

Yixin “Daisy” Chen

Email: yixin7@uw.edu

Home: yixincheng.info

Research Interest

My current research interests lie at the intersection of human-centered AI and digital well-being. Specifically, I’m interested in studying how technology could/should be designed to edify our relationships and promote well-being in proactive ways. I use various relevant methods but most often draw from social computing techniques.

Education

[†] Indicates expected

09/2023 – 06/2025 [†]	University of Washington M.Sc. Information Management Aberdeen SCNU Dual Degree Program	Seattle, US
09/2021 - 06/2023	University of Aberdeen B.Sc. Computing Science (honors)	Aberdeen, UK
09/2019 - 06/2021	South China Normal University B.Eng. Software Engineering	Guangzhou, CN

Working Experience

Research Experience

11/2023 – Present	University of Washington Research Assistant User Empowerment Lab, Advisor: Alexis Hiniker <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led an inductive-deductive thematic analysis of all Very Large Online Platforms to identify, characterize, and quantify the designs that extend user engagement. [r1]• Engaged in conducting a semi-structured interview study with 21 participants to explore the role of technology in the breakup process, the needs and support individuals require, and the potential for AI to address these needs. [c1]• Assisted in a within-subjects experiment to investigate the impact of Generative AI on designers’ creative capabilities and design outcomes. [r3]
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- 05/2022 – 02/2023 **City University of Hong Kong** Research Assistant
Studio for Narrative Spaces, Advisor: Ray LC
- Led a mixed-methods study to investigate the synergistic effect of mirrors with avatars on social behaviors and conversational performance in social VR platforms like VRChat. Paper accepted by CHI’23. [\[c3\]](#)
 - Assisted in designing an exhibition utilizing GenAI-generated images to explore personal and emotional connections to cultural heritage. Paper accepted by DIS’24. [\[c2\]](#)

Professional Experience

- 10/2024 – Present **Google** UX Researcher (Contract)
- Design and conduct user research, including interviews, surveys, and co-design workshops, to evaluate and optimize Google Pixel Camera features for foldable devices.
- 06/2021 – 09/2021 **China Unicom** UX Research Intern
- Conducted a survey and focus group to evaluate the user experience of a customer service chatbot, resulting in practical suggestions (e.g., shorter dialogue durations, quicker re-direction to human support), and collaborated with the development team to implement these improvements.
- 12/2020 – 02/2021 **China Telecom** Software Engineer Intern
- Responsible for implementation and evaluation of several functions (e.g., automatic reply, transaction history) in the embedded program in WeChat.

Voluntary Experience

- 09/2019 – 09/2020 **Youth Volunteers Association, SCNU** Lead of Volunteer Service Team
- Collaborated with team members and caregivers to organize weekly play-based educational activities for children with disabilities in Foshan.
 - Designed activity plans, prepared materials, and sought sponsorships to support these initiatives.

Publications

Conference Papers

- [c1] [Should ChatGPT Write Your Breakup Text?](#) Exploring the Role of AI in Relationship Dissolution
Yue Fu, **Yixin Chen**, Zelia Gomes Da Costa Lai, Alexis Hiniker.
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW 2025), to appear

- [c2] [**"Being Eroded, Piece by Piece": Enhancing Engagement and Storytelling in Cultural Heritage Dissemination by Exhibiting GenAI Co-Creation Artifacts.**](#)
Kexue Fu, Ruishan Wu, Yuying Tang, **Yixin Chen**, Bowen Liu, Ray LC.
Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS 2024)
- [c3] [**"I Am a Mirror Dweller": Probing the Unique Strategies Users Take to Communicate in the Context of Mirror in Social Virtual Reality.**](#)
Kexue Fu*, **Yixin Chen*(co-first author)**, Jiaxun Cao, Xin Tong, Ray LC.
Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2023)

Under Reviewed Manuscripts

- [r1] [**The Engagement-Prolonging Designs Teens Encounter on Very Large Online Platforms**](#)
Yixin Chen, Yue Fu, Zeya Chen, Jenny Radesky, Alexis Hiniker.
- [r2] [**Creativity in the Age of AI: Evaluating the Impact of Generative AI on Design Outputs and Designers' Creative Thinking**](#)
Yue Fu, Han Bin, Tony Zhou, Marx Wang, **Yixin Chen**, Zelia Gomes Da Costa Lai, Jacob O. Wobbrock, Alexis Hiniker.

Academic Services

Full Paper Reviewer: CHI 2025, CHI 2024, DIS 2024, CUI 2024, IDC 2024

Session Chair: CHI 2024 (Digital Healthcare and Communication)

Skills

Research Methods: Interview, Diary Study, Experiment Design, Participatory Design, Grounded Theory, Ethnography, Usability Testing, Survey

Programming Languages and Tools: Front-End Development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), Back-End Development (Java, Python), Markup Language (LaTeX), 3D Modeling (Blender), Game Engine (Unity), Statistical Analysis (R, Matlab, SQL, SPSS)