

Amber Horvath

✉ amberhorvath9@gmail.com

🐦 @AmberHorvath1

🌐 <https://amberhorvath.com>

🎓 Google Scholar

Education

- 2018 – 2024 **Ph.D. in Human-Computer Interaction**, Carnegie Mellon University
Thesis title: Meta-Information to Support Sensemaking by Developers.
Advisor: Brad A. Myers
Committee: Laura Dabbish, Elena Glassman, Aniket Kittur, Andrew Macvean
- 2018 – 2021 **M.Sc. in Human-Computer Interaction**, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2013 – 2018 **B.Sc. Computer Science**, Oregon State University

Professional Experience

- 2024 – present **MIT CSAIL**, METEOR Post-Doctoral Fellow
with David Karger and Arvind Satyanarayan
- 2018 – 2024 **Carnegie Mellon University**, Research Assistant
with Brad A. Myers
Understanding discovery, comprehension, and usage of APIs [8, 18, 10];
Using annotations to support developer sensemaking [6, 7];
Using meta-information for developer documentation [5];
Automatic capture and exploration of developer meta-information [4].
- 2019 **Google**, Research Intern
with Emerson Murphy-Hill
Exploring gender equity in completion of code reviews [1].
- 2017 **Intel**, User-Experience Intern
- 2012 – 2017 **Oregon State University**, Undergraduate Researcher
with Margaret Burnett
Creation and usage of GenderMag, a method for discovering inclusivity bugs [2, 11, 13];
Development of Idea Garden, an end-user development tool [3, 14, 16];
Understanding developer debugging behaviors using information foraging theory [15].
- 2016 **Carnegie Mellon University**, Undergraduate Researcher
with Brad A. Myers and Mary Beth Kery
Tooling for data scientists to support lightweight versioning of code [12].
- 2015 **Hewlett-Packard Inc.**, User-Experience Intern


Research Publications

Journal Articles

- 1 Emerson Murphy-Hill, Jillian Dicker, **Amber Horvath**, Maggie Morrow Hodges, Carolyn D. Egelman, Laurie R. Weingart, Ciera Jaspan, Collin Green, and Nina Chen. “Systemic Gender Inequities in Who Reviews Code”. In: *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 7.CSCW1 (Apr. 2023). 🏆 *Diversity and Inclusion Award*. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3579527.
- 2 Hema Susmita Padala, Christopher Mendez, Felipe Fronchetti, Igor Steinmacher, Zoe Steine-Hanson, Claudia Hilderbrand, **Amber Horvath**, Charles Hill, Logan Simpson, Margaret Burnett, Marco Gerosa, and Anita Sarma. “How Gender-Biased Tools Shape Newcomer Experiences in OSS Projects”. In: *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering* 48.1 (2022), pp. 241–259. 🔗 DOI: 10.1109/TSE.2020.2984173.

- 3 William Jernigan, **Amber Horvath**, Michael Lee, Margaret Burnett, Taylor Culty, Sandeep Kuttal, Anicia Peters, Irwin Kwan, Faezeh Bahmani, Amy Ko, Christopher J. Mendez, and Alannah Oleson. “General principles for a Generalized Idea GardenImage 1”. In: *Journal of Visual Languages Computing* 39 (2017). Special Issue on Programming and Modelling Tools, pp. 51–65. ISSN: 1045-926X. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvlc.2017.04.005): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvlc.2017.04.005>.

Conference Proceedings

- 4 **Amber Horvath**, Andrew Macvean, and Brad A. Myers. “Meta-Manager: A Tool for Collecting and Exploring Meta Information about Code”. In: *Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24), May 11–16, 2024, Honolulu, HI, USA*. CHI '24. Honolulu, HI, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642676): 10.1145/3613904.3642676.
- 5 **Amber Horvath**, Andrew Macvean, and Brad A. Myers. “Support for Long-Form Documentation Authoring and Maintenance”. In: *2023 IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC)*. 2023, pp. 109–114. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1109/VL-HCC57772.2023.00020): 10.1109/VL-HCC57772.2023.00020.
- 6 **Amber Horvath**, Michael Xieyang Liu, River Hendriksen, Connor Shannon, Emma Paterson, Kazi Jawad, Andrew Macvean, and Brad A. Myers. “Understanding How Programmers Can Use Annotations on Documentation”. In: *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. CHI '22. New Orleans, LA, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3491102.3502095): 10.1145/3491102.3502095.
- 7 **Amber Horvath**, Brad Myers, Andrew Macvean, and Imtiaz Rahman. “Using Annotations for Sensemaking About Code”. In: *Proceedings of the 35th Annual ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology*. UIST '22. Bend, OR, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022. ISBN: 9781450393201. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3526113.3545667): 10.1145/3526113.3545667.
- 8 **Amber Horvath**, Sachin Grover, Sihan Dong, Emily Zhou, Finn Voichick, Mary Beth Kery, Shwetha Shinju, Daye Nam, Mariann Nagy, and Brad Myers. “The Long Tail: Understanding the Discoverability of API Functionality”. In: *VLHCC 2019*. New York, NY, USA: IEEE, 2019, pp. 157–161. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1109/VLHCC.2019.8818681): 10.1109/VLHCC.2019.8818681.
- 9 Mary Beth Kery, Bonnie E. John, Patrick O’Flaherty, **Amber Horvath**, and Brad A. Myers. “Towards Effective Foraging by Data Scientists to Find Past Analysis Choices”. In: *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. CHI '19. Glasgow, Scotland UK: Association for Computing Machinery, 2019, pp. 1–13. ISBN: 9781450359702. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3290605.3300322): 10.1145/3290605.3300322.
- 10 Daye Nam, **Amber Horvath**, Andrew Macvean, Brad Myers, and Bogdan Vasilescu. “MARBLE: Mining for Boilerplate Code to Identify API Usability Problems”. In: *2019 34th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE)*. 2019, pp. 615–627. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1109/ASE.2019.00063): 10.1109/ASE.2019.00063.
- 11 Christopher Mendez, Hema Susmita Padala, Zoe Steine-Hanson, Claudia Hilderbrand, **Amber Horvath**, Charles Hill, Logan Simpson, Nupoor Patil, Anita Sarma, and Margaret Burnett. “Open Source Barriers to Entry, Revisited: A Sociotechnical Perspective”. In: *Proceedings of the 40th International Conference on Software Engineering*. ICSE '18. Gothenburg, Sweden: Association for Computing Machinery, 2018, pp. 1004–1015. ISBN: 9781450356381. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3180155.3180241): 10.1145/3180155.3180241.
- 12 Mary Beth Kery, **Amber Horvath**, and Brad Myers. “Variolite: Supporting Exploratory Programming by Data Scientists”. In: *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. CHI '17.  Best Paper Honorable Mention. Denver, Colorado, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2017, pp. 1265–1276. ISBN: 9781450346559. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1145/3025453.3025626): 10.1145/3025453.3025626.
- 13 Charles Hill, Shannon Ernst, Alannah Oleson, **Amber Horvath**, and Margaret Burnett. “GenderMag experiences in the field: The whole, the parts, and the workload”. In: *2016 IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC)*. 2016, pp. 199–207. [DOI](https://doi.org/10.1109/VLHCC.2016.7739685): 10.1109/VLHCC.2016.7739685.

- 14 Will Jernigan, **Amber Horvath**, Michael Lee, Margaret Burnett, Taylor Cui, Sandeep Kuttal, Anicia Peters, Irwin Kwan, Faezeh Bahmani, and Amy Ko. “A principled evaluation for a principled idea garden”. In: *2015 IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC)*. 2015, pp. 235–243. [DOI: 10.1109/VLHCC.2015.7357222](#).
- 15 David Piorkowski, Scott D. Fleming, Christopher Scaffidi, Margaret Burnett, Irwin Kwan, Austin Z. Henley, Jamie Macbeth, Charles Hill, and **Amber Horvath**. “To fix or to learn? How production bias affects developers’ information foraging during debugging”. In: *2015 IEEE International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME)*. 2015, pp. 11–20. [DOI: 10.1109/ICSM.2015.7332447](#).
- 16 Michael J. Lee, Faezeh Bahmani, Irwin Kwan, Jilian LaFerte, Polina Charters, **Amber Horvath**, Fanny Luor, Jill Cao, Catherine Law, Michael Beswetherick, Sheridan Long, Margaret Burnett, and Amy J. Ko. “Principles of a debugging-first puzzle game for computing education”. In: *2014 IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC)*. 2014, pp. 57–64. [DOI: 10.1109/VLHCC.2014.6883023](#).
- 17 Jill Cao, Irwin Kwan, Faezeh Bahmani, Margaret Burnett, Scott D. Fleming, Josh Jordahl, **Amber Horvath**, and Sherry Yang. “End-user programmers in trouble: Can the Idea Garden help them to help themselves?” In: *2013 IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human Centric Computing*. 2013, pp. 151–158. [DOI: 10.1109/VLHCC.2013.6645260](#).

Posters, Extended Abstracts, Workshop Papers, and Technical Reports

- 18 **Amber Horvath**, Mariann Nagy, Finn Voichick, Mary Beth Kery, and Brad A. Myers. *Methods for Investigating Mental Models for Learners of APIs*. CHI EA '19. Glasgow, Scotland Uk, 2019. [DOI: 10.1145/3290607.3312897](#).

Awards and Honors

- 2023 **Diversity and Inclusion Award**, from Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW '23) for our paper “Systemic Gender Inequities in Who Reviews Code” [1].
- 2018 – 2021 **ARCS Fellowship**. Awarded by the ARCS Foundation.
- 2017 **Best Paper Honorable Mention**, from Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '17) for our paper “Variolite: Supporting exploratory programming by data scientists” [12].
- 2015 – 2017 **CBT Nuggets Scholarship**. Awarded by CBT Nuggets for excellence in engineering.
- 2015 **Honorable Mention Undergraduate Researcher of the Year**. Awarded by Oregon State University.
- 2013 – 2015 **College of Engineering Dean’s Scholarship**. Awarded by Oregon State University.
- 2013 **Aspirations in Computing Award**. Awarded by National Center for Women in Information Technology.

Teaching Experience

- 2022 **05-410 & 05-610, User-Centered Research & Evaluation**
Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University.
Mixed undergraduate-and-graduate-level course. Taught and designed weekly labs.

Teaching Experience (continued)

- 2020 **05-430 & 05-630, Programming Usable Interfaces**
Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University.
Mixed undergraduate-and-graduate-level course. Taught and designed weekly labs remotely during the COVID19 pandemic.
- 2014 – 2018 **CS 160, 161, & 162, Introduction to Programming**
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Oregon State University.
Series of undergraduate courses for primarily freshman in computer science. Taught weekly recitations and managed labs.

Mentorship Experience

- 2022 **Shannon Bonet** (Undergraduate student from University of California, Berkeley)
Developed more robust anchoring for the Catseye project.
- Matthew Shu** (Undergraduate student from Yale University)
Developed annotation curation methods for the Catseye project.
- 2021 **Connor Shannon** (CMU HCII'21 Master's student)
Assisted in the engineering of the Adamite system along with data analysis in the Adamite user studies [6].
- Emma Paterson** (Undergraduate student from Harvey Mudd University)
Assisted in the creation of an Adamite website along with data analysis in the Adamite user studies [6].
- Imtiaz Rahman** (Undergraduate student from Hunter College)
Assisted in the initial development of Catseye [7].
- Kazi Jawad** (Undergraduate student from Carnegie Mellon University)
Assisted in the initial development of the Adamite website [6].
- 2020 **Lai Wei** (CMU HCII'20 Master's student)
Assisted in the user interface design of Adamite [6].

Professional Service

Community Service

- 2023 – 2019 **Reviewer and Review Coordinator**, CMU HCII summer REU (research experience for undergraduate) application reviewer and coordinator.
- 2022 – 2018 **Reviewer**, CMU S3D summer REU (research experience for undergraduate) application reviewer.
- 2022 **Speaker**, Apprenticeships in Science and Engineering (ASE) discussion about former intern success stories.
- Speaker**, Oregon State University senior capstone discussion about post-undergraduate career paths.
- Student Committee Member**, CMU HCII director search.
- 2021 – 2022 **Ombudsman**, with Samantha Reig.
- 2021 **Speaker**, Bit by Bit conference, an outreach event for high school girls to learn about computer science.
- Application Reviewer**, for underrepresented students applying to graduate programs.
- 2020 – 2021 **Member**, CMU HCII anti-racism group.

Professional Service (continued)

2019 – 2020 **Student Participant**, Software Developer Diversity and Inclusion summit.

Paper Reviewing

ACM CHI **2022-24 - 5 papers**, with an additional 1 paper in the PLAY track and 2 in the Late-Breaking Works track.

ACM UIST **2021, 2023-24 - 4 papers**, with special recognition for an outstanding review for UIST 2021.

ESE **2021 - 1 paper.**

ACM TOCE **2020 - 1 paper.**

References

Brad A. Myers

Professor
Human-Computer Interaction Institute,
Carnegie Mellon University,
5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
✉ bam@cs.cmu.edu

Aniket (Niki) Kittur

Professor
Human-Computer Interaction Institute,
Carnegie Mellon University,
5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
✉ nkittur@andrew.cmu.edu

Laura Dabbish

Professor
Human-Computer Interaction Institute,
Carnegie Mellon University,
5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
✉ dabbish@andrew.cmu.edu

Elena Glassman

Professor
Harvard University,
Massachusetts Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138
✉ glassman@seas.harvard.edu

Andrew Macvean

Senior User-Experience Researcher
Google,
Seattle, WA 98103
✉ amacvean@google.com

Emerson Murphy-Hill

Research Scientist
Sunnyvale, CA 94085
✉ captain.emerson@gmail.com

Margaret Burnett

Professor
Oregon State University,
2500 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis, OR 97331
✉ burnett@engr.oregonstate.edu