

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-AI Collaboration, Creativity Support, Accessibility, Multimodal AI

EDUCATION

2023-2027 **B.S. in Computer Science (Honors), B.A. in Sociology** – Seattle, WA, USA
Paul G. Allen School, University of Washington
Research Advisors: Jacob Wobbrock & Audrey Dorélien Ranking: Top 10% GPA: 3.93/4.00
Selected Coursework:
Computation: AI, Deep Learning, Statistical Methods, Machine Learning, NLP
Systems: Distributed Sys, Networks, Sys Programming, SW/HW Interface, Graphics
Societal/Methods: HCI, Data Vis, Social Inquiry, Social Theory, Data & Society

PUBLICATION

* denotes equal contribution

Conference & Journal-first Papers

- 2026 [P2] Designing Reflective Thinking-Based Contextual Privacy Policy for Mobile Applications
Shuning Zhang*, **Sixing Tao***, Eve He, Yuting Yang, Ying Ma, Ailei Wang, Xin Yi, Hewu Li
PoPETs 2026: *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies*
DOI: 10.56553/popets-2026-0146
- [P1] A Scoping Review and Guidelines on Privacy Policy’s Visualization from an HCI Perspective
Shuning Zhang, Eve He, **Sixing Tao**, Yuting Yang, Ying Ma, Ailei Wang, Xin Yi, Hewu Li
CHI 2026: *Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*
DOI: 10.1145/3772318.3790320

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2025-Now **Research Assistant**, ACE Lab, UW – Seattle, WA, USA
Supervisors: Prof. Jacob Wobbrock & Prof. Alexis Hiniker
- Building an accessible slide-authoring system for blind and low-vision users, including structured semantic schema generation and multimodal interaction workflows.
 - Introducing a benchmark to evaluate VLM design reasoning using human-annotated “Design DNA” representations, enabling design-preserving generation via constraint propagation.
 - Developing an automated pipeline that uses a Computer Use Agent to simulate user interaction and detect dark patterns in mobile applications.
- 2026-Now **Research Assistant**, Palette Lab, NUS – Singapore
Supervisor: Prof. Jane E
- Understanding how blind and low-vision photographers currently work, and building tools that augment and assist their photography workflow.

- 2026–Now **Research Assistant**, Department of Sociology, UW – Seattle, WA, USA
 Supervisor: Prof. Audrey Dorélien
- Applying statistical modeling and EDA to quantify interpersonal contact patterns and build reproducible pipelines for large-scale demographic data analysis.
- 2025–2026 **Research Assistant**, CHASE Lab, Tsinghua University – Beijing, China
 Supervisor: Prof. Xin Yi
- Explored the design space of reflective thinking based contextual privacy policies by designing and implementing an interactive system grounded in reflective thinking.[P2]
 - Conducted a scoping review synthesizing trends, challenges, and design guidelines for privacy policy visualization.[P1]

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2026 **Microsoft Endowed Scholarship**, Paul G. Allen School, UW (\$3,000)
- 2026 **Student Project Co-Lead**, CREATE-RERC Grant on AI for Accessibility
 Part of a \$4.6M federal NIDILRR grant (2024–2029), 1 of 4 proposed solutions
- 2025 **Phi Beta Kappa**, University of Washington Chapter
- 2023–2026 **Annual Dean’s List**, University of Washington

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2025–2026 **Grader**, STAT 221: Statistical Concepts and Methods for the Social Sciences, UW

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2024 **Product Management Intern**, Siemens Digital Industries, Shanghai, China

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

- 2024–Now **PR Specialist**, Tech Industry Outreach, China Entrepreneur Network UW Chapter
- 2023–2024 **Zhuhai Ambassador**, 2nd Place in North Atlantic Crossing, Clipper Yacht Race
- Spring 2024 **Online Course Instructor**, Underserved Rural Middle School, Teach for China
- 2021–2023 **Teaching Assistant**, Preschool Outreach, Soong Ching Ling Foundation

SKILLS

Programming Languages

Proficient in: Java, R, JS, TS, Bash, LaTeX.

Familiar with: Python, C, C++, HTML/CSS, SQL.

Human Languages

English (Fluent), Chinese (Native), Spanish (Basic Exposure).

OTHER INTERESTS

Passionate about sports—offshore sailing, trekking, and kyokushin karate—as well as traveling and landscape photography, balanced by interests in literature, music, TV series, and manga.