Visions and Voices

Service

Google Summer of Code *UC Open Source Program Office*

Mentor

Summer 2025 (*Present*)

Creative Code Collective

Community Lead

2023 – *Present*

Committee for Planning and Budget *Academic Senate, UC Santa Cruz*

Graduate Representative

2023 – *Present*

MIT Reality Hack

Mentor

2025

ACM Halfway to the Future Symposium 2024

Social Media Chair

2023-2024

Google Summer of Code *Processing Foundation*

Mentee, Contributor

Summer 2022

Corpus Callosum (Student Org.) Viterbi School of Engineering, USC

Technical Director

Fall 2015 - Spring 2018

Personal
information

Citizenship: USA

Languages: English (native), French (proficient), Korean (basic)

Email: samir.ghosh@ucsc.edu

Website/Portfolio: samir.tech

Misc. interests: capoeira, open water swimming, creative code