

Yen-Chia Hsu

Contact	Project Scientist CREATE Lab, Robotics Institute Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA	yenchiah (at) cs.cmu.edu hsu.yenchia (at) gmail.com http://yenchiah.me/
Education	Ph.D. in Robotics	08/2014 – 08/2018
	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA Thesis Title: Designing Interactive Systems for Community Citizen Science [O4] Committee: Illah Nourbakhsh (advisor), Aaron Steinfeld, Jeffrey Bigham, and Eric Paulos CeDiploma ID: 185C-4146-Y9U9 (can be validated from the link below) https://www.cmu.edu/hub/registrar/graduation/diplomas/electronic/validation/index.html	
	Master of Tangible Interaction Design	08/2011 – 12/2012
	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA	
Experiences	Dual B.S. in Architecture and in Computer Science	08/2005 – 05/2010
	National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan	
	CREATE Lab, Robotics Institute, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, USA	
	Project Scientist	12/2018 – present
Awards and Honors	Senior Research Programmer/Analyst	08/2018 – 11/2018
	Ph.D. Student Researcher	09/2014 – 07/2018
	Web Designer/Developer	10/2013 – 06/2014
	Research Associate	01/2013 – 07/2013
Referred Conference Papers	Code Lab, School of Architecture, College of Fine Arts, Carnegie Mellon University, USA	
	Master's Student	09/2011 – 12/2012
	Lab Assistant	09/2011 – 05/2012
	IA Lab, Department of Architecture, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan	
Awards and Honors	Research Assistant	09/2010 - 06/2011
	[A5] Best Paper Honorable Mention Award (Top 5%) . 2017. ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, USA. https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=3025853	
	[A4] Webby People's Voice Award, Best Use of Video or Moving Image . 2014. International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences, USA. https://www.webbyawards.com/winners/2014/web/website-features-and-design/best-use-of-video-or-moving-image/timelapse/	
	[A3] Best New Artist . 2009. The National Golden Award for Architecture, Taiwan. http://www.yestaiwan.com.tw/page06_5.html	
Referred Conference Papers	[A2] Third Prize, National Country House Design Competition . 2008. Ministry of the Interior, Taiwan.	
	[A1] Outstanding Student Academic Achievement . 2005, 2006, 2007. Department of Architecture, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan.	
	[C4] Yen-Chia Hsu , Jennifer Cross, Paul Dille, Michael Tasota, Beatrice Dias, Randy Sargent, Ting-Hao (Kenneth) Huang, and Illah Nourbakhsh. 2019. Smell Pittsburgh: Community-Empowered Mobile Smell Reporting System. In 24rd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces. ACM.	
	[C3] Yen-Chia Hsu , Paul Dille, Jennifer Cross, Beatrice Dias, Randy Sargent, and Illah Nourbakhsh. 2017. Community-Empowered Air Quality Monitoring System. In Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2017). ACM. (Best Paper Honorable Mention Award, Top 5%)	

