



NEIL MAJITHIA

An experienced researcher working at the intersections of frontier technology, economics, and overall society. Skilled in quantitative and qualitative research with an extensive background in computational methods, ranging from basic data analysis to complex simulations and, since 2020, AI experimentation. Proven ability to communicate findings effectively and with character through award-winning journalism and academic work. Especially interested in the consequences of technological innovation, whether intended or not.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Researcher | Open Data Institute (ODI), London; August 2023 – Present

- ◇ Authored more than 12 publications across the Data-centric AI and Privacy-enhancing Technologies (PETs) programmes for clients including Google, Microsoft, DSIT, and the McGovern foundation.
- ◇ Led a qualitative investigation on the trust dynamics among privacy experts when confronted with PETs developed by big-Tech, examining the extent to which transparency can induce trust and overall technology adoption.
- ◇ Designed and implemented AI experiments to highlight the UK government's subdued role as a data provider for frontier technology and, in turn, the negative consequences for the UK population. This work has been presented to the UK government and discussed in the context of the Labour government's national data strategy.
- ◇ Conducted rigorous, short-term research on technological approaches for diversity amongst clinical trial participants. Similarly, wrote about the privacy infrastructure currently in place in the NHS and how data can lead planning in sub-Saharan public healthcare.
- ◇ Secretariat and contributor to the MLCommons 'Croissant' initiative, working within a consortium to design the future of responsible AI data practices.

Researcher | Centre for digital Public Health in Emergencies (dPHE), UCL, London; May 2023 – Present

- ◇ Built sophisticated statistical models of behavioural responses to COVID-19 lockdown policies in the UK, based on self-reported data from a mobile application.
- ◇ First-authored a paper on the design of the app and presented at IEEE SeGAH 2024. Awarded Best Paper for demonstrating how gamification techniques significantly improved user engagement and highlighting potential positive and negative wellbeing outcomes.

Developer and Research Assistant | CORE Econ, UCL, London; January 2022 – April 2022

- ◇ Developed interactive web-based simulation tools to communicate basic and advanced macroeconomics, recognized with the Best Research Poster at Explore Econ 2022. Was commended for design that provided semantic interpretability in its underlying code and an algorithmic perspective of economic interactions.

EDUCATION

BSc Economics | University College London (UCL); September 2020 – July 2023

- ◇ Specialised in quantitative economics, network analysis, and statistical risk modelling, also learning macro-scale topics in advanced international trade, politics, and disaster risk.
- ◇ Produced a dissertation containing Python-based simulations of COVID-19 viral spread and economic impact to evaluate the effectiveness of varied international policy interventions during pandemics.
- ◇ Wrote for "The Cheese Grater" for 18 months, winning the national "Best News Story" award for investigative journalism on campus welfare at the Student Publication Association National Awards (2023).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming · Python, Stata, R, HTML, CSS, JavaScript · **Data Visualisation** · **Research Methods** · Literature Reviews, Interviews, Workshops, Data Science, AI Training and Benchmarking · **Engineering** · **Journalism**

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- ◇ Majithia, N. et al. (2025). *Trust and Transparency in Privacy-Enhancing Technologies*. Open Data Institute. [\[link\]](#)
- ◇ Majithia, N. (2024). *Open Data Science To Be Proud Of: Geographic Healthcare Analysis with Healthsites.io and WorldPop*. ODI Medium Blog. [\[link\]](#)
- ◇ Majithia, N. et al. (2024). *MyLockdownJournal – a Gamified Journaling App supporting Citizens' Wellbeing during COVID-19 Lockdowns*. IEEE SeGAH 2024 (Awarded Best Paper). [\[link\]](#)

AWARDS & HONOURS

- ◇ Best Paper Award, IEEE SeGAH 2024
- ◇ Best Media Piece, UCL SU Arts Awards 2023
- ◇ Best News Story, Student Publication Association Awards 2023
- ◇ Best Research Poster, Explore Econ 2022
- ◇ Highly Commended, The Econ Games 2021