

Ziqi Yang

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Expected Graduation Date: 06/2029

Introduction

I have a multidisciplinary background in electrical and computer engineering, industrial design, and information science. In my research in Human-Computer Interaction, I conduct mixed-method studies including surveys, interviews, and usability tests to understand people in home, family, or women's health and work contexts, and design and build interactive systems with generative AI.

Education

- 2024-2029 **Ph.D. in Informatics**, *University of California, Irvine*
(Expected) Advisor: Yunan Chen, Daniel Epstein
- 2021-2023 **M.S. in Information**, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*
Focus: Human-Computer Interaction and User Experience
Research Advisor: Mark Newman, Pedja Klasnja
- 2021-2021 **Visiting Student**, *University of California, Berkeley*
- 2018-2022 **B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*
Research Advisor: Zhanxun Dong

Skills

Programming

Python, C, C++, R, LaTeX, JavaScript, CSS, HTML, SQL, Matlab, Shell

Software

Excel, Tableau, Figma, Adobe XD, Illustrator, Photoshop, Miro

Publications

- C. 4 Ziqi Yang, Daniel Epstein, Yunan Chen
"Sharing Women's Health Experiences Influenced by Genetic Factors: Practices, Challenges, and Opportunities"
Under Review for **CHI'26**
- C. 3 Ziqi Yang, Yuxuan Lu, Jennifer Bagdasarian, Vedant Das Swain, Ritu Agarwal, Collin Campbell, Waddah Al-Refaire, Jehan El-Bayoumi, Guodong Gao, Nawar Shara, Dakuo Wang, Bingsheng Yao.
"RECOVER: Designing a Large Language Model-based Remote Patient Monitoring System for Postoperative GI Cancer Care"
Under Review for **CSCW'26**

- C.2 Siyi Wu, Weidan Cao, Shihan Fu, Bingsheng Yao, Ziqi Yang, Changchang Yin, Varun Mishra, Daniel Addison, Ping Zhang, and Dakuo Wang. 2025.
“CardioAI: A Multimodal AI-based System to Support Symptom Monitoring and Risk Prediction of Cancer Treatment-Induced Cardiotoxicity.”
CHI '25, doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3714272
- J.1 Liuqing Chen*, Yu Cai*, Yuyang Fang, Ziqi Yang, Duowei Xia, Jiaxiang You, Shuhong Xiao, Yaxuan Song, Lingwei Zhan, Juanjuan Chen, and Lingyun Sun.
“Observing a robot peer’s failures facilitates students’ classroom learning.”
Science Robotics, 2025, doi.org/10.1126/scirobotics.adu5257
- C.1 Ziqi Yang, Xuhai Xu, Bingsheng Yao, Ethan Rogers, Shao Zhang, Stephen Intille, Nawar Shara, Guodong Gordon Gao, and Dakuo Wang.
“Talk2Care: An LLM-based Voice Assistant for Communication between Healthcare Providers and Older Adults.”
★**IMWUT’24 [Distinguished Paper Award]**, doi.org/10.1145/3659625

Research Experience

- 2024 – **Graduate Student Researcher**, *University of California, Irvine*
Present Women’s Health Systematic Review and Genetic Health Survey [C.4]
- Conducted a **systematic literature review** on women’s health in HCI, mapping research trends and identifying design gaps.
 - Designed and deployed a **mixed-method survey** with 249 U.S. women to study inter-generational sharing of **genetic health experiences**.
 - Analyzed survey data to surface narrative patterns and barriers, informing speculative **design opportunities** for genetic health sharing, such as AI-driven storytelling.
- 2024 **Research Assistant**, *Zhejiang University*
Social Robots and Education [J.1]
- Programmed Python scripts for the NAO social robot and designed a **between-subject experiment** on generative AI-driven embodied learning.
 - Applied **quantitative analysis** (learning and emotion scales, ANCOVA) to evaluate knowledge acquisition and emotional outcomes.
 - Led **qualitative analysis** for survey data using iterative coding and thematic analysis, identifying 23 axial codes and 6 themes (inter-rater reliability $k=0.85$).
- 2023–2024 **Graduate Student Research Assistant**, *Northeastern University*
LLM-Facilitated Patient–Provider Communication [C.1–C.3]
- Conducted **interviews** with 19 older adults and healthcare providers to uncover communication barriers and design opportunities for **LLM-powered systems**.
 - Designed and developed Talk2Care, integrating a **voice assistant** (Alexa + Python Lambda) for patients and an information dashboard (Figma, React) for providers with **GPT-4**.
 - Ran mixed-method user studies (Qualtrics SUS **survey** + **interviews**), demonstrating strong usability and surfacing design implications for LLM-mediated communication.
 - Tested **LLaMA-2** (7B/13B/70B) models on Amazon BedRock and SageMaker, exploring customization, personalization, and scalability for healthcare contexts.
 - Facilitated **participatory design sessions** with cancer care providers and patients; developed a GPT-4-enabled monitoring system, **RECOVER**, and conducted multi-stage deployment studies and mixed-method evaluation.