Referred Conference Papers (Continued)	<p>[C2] Yen-Chia Hsu, Tay-Sheng Jeng, Yang-Ting Shen, and Po-Chun Chen. 2012. SynTag: A Web-based Platform for Labeling Real-time Video. In Proceedings of the ACM 2012 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW 2012). ACM.</p>
	<p>[C1] Yang-Ting Shen, Tay-Sheng Jeng, and Yen-Chia Hsu. 2011. A "Live" Interactive Tagging Interface for Collaborative Learning. International Conference on Cooperative Design, Visualization and Engineering (CDVE 2011). Springer.</p>
Referred Posters and Works-in- Progress	<p>[P2] Yen-Chia Hsu, Jennifer Cross, Paul Dille, Illah Nourbakhsh, Leann Leiter, and Ryan Grode. 2018. Visualization Tool for Environmental Sensing and Public Health Data. In Proceedings of the 2018 ACM Conference Companion Publication on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS 2018 Companion). ACM.</p>
	<p>[P1] Yen-Chia Hsu, Paul Dille, Randy Sargent, Christopher Bartley, and Illah Nourbakhsh. 2015. A Web-based Large-scale Timelapse Editor for Creating and Sharing Guided Video Tours and Interactive Slideshows. IEEE Information Visualization Posters, 2015.</p>
Other Publications	<p>[O4] Yen-Chia Hsu. 2018. Designing Interactive Systems for Community Citizen Science. Ph.D. Dissertation. Technical Report CMU-RI-TR-18-29. Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.</p>
	<p>[O3] Emiliano Huet-Vaughn, Nicholas Muller, and Yen-Chia Hsu. 2018. Livestreaming Pollution: A New Form of Public Disclosure and a Catalyst for Citizen Engagement. No. w24664. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2018.</p>
	<p>[O2] Yen-Chia Hsu. 2018. SimArch: A Multi-agent System For Human Path Simulation In Architecture Design. arXiv preprint arXiv:1807.03760.</p>
	<p>[O1] Yen-Chia Hsu. 2016. Industrial Smoke Detection and Visualization. Technical Report CMU-RI-TR-16-55. Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.</p>
Media and Books Coverage	<p>[Featured.F3] PC Magazine. Michelle Donahue. 2018. Citizen Science: Do Try This at Home. https://www.pcmag.com/article/360317/citizen-science-do-try-this-at-home</p>
	<p>[Featured.F2] Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Ashley Murray. 2017. Carnegie Mellon Scientists Use App to Track Foul Odors in Pittsburgh. http://www.post-gazette.com/business/tech-news/2017/07/03/smell-pgh-app-carnegie-mellon-university-cmu-create-lab-foul-smell-pittsburgh/stories/201706300430</p>
	<p>[Featured.F1] TIME. Jeffrey Kluger. 2013. Timelapse: Landsat Satellite Images of Climate Change. http://world.time.com/timelapse/</p>
	<p>[M41] World Economic Forum. Illah Nourbakhsh. 2018. Introducing EarthTime: animations which show how our planet is changing. https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/04/introducing-earthtime-a-global-magnifying-glass-to-help-us-see-common-ground/</p>
	<p>[M40] Environmental Health News. Kristina Marusic. 2018. ER visits for asthma dropped 38% the year after one of Pittsburgh's biggest polluters shut down. https://www.ehn.org/shenango-coke-works-closed-asthma-dropped-2566777141.html</p>
	<p>[M39] Hack The Grid. Andrea Polli. 2018. Carnegie Museum Of Art. https://www.ideabooks.nl/9780880390613-andrea-polli-hack-the-grid</p>
	<p>[M38] Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (TribLIVE). Theresa Clift. 2018. Allegheny County Health Department defends air quality efforts and plans stricter coke plant rules. https://triblive.com/local/allegheny/13878930-74/allegheny-county-health-department-defends-air-quality-efforts-plans-stricter-coke-plant</p>
	<p>[M37] Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Don Hopey. 2018. Air advocates read “scroll of smells” at health board meeting. http://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2018/07/19/allegheny-county-air-quality-complaints-environmental-advocates-citizen-smells/stories/201807180177</p>

- [M36] **Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (TribLIVE)**. Theresa Clift. 2018. Environmental groups pressure Allegheny County officials to crack down harder on polluters. <https://triblive.com/local/allegheny/13863417-74/environmental-groups-pressure-allegheny-county-officials-to-crack-down-harder-on-polluters>
- [M35] **ProMarket**. Emiliano Huet-Vaughn, Nicholas Z. Muller, and Yen-Chia Hsu. 2018. Livestreaming Polluters to Enforce Environmental Policy: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Pittsburgh. <https://promarket.org/livestreaming-polluters-enforce-environmental-policy-evidence-natural-experiment-pittsburgh/>
- [M34] **PublicSource**. Teake Zuidema. 2018. Will Pittsburgh flourish as a hub of eds and meds or gas and petrochemicals? Can we have it both ways? <https://www.publicsource.org/will-pittsburgh-flourish-as-a-hub-of-eds-and-meds-or-gas-and-petrochemicals-can-we-have-it-both-ways/>
- [M33] **NEXTpittsburgh**. Melissa Rayworth. 2018. Once again, Pittsburgh air ranks among the worst. Here's what you can do about it. <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/latest-news/american-lung-associations-new-air-quality-report-points-areas-pittsburgh-must-improve/>
- [M32] **Allegheny Front**. Kara Holsopple. 2018. Turns Out Air Pollution Makes for Good Listening. <https://www.alleghenyfront.org/turns-out-air-pollution-makes-good-listening/>
- [M31] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. Rachel Filippini. 2018. Allegheny County must crack down on odor emissions violations. <http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2018/02/22/Allegheny-County-must-crack-down-on-odor-emissions-violations/stories/201802210024>
- [M30] **StateScoop**. Jason Shueh. 2017. A whiff of citizen engagement powers Pittsburgh's new air pollution app. <https://statescoop.com/a-whiff-of-citizen-engagement-powers-pittsburghs-new-air-pollution-app/>
- [M29] **PSFK**. Zack Palm. 2017. A New Platform in Pittsburgh Lets Citizens Report Foul Smells. <https://www.psfk.com/2017/07/a-new-platform-in-pittsburgh-lets-citizens-report-foul-smells.html>
- [M28] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. Anna Garner. 2017. The Smell PGH app helps track air pollution. <http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2017/06/27/The-Smell-PGH-app/stories/201706270077>
- [M27] **Lawrenceville United**. David Breingan. 2017. Joint Comments from LU and LC on Draft Operating Permit for McConway and Torley. <http://www.lunited.org/tag/allegheny-county-health-department/>
- [M26] **NEXTpittsburgh**. Amanda Waltz. 2017. CREATE Lab clears the air with improved Smell PGH app and new website. <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/environment/create-lab-clears-the-air-with-improved-smell-pgh-app-and-new-website/>
- [M25] **Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (TribLIVE)**. Matthew Santoni. 2017. California Towns Adapt Carnegie Mellon's Smell Pittsburgh App. <https://triblive.com/local/allegheny/12632255-74/california-towns-adapt-carnegie-mellons-smell-pittsburgh-app>
- [M24] **Grantcraft**. Philip Johnson. 2017. Using Low-Cost Technology to Democratize Data and Protect Public Health. <http://www.grantcraft.org/blog/using-low-cost-technology-to-democratize-data-and-protect-public-health-cas>
- [M23] **Fast Company Co.Design**. Mark Wilson. 2017. Does Your City Literally Stink? There's An App For That. <https://www.fastcompany.com/90133143/does-your-city-literally-stink-theres-an-app-for-that>
- [M22] **Carnegie Mellon University News**. Byron Spice. 2017. Smell PGH App Helps Pittsburghers Report Foul Odors. <https://www.cmu.edu/news/stories/archives/2017/june/smell-something-say-something.html>

