

## **Thesis Project Portfolio**

### **Redesigning Data Provision at Slack: The Mentions Tab**

(Technical Report)

### **Sexual Assault And Tinder: Building A Risk Assessment Model**

(STS Research Paper)

An Undergraduate Thesis

Presented to the Faculty of the School of Engineering and Applied Science

University of Virginia • Charlottesville, Virginia

In Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree

Bachelor of Science, School of Engineering

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Spring, 2023

Department of Computer Science

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## **Sociotechnical Synthesis**

The expansion of remote work has changed the modern workforce to be more accessible and diverse, but remote work can only be implemented if companies have trust in remote work software. During my internship at Slack, I developed a more updated and intuitive version of the “mentions” tab in the iOS app by showing any updates to the screen without a manual refresh, improving trust in remote work applications. The human and social dimensions of this technology are crucial because the benefits of remote work can only be realized if users properly adopt the intended features. Too often large software companies suffer from the theory of technological determinism by thinking that their technology will change the world. Remote work software, much like other software, is shaped by both the users and the technology itself. While my capstone project focuses on improving remote work with Slack, my sociotechnical research centers around building a risk assessment model for sexual assault that occur after people meet on dating applications. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, I used literature review of natural language processing research and case studies of sexual violence related to matchmaking software. I concluded both that a risk assessment model should be built using natural language processing of dating app messages and that sexual assault victim resources must be reformed to increase reporting and conviction rates. Although my capstone project and sociotechnical research seem largely unrelated, on a basic level they both show how important it is to consider your user base when building a technology: remote work relies on user knowledge of remote work applications and risk assessment models rely on there being enough reports to build a dataset.