

Avinash Bhat

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EDUCATION

- 2023 – **McGill University, Montréal, Canada**
Ph.D. in Computer Science, Software Technology Lab. Advisor: Dr. Jin L.C. Guo
- 2021 – **McGill University, Montréal, Canada**
2023 M.Sc. in Computer Science, Software Technology Lab. Advisor: Dr. Jin L.C. Guo
- 2014 – **National Institute of Engineering, Mysore, India**
2018 B.E. in Computer Science and Engineering. Advisor: Dr. Anitha C.

PUBLICATIONS

Conference (C), Journal (J), and Workshop (W) papers. Joint first author papers are indicated with an asterisk. Preprints available on [my website](#).

- 2027 [J4] [Avinash Bhat](#), Vy Bui, Jin L.C. Guo.
Look Before You Prompt, and After: Scaffolding Human-AI Collaboration in Software Tutorial Creation
Submitted to TOSEM – Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology, Special Issue on Human AI Collaboration in Software Engineering
- [J3] [Avinash Bhat](#), Ian Arawjo, Disha Shrivastava, Jin L.C. Guo.
"A Second Set of Eyes": The Process and Challenges of Software Documentation Review
Accepted at GROUP 2027 – ACM International Conference on Supporting Group Work
- 2026 [C5] [Avinash Bhat](#).
Malleable Interfaces for Reviewing Software Documentation
FSE 2026 – 34th ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering
- [W2] [Avinash Bhat](#), Jin L.C. Guo.
Who Tells the Documentation Team? How AI Agents Disrupt Documentation Feedback Loops
HumanAISE 2026 – The 2nd Workshop on Human-Centered AI for Software Engineering (Co-located with FSE'26).
- 2024 [C4] [Avinash Bhat](#), Disha Shrivastava, Jin L.C. Guo.
Do LLMs Meet the Needs of Software Tutorial Writers? Opportunities and Design Implications
DIS 2024 – ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference
- [C3] Mina Lee, Katy Ilonka Gero, John Joon Young Chung, Simon Buckingham Shum, Vipul Raheja, Hua Shen, Subhashini Venugopalan, Thiemo Wambsganss, David Zhou, Emad A. Alghamdi, Tal August, [Avinash Bhat](#), and 24 others.
A Design Space for Intelligent and Interactive Writing Assistants
CHI 2024 – ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems
- 2023 [J1] Saskia Gilmer, [Avinash Bhat](#), Shuvam Shah, Kevin Cherry, Jinghui Cheng, Jin L.C. Guo.
SUMMIT: Scaffolding Open Source Software Issue Discussion Through Summarization
CSCW 2023 – ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing | 🏆 Best Paper and Methods Recognition
- [C2] [Avinash Bhat*](#), Austin Coursey*, Grace Hu, Sixian Li, Nadia Nahar, Shurui Zhou, Christian Kästner, Jin L.C. Guo.
Aspirations and Practice of ML Model Documentation: Moving the Needle with Nudging and Traceability
CHI 2023 – ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

[W1] [Avinash Bhat](#), Disha Shrivastava, Jin L.C. Guo.
Approach Intelligent Writing Assistants Usability with Seven Stages of Action
In2Writing 2023 – Second Workshop on Intelligent and Interactive Writing Assistants

2018 [C1] [Avinash Bhat*](#), Divya Madhav Kamath*, Anitha C.
A Novel Deterministic Framework for Non-probabilistic Recommender Systems
IEMIS 2018 – Published in Emerging Technologies in Data Mining and Information Security.

RESEARCH SOFTWARE

I maintain the following software developed during my research.

dBlocks | [Web interface](#) to co-create software tutorials [J4].

SUMMIT | [GitHub extension](#) to summarize issue threads [J1].

DocML | [Jupyter Lab extension](#) to assist practitioners create model cards [C2].

WikiContext | [Web interface](#) to get prerequisites for a Wikipedia article.

AWARDS

2023-2026 | Differential Fee Waiver for PhD, ~\$45000 CAD

2025 | [McGill SoCS Teaching Assistant Award](#) for COMP 585 in Fall 2025

2023 | Gary Marsden Travel Award (CHI 2023), ~\$2000 CAD

2021 | Kharusi Family Award for International Students, \$5000 CAD

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Program Committee | ICSE 2027 (Research track), ACM IUI 2026 (Papers track), IUI 2027 (Papers track), FSE 2026 (Ideas, Visions and Reflections track)

Reviewer | Asterisk indicates recognition for reviews. Tracks other than research are indicated.
DL4C Workshop: 2023
In2Writing Workshop: 2024, 2025
C&C: 2025, 2026 (Posters)
UIST: 2025*
DIS: 2025, 2026*
CHI PLAY: 2025 (Work-In-Progress*)
CHI: 2024 (Case Studies*), 2025 (Case Studies, Late Breaking Work*), 2026
SMASH Symposium 2025
ICSE 2026*
IUI 2026
Springer Automated Software Engineering Journal

Student Volunteer | ACM CHI 2023, ACM CSCW 2023, ACM C&C 2023 (online), SEMLA 2026

TEACHING

Duties include teaching in the instructor's absence (COMP 585, COMP 303), designing course projects (COMP 585, COMP 307), conducting review sessions (COMP 303), holding office hours (COMP 585, COMP 303, COMP 250), administering lab tests (COMP 303), and grading assignments (all courses). Asterisk indicates recognition by the [McGill SoCS Teaching Assistant Award](#).

1 time | **COMP 585**: Intelligent Software Systems (F25*)

8 times | **COMP 303**: Software Design (W22, W23, F23, W24, F24, W25, W26, F26)

1 time | **COMP 307**: Principles of Web Development (F22)

1 time | **COMP 250: Introduction to Computer Science (F21)**

MENTORING

I have mentored the following undergraduate students on research projects [C6] at McGill University.

2025 | Vy Bui (MSc Student at McGill University)

2023 | Sophearah Soy-Puth (now Software Engineer at Salesforce), Yufeng Peng (now Software Engineer at Amazon Web Services)

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

2018 – 2021 | **Cisco Systems, Bangalore, India**, Software Engineer, Code and Documentation Review Tooling.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

2023 – | **Organizer**, [Human-Centered AI Reading Group](#) at Mila, Montréal, Quebec.

2021 – 2023 | **Executive**, [Computer Science Graduate Society](#), McGill University

2019 – 2020 | **Volunteer**, [Reporting on Suicide](#), Suicide Prevention Initiative, The Erika Legacy Foundation