

# Humphrey Curtis

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London, UK · Open to relocation

## EDUCATION

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| <b>King's College London</b> , PhD in Computer Science (Awarded 2026)<br>Thesis: <i>Wearable &amp; Discreet Augmentative &amp; Alternative Communication</i> . | London, UK   2021–2026  |
| <b>King's College London</b> , MSc Advanced Computer Science, Distinction  | London, UK   2020–2021  |
| <b>University of Bristol</b> , MSc Computer Science, Merit   | Bristol, UK   2019–2020 |
| <b>University of Exeter</b> , BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics, First Class   | Exeter, UK   2015–2019  |

## EXPERIENCE

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| <b>King's College London</b> , Research Associate<br>Lead engineer and researcher on <i>Advokit</i> (advokit.uk).  | London, UK   11/2025–Present   |
| <b>Microsoft</b> , Research Intern, Ability Team<br>• Mentored by Dr Martez Mott. Led the largest survey study (N=55) on chronically ill people's video calling experiences; produced 8 actionable design recommendations for accessible video calling.<br>• Designed and evaluated LLM-powered meeting agent prototypes for Microsoft Teams, supporting chronically ill users pre-, during, and post-call; first-authored CHI'25 paper and co-authored Microsoft tech report on AAC and agentic AI. | Seattle, USA   06/2024–09/2024 |

## RESEARCH

Google Scholar | ORCID

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**14 peer-reviewed papers:** 11 as first-author, across ACM CHI, ASSETS, BCS HCI and Nature Scientific Reports. A further 1 book chapter & 1 Microsoft tech report.  
**Invited talks:** Google HQ, Transport for London, University of Oklahoma and City University of London.

## PROJECTS

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| <b>Advokit</b> , advokit.uk<br>• Open-source GenAI toolkit for disability benefit navigation, co-designed with aphasia communities.<br>• Built a Next.js + MongoDB application with an LLM drafting assistant, prompt guardrails and safety monitoring.<br>• 3-month deployment: 800 visitors, 2,849 page views, surfacing LLM failure modes with vulnerable users, driving redesign toward text-box-free and agentic interactions. Now adopted by the Stroke Association for UK-wide rollout.     | London, UK   11/2025–Present |
| <b>Wearable &amp; Discreet AAC</b> , GitHub (Open-Sourcing)<br>• Deployable wearable communication tools for people with aphasia: iOS apps, watchOS, e-ink (Badger2040) and mixed reality (HoloLens). Prototypes evaluated across 4 years of co-design with 200+ stroke survivors, SLTs and clinicians.<br>• Smartwatch and smartbadge emerged as the most viable — people valued personalisation, discretion and partner-awareness. Research contributed to a £2M UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship. | 2021–2026                    |

## SELECTED HONOURS

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**2026 ACM SIGCHI Outstanding Dissertation Award**, top doctoral thesis in HCI.  
**2025 Ken Rothman Award**, health research award at Google HQ.  
**2024 Best Paper Nomination, ACM ASSETS**, top 5 of ~220 submissions.  
**2024 NMES PhD Research Competition Award**, faculty-wide doctoral competition in science, maths & engineering.  
**2023 Best Paper Award, ACM CHI**, top 1% of ~3,500 submissions.  
**2023 Best Student Paper, ACM ASSETS**, top 2 of ~180 submissions.  
**2021 Academic Prize**, best overall performance on MSc Advanced Computing.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** Python, Swift/SwiftUI, TypeScript/JavaScript, C, HTML/CSS, SQL,  $\LaTeX$ , Bash  
**AI/ML:** LLM integration & prompting, evaluation & monitoring pipelines, safety & guardrail design  
**Web & Infrastructure:** Next.js, React, REST APIs, MongoDB, Firebase, Vercel, Git & Linux  
**Design & Research:** Figma, Affinity Suite, DaVinci Resolve, user research, experimental design & statistics

## SERVICE

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| <b>Accessibility Chair &amp; AI Advisory Committee</b> , ACM ASSETS                           | 2026         |
| <b>Associate Chair</b> , BCS Human-Computer Interaction Conference                            | 2025         |
| <b>Student Volunteer Chair &amp; Research Mentor</b> , ACM ASSETS                             | 2024         |
| Peer Review: CHI, UIST, ASSETS, TACCESS, NordiCHI, EJSNE, BCSHCI, TOG, CHI Play & AAC Journal | 2023–Present |
| Volunteer, Aphasia Re-Connect, Speech & Language Therapy Centre in London                     | 2021–Present |

Longer CV →