

Cat Mai

370 Jay St
10th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Updated: Oct 9, 2022

✉ cat.mai@nyu.edu
🏠 catxmai.github.io

Education

New York University.

Ph.D. Computer Science | Advisor: Damon McCoy

2022-Expected 2027

Clark University.

B.A. Computer Science

B.A. (Hons) Mathematics | Advisor: Michael Satz

2018–2022

Research Experience

*HCI=Human-Computer Interaction.

Research Assistant, GIS @ Clark,

Jan '22–Aug '22

Mentor: Lyndon Estes.

- Trained, integrated features, and ran inference for ML models on AWS.

Visiting Research Assistant, Brown HCI @ Brown University,

Summer '21

Mentors: Jeff Huang, Talie Massachi.

- Worked on [Automotion](#). Analyzed user study's data to detect patterns in annotators' prediction. Modified, retrained CNN, Random Forest, SVM to predict user's affect.
- Rewrote a submission to IMWUT. Our paper reveals insights about using annotators vs. ML models to predict emotion from pressure readings and motion capture.

HCI Research Assistant, Clark University,

Feb '20–Jun '21

Mentor: Shuo Niu.

- Crawled over 10,000 videos that was used across multiple projects. Set up annotation interface. Co-author and maintainer of the lab's [crawler package](#)
- Analyzed videos for common themes and tested for correlated categories using video statistics
- Our papers identifies patterns in parasocial relationships and civic engagement on YouTube.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, Clark University.

Aug '19–May '22

Lead weekly labs and 1-on-1 tutoring. Prepare solutions and grade homework.

CS 180 Automata Theory

CS 121, 122 Data Structures; Discrete Structures

MATH 114 Discrete Mathematics

MATH 124, 125 Honors Calculus I, II

MATH 131 Multivariate Calculus

Reports & Publications

* = equal contribution

Conference Papers.....

- CSCW '21 Shuo Niu, **Cat Mai**, Katherine G. McKim, and Scott McCrickard. “#TeamTrees: Investigating How YouTubers Participate in a Social Media Campaign”. *ACM Conference on Computer-supported Cooperative Work 2021*. [pdf].
- CHI '21 Shuo Niu, Ava Bartolome*, **Cat Mai***, and Nguyen Binh Ha*. “#StayHome #WithMe: How Do YouTubers Help with COVID-19 Loneliness?” *ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems 2021*. (Acceptance rate = 26.3%) [pdf].

Posters & Extended Abstracts.....

- Fall Fest '21 Dinithi Silva-Sassaman, **Cat Mai**, Jing Qian, and Jeff Huang. *Predicting Emotion and Attention from Smartphone Behavioral Data*. [pdf]. Fall Fest '21 Clark University.
- CSCW '21 Katherine McKim, **Cat Mai**, Danielle Hess, and Shuo Niu. *Investigating Drug Addiction Discourse on YouTube*. [pdf]. CSCW '21.
- Winter Fest '21 **Cat Mai**. *How YouTubers Participate in a Social Media Campaign: A Culture-Based Analysis of #TeamTrees*. [pdf]. Winter Fest '21 Clark University.
- Fall Fest '19 **Cat Mai***, Tina Chiem*, and Anisha Hassan*. *Odd One Out”: Model Based Biology in an ESL Classroom*. [pdf]. Fall Fest '19 Clark University.

Class Reports

- “Numerical Analysis research project: Tension Spline Interpolation” (Fall 2021). [pdf].
- “Emotional Analysis Via Content Creation on YouTube During COVID-19” (Fall 2020). [pdf].

Awards, Honors

- 2022-2024:** Future Leader PhD Fellowship New York University
- 2020:** LEEP Research Fellow Clark University
- 2018-2022:** Traina Scholarship Clark University

Volunteer

- Diversity & Inclusion Committee**, *American Go Association*. 2020–Present
- Co-direct and coordinate tournaments with approx. 1000 players
 - Analyze education initiatives, market research for Go/weiqi national outreach.
- Math Tutor**, *Massachusetts Correctional Institution*. 2018–2020
- Tutored weekly as part of prison education [Petey Greene program](#).

Tech Stack

Main: Java, Python, JavaScript, \LaTeX | **Other:** SQL, C/C++, Kotlin, Bash, R