**Media and
Books
Coverage
(Continued)**

- [M21] **TechCrunch**. John Biggs. 2017. Smell PGH Lets You Report Weird Smells in Pittsburgh. <https://techcrunch.com/2017/06/22/smellpgh-lets-you-report-weird-smells-in-pittsburgh/>
- [M20] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. Stephen Riccardi and Beatrice Dias. 2017. Smelly air? There's an app for that. <http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/Op-Ed/2017/03/26/Smelly-air-There-s-an-app-for-that/stories/201703260122>
- [M19] **Greenapps&web**. Judit Urquijo. 2017. Smell Pittsburgh, an example of app to report pollution by foul odors. <https://www.greenappsandweb.com/en/android-en/odor-pollution-report/>
- [M18] **NEXTpittsburgh**. Amanda Waltz. 2017. What it was like "Living Downwind" of Shenango Coke Works. <https://www.nextpittsburgh.com/environment/what-it-was-like-living-downwind-of-shenango-coke-works/>
- [M17] **90.5 WESA**. Julie Grant. 2017. Life Smells Better After Shenango. <http://www.wesa.fm/post/life-smells-better-after-shenango#stream/o>
- [M16] **Toxic News**. Gwen Ottinger. 2017. Lessons Learned from an Experiment in Infrastructuring. <https://toxicnews.org/2017/05/16/lessons-learned-from-an-experiment-in-infrastructuring/>
- [M15] **The Glassblock**. Adam Shuck. 2016. If You Smell Something, Say Something: CMU Launches Mobile App Smell PGH. <http://theglassblock.com/2016/09/29/smell-something-say-something-cmu-mobile-app-smell-pgh/>
- [M14] **Allegheny Front**. Lou Blouin. 2016. You Can Now Report Terrible Air in the Burgh with this New App. <https://www.alleghenyfront.org/you-can-now-report-terrible-air-in-the-burgh-with-this-new-app/>
- [M13] **Group Against Smog and Pollution**. 2016. A Change in the Air After the Closure of the Shenango Coke Plant. <https://gasp-pgh.org/2016/06/01/a-change-in-the-air-after-the-closure-of-the-shenango-coke-plant/>, <https://gasp-pgh.org/wp-content/uploads/hotline-2016spring-web.pdf>
- [M12] **The Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)**. Gwen Ottinger. 2016. A Missing Link in Making Meaning from Air Monitoring? http://www.4sonline.org/blog/post/a_missing_link_in_making_meaning_from_air_monitoring
- [M11] **HuffPost**. Illah Nourbakhsh. 2016. A Community Advocacy Success Story. https://www.huffingtonpost.com/illah-Nourbakhsh/a-community-advocacy-succ_b_8859210.html
- [M10] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. Don Hopey. 2015. Regulators Reviewing Shenango Coke Works' Compliance with 2012 consent decree. <http://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2015/11/19/Regulators-reviewing-Shenango-Coke-Works-compliance-with-2012-consent-decree/stories/201511190230>
- [M9] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. Don Hopey. 2015. Shenango Channel Keeps an Eye on the Neville Island Sky. <http://www.post-gazette.com/local/west/2015/11/16/Shenango-Channel-keeps-an-eye-on-the-Neville-Island-sky/stories/201511160007>
- [M8] **Pittsburgh City Paper**. Ashley Murray. 2015. What you need to know about Pittsburgh news this week. <https://www.pghcitypaper.com/Blogh/archives/2015/11/20/what-you-need-to-know-about-pittsburgh-news-this-week>
- [M7] **Carnegie Mellon University News**. Byron Spice. 2015. Shenango Channel Provides Online Resource For Sharing Images, Data About Coke Plant. <https://www.cmu.edu/news/stories/archives/2015/november/tracking-coke-plant.html>
- [M6] **Pittsburgh Post-Gazette**. 2015. Pollution cam: Now the public has an eye on Shenango, 24/7. <http://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/editorials/2015/11/21/Pollution-cam-Now-the-public-has-an-eye-on-Shenango-24-7/stories/201511300034>