- 2022–2024 **Graduate Student Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*
Designing mHealth Interventions
- Prototyped empathetic **exercise coach chatbots** (scripts + Figma) to study long-term user–chatbot relationships; conducted **pilot studies** (n=6) with surveys and interviews; analyzed data from Amazon Mechanical Turk to reveal user preferences.
 - Developed **AI-driven Just-In-Time Adaptive Interventions (JITAI)** using technology probes to promote physical activity.
- 2022–2023 **Student Research Programme**, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*
Designing Creative AR/VR Experiences for Languages
- Designed **3D graphics** for **AR/VR** environments on **Meta Quest** for the shape and flow of languages, prototyping and testing experiences using Unity and Unreal Engine.
 - Developed and deployed the final immersive environment via Mozilla Hubs

Work Experience

- 2024–2025 **User Researcher and Designer, Software Engineer, Co-founder**, *AdmitGen*
- Conducted user **interviews** to identify student pain points in graduate admission processes; conducted **usability tests** and iterative design with Figma wireframes and interactive prototypes.
 - Designed and developed an **AI-driven** website, AdmitGen, that generates tailored admission essay feedback using **large language models** with frontend (React) and backend (Flask, MongoDB) features.
- 2023 **Product Manager Intern**, *Red (Xiaohongshu)*
- Designed an unbiased sampling hierarchy for the Red social network content ecosystem and developed dashboards for live-streaming features, improving review accuracy by 10%.
 - Conducted **A/B testing** and **SQL-based data analysis** of sincerity models for search and recommendation systems, improving precision–recall consistency by 5% and achieving human-review stability above 90%.
- 2023 **Product Manager Intern**, *eBay*
- Performed market research and competitive analysis for Data Lake Studio, supporting **big data** processing and **machine learning pipelines**.
 - Authored detailed PRDs and roadmaps for access control and data pipeline features; created and iterated on 3 Figma design prototypes based on stakeholder feedback.
 - Collaborated with cross-functional teams to deliver feature updates and improve developer documentation quality.
- 2022 **User Experience Designer Intern**, *Microsoft*
- Conducted competitive analysis, user personas, and journey mapping for Dynamics 365 supply chain users, informing 5 new feature concepts.
 - Designed and delivered mid-fi and hi-fi prototypes for route and formula management features, improving the usability of supply chain allocation tools.
 - Partnered with PMs and engineers to translate customer insights into actionable product improvements and standardized information architecture.
- 2019 **Software Engineer Intern**, *Hangzhou InfoCore Technology*
- Implemented Soft-RoCE for multi-tenant cloud backup solutions, improving the efficiency of **big data workflows**.
 - Optimized data processing pipelines using Hadoop ecosystem (HDFS, MapReduce) in **Java, R, and Python**.

Honors & Awards

- 2025 **Bob & Barbara Kleist Endowed Graduate Fellowship (\$3000)**, *School of Informatics and Computer Science, UC Irvine*
- 2024 **Chair's Award (\$2500)**, *School of Informatics and Computer Science, UC Irvine*
- 2021 **Student Development Scholarship (¥1500)**, *UM-SJTU Joint Institute*

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant

- 2025 **INF 133 User Interaction Software**, *Instructor: Dr. Daniel Epstein*
2 Quarters
- INF 285 Interactive Technology Studio**, *Instructor: Dr. Daniel Epstein*
- 2024 **INF 115 Software Testing and Quality Assurance**, *Instructor: Dr. James Jones*
- 2020 **VR 245 Introduction to Theatre**, *Instructor: Dr. Ryan Thorpe*
- VY 200 Academic English II**, *Instructor: Dr. Ryan Thorpe*
- 2019 **VY 100 Academic English I**, *Instructor: Dr. Ryan Thorpe*

Talks and Presentations

- 2024 **UbiComp**, *Paper Presentation: Talk2Care: An LLM-based Voice Assistant for Communication between Healthcare Providers and Older Adults.*

Professional Service

Conference and Journal Review

- 2025 **CHI 2026 Full Papers**, 3
- Mensch und Computer 2025 Short Papers**, 1
- DIS 2025 Pictorials**, 1
- IMWUT Full Paper**, 1
- 2024 **CHI 2025 Late Breaking Work**, 2
- CHI 2025 Full Paper**, 3

Student Mentorship

- 2025 **Lauren Lee**, *University of California, Irvine*
- Anagha Rao**, *University of California, Irvine*
- 2022 **Qingzhou Ma**, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*

Professional Membership

- 2024-Present **Grad Society of Women Engineers**, *University of California, Irvine*