

# derya akbaba

she / her / hers

✉ derya@cs.utah.edu

✦ gotdairyya.github.io

University of Utah  
School of Computing  
SCI Institute  
Salt Lake City, UT

## {EDUCATION}

- 8/2019 - present [University of Utah](#) Salt Lake City, UT  
Expected Degree: Ph.D. Computer Science, HCI  
Advisor: Miriah Meyer  
Research Interests: Intersectional Visualization Design, Data Visualization for Society
- Graduated 5/2013 [Cornell University](#) Ithaca, NY  
BS Industrial and Labor Relations  
Minors: Cognitive Science, Economics

## {WORKING PAPERS}

H. Lin, d. akbaba, M. Meyer, A. Lex. "Data Hunches: Incorporating Personal Knowledge into Visualizations." [preprint](#)

d. akbaba, L. Klein, and M. Meyer. "Entangled Insights." (in progress)

## {CONFERENCE + WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS}

- 10/2021 d. akbaba, J. Wilburn, M. T. Nance, M. Meyer. *Manifesto for Putting Chartjunk in the Trash 2021!*, in Proceedings of the IEEE alt.vis, IEEE VIS 2021. [paper](#) [chartjunk.art](#)
- 10/2021 d. akbaba, K. Gadhave. *Wait...when did we sign up to be economists?*, Panel Co-Organizers, IEEE VIS 2021. [panel info](#)
- 9/2021 d. akbaba, L. Klein, M. Meyer. *Reflections on applying feminist theory to visualization research.* Information+ 2021. [video](#)

## {OTHER PUBLICATIONS}

- 2021 d. Akbaba, K. Gadhave. *Wait... I never signed up to be an economist.* Visualization Design Lab Blog, Dec 2021. [vdl blog](#)
- 2021 d. Akbaba, J. Wilburn, M. Meyer. *Manifesto for Putting "Chartjunk" in the Trash 2021!*. Visualization Design Lab Blog, Sept 2021. [vdl blog](#)
- 2021 P. Rajan, d. akbaba, J. Wilburn, R. Choudhury, A. Lex. *MultiAggr: A Technique for Aggregating Multivariate Networks.* Poster Proceedings of IEEE VIS 2021.
- 2020 d. akbaba. *Visualizing Uncertainty: What can graphics convey about the character of data?*. Natural History Magazine, September 2020. [personal digital copy](#)
- 2020 d. akbaba. *State COVID-19 Dashboards.* Visualization Design Lab Blog, July 2020. [vdl blog](#)
- 2011 d. akbaba. "Consider the Wallace." *UMass Amherst Writing Anthology 2011-2012.*

## {INVITED WORKSHOPS + AWARDS}

- 2021 CRA-WP Grad Cohort for Women [cra.org](#)
- 2020 ComSciCon Flagship Workshop Participant [comscicon.com](#)
- 2020 Critical Code Studies [criticalcodestudies.com](#)
- 2019 School for Poetic Computation [sfpc.io](#)
- 2011 High Road Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2010 Writing Excellence Award, UMass Amherst

### {TEACHING}

- 8/2020 - 12/2020 Teaching Mentor, COMP 1010 - Computing for All, University of Utah.  
Undergraduate course for non-CS students to learn the basics of computer programming
- 7/2020 - 5/2021 Student Advisor, University of Utah.  
Advising and mentoring undergraduate student working on visual tools for network exploration
- 06/2018 Locus Summer Internship for Undergrads, New York.  
Curriculum development and training
- 05/2017 Locus Business Workshop, Cameroon.  
Led 2-day workshop for 30 business owners in Cameroon

### {OUTREACH + SERVICE}

- 1/2022 - present STEM Ambassador 2022 Cohort, U of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT.  
Dedicated program to teach scientists how to communicate effectively with the public. [{about}](#)
- 8/2020 - 12/2020 College of Engineering Diversity Committee, U of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT.  
Graduate body representative working with administration to expand equal opportunity and inclusiveness
- 7/2020 - present Visualization Design Lab Blog, U of Utah. Salt Lake City, UT.  
Writing and editing articles to communicate visualization research for a broader audience
- 6/2016 - 8/2016 Locus Summer Internship for Highschool Students. New York, NY.  
Partnered with community schools in Harlem/Bronx with a focus on developing skills for economic analysis
- 9/2011 - 5/2012 Art Beyond Cornell. Ithaca, NY.  
Taught art lessons to incarcerated girls [{about}](#)

### {VOLUNTEER WORK}

- 7/2020 - 7/2021 U of Utah, Habitat for Humanity club: founding member
- 2/2018 - 1/2019 NYC Make-a-Thon Site Leader (Make a Mark): organized 2019 NYC Make-a-Thon event [{letsmakeamark.org}](#)
- 1/20/2018 Created Design Equity campaign in a 12-hr design-a-thon [{design equity campaign}](#)
- 6/2017 - 9/2017 Biked across America, built affordable homes, raised over \$5k [{bikeandbuild.org}](#)
- 12/2015 - 8/2016 Non-Resident Coordinator for Back on My Feet - Team Brooklyn [{backonmyfeet.org}](#)
- 3/2010 - 3/2010 UMass Alliance for Community Development, Exmore, VA: spring break focused on social justice work