Media and Books Coverage (Continued)

- [M5] **Ars Technica**. Sean Gallagher. 2013. How Google built a 52-terapixel time-lapse portrait of Earth. <https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2013/06/how-google-built-a-108-terapixel-time-lapse-portrait-of-earth/>
- [M4] **Google Earth Engine**. 2013. Earth Timelapse. <https://earthengine.google.com/timelapse/>
- [M3] **Google Official Blog**. 2013. A picture of Earth through time. <https://googleblog.blogspot.com/2013/05/a-picture-of-earth-through-time.html>
- [M2] **Google AI Blog**. 2013. Building A Visual Planetary Time Machine. <https://ai.googleblog.com/2013/06/building-visual-planetary-time-machine.html>
- [M1] **Carnegie Mellon University News**. 2013. Robotics Institute Helps Make Stunning Satellite Imagery Easily Accessible. https://www.cmu.edu/news/stories/archives/2013/may/may9_timelapse.html

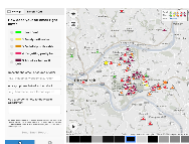
Released Open Source Tools

- [T11] CMU CREATE Lab. Predicting and Interpreting Smell Data Obtained from Smell Pittsburgh. Computer software. <https://github.com/CMU-CREATE-Lab/smell-pittsburgh-prediction>
- [T10] CMU CREATE Lab. Earth Timelapse Viewer. Computer software. <https://github.com/CMU-CREATE-Lab/data-visualization-tools>
- [T9] CMU CREATE Lab. A Mobile Application to Crowdsource and Visualize Pollution Odors. Computer software. <https://github.com/CMU-CREATE-Lab/smell-pittsburgh-rails>
- [T8] CMU CREATE Lab. Visualization Tool for Environmental Sensing and Public Health Data. Computer software. <https://github.com/CMU-CREATE-Lab/ehp-channel>
- [T7] CMU CREATE Lab. A Web-Based Interactive Viewer for Visualizing Large-Scale Timelapses. Computer software. <https://github.com/CMU-CREATE-Lab/timemachine-viewer>
- [T6] Yen-Chia Hsu. A HTML/CSS Template for Building Projects or Personal Websites. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/project-website-template>
- [T5] Yen-Chia Hsu. A JavaScript Library for Creating an Interactive Geographical Heatmap. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/geo-heatmap>
- [T4] Yen-Chia Hsu. A JavaScript Library for Creating an Interactive Timeline Heatmap. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/timeline-heatmap>
- [T3] Yen-Chia Hsu. A Wearable Shoe-Integrated Interaction Interface. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/SENSEable-Shoes>
- [T2] Yen-Chia Hsu. A Multi-agent System for Human Path Simulation In Architecture Design. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/SimArch>
- [T1] Yen-Chia Hsu. A Web-based Platform for Labeling Real-time Video. Computer software. <https://github.com/yenchiah/SynTag>

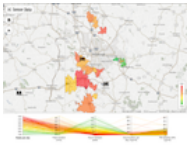
Projects



A Tool for Creating and Editing Interactive Stories on the EarthTime Timelapse [T10] 2018
I worked in a team to develop a web-based tool that enables users to create, edit, and share stories about nature changes and human impact on EarthTime, visualizing the transformation of the EarthTime over three decades with images and datasets. (<https://earthtime.org>)



A Mobile Application to Crowdsource and Visualize Pollution Odors [F2, T4, T9] 2017 – 2018
I worked in a team to develop Smell Pittsburgh, a mobile application for citizens to report pollution odors to regulators. A map visualizes the reports with air quality and wind data. A machine learning model predicts odors and sends push notifications. (<http://smellpgh.org>)



Visualization Tool for Environmental Sensing and Public Health Data [P2, T5, T8] 2017
I worked in a team to develop the Environmental Health Channel, an interactive web-based tool for visualizing health symptoms, particulate measurements, and personal stories from residents who are affected by oil and gas drilling development. (<http://envhealthchannel.org>)



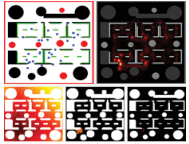
Community-Empowered Air Quality Monitoring System [C3, O3, O1, F3, A5] 2015 – 2016
I worked with a Pittsburgh community to develop an air quality monitoring system, which provides evidence with videos, air quality data, and smell reports. The system uses computer vision to generate a series of animated smoke images.



A Web-based Large-scale Timelapse Editor for Interactive Storytelling [P1, T7] 2014
Based on the timelapse viewer, I developed a web-based tool for users to create interactive slideshows or guided tours, and then embed or share them on social media for telling interactive stories. (<http://timemachine.cmucreatelab.org/wiki/EarthEngineTourEditor>)



Earth Timelapse Viewer Visualizing Landsat Satellite Imagery [F1, T7, A4] 2013
I worked in a team to develop an Earth timelapse viewer, consisting of 33 cloud-free mosaics of the planet with billions of pixels from 1984 to 2016, released with Google and TIME. (<https://earthengine.google.com/timelapse/>, <http://world.time.com/timelapse/>)



SimArch: A Multi-Agent System for Human Path Simulation [O2, T2] 2012
SimArch uses Markov Decision Process to build a behavior model. The model simulates mental states, target range detection, and collision prediction when agents behave in a museum. SimArch outputs the prediction of how likely a person will occur in a location after simulation.



SENSEable Shoes: Hands-Free and Eyes-Free Mobile Interaction [T3] 2012
SENSEable Shoes is a platform for interaction designers to create applications. It recognizes low-level activities by measuring the weight distribution over the feet with sensors embedded in the shoe pad. A Support Vector Machine classifier identifies mobile activities and foot gestures.



Draw-o-lin: A Music Visualizer for Violin 2011
What does music look like? Draw-o-lin is an interactive mobile robot visualizing music by drawing graphs on a paper according to various sound properties. Violin performers control the robot by playing various pitches, alternating the volume, and changing the tempo of the music.



SynTag: A Web-Based Platform for Labeling Real-time Video [C2, C1, T1] 2010
Users can label Good, Question, and Disagree tags in real or non-real time with visualization of time-stamp video previews on an interactive timeline. SynTag creates thumbnails by using real-time tags for presenters to receive instant feedback and for others to retrieve videos.

Grants and Other Support

Nvidia GPU Grant 2018
GeForce Titan Xp

Professional Activities

Program Committee/Reviewer

Pattern Analysis and Applications Journal	2019
ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems	2019
Taiwan Association of Computer-Human Interaction (TAICHI)	2017 – 2018
IEEE Robotics and Automation Magazine	2015

Conference Presenter

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)	2017
Air and Waste Management Association (A&WMA)	2017
ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)	2012

Professional Activities (Continued)	Invited Talks	
	Undergraduate Seminar (ANTH 1750-1270), University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA	11/2018
	Special Topics: Crowd Computing (05-899), Carnegie Mellon University, PA, USA	10/2017
	Sustainability Salon, Local Community Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, USA	09/2017
	Google Earth Engine User Summit, Mountain View, CA, USA	2015
	Invited Events	
	Bloomberg Philanthropies New Tech & Urban Air Pollution Meeting, New York, NY, USA	2017
Leadership	Department of Architecture, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan	
	General Coordinator, Graduation Design Preparation Committee	2009
	Director of General Affairs, Student Committee	2008
	Class Representative	2007
Teaching	Robotics Institute, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, USA	
	Teaching Assistant of 16-811 Math Fundamentals for Robotics	Fall 2015

(Last updated: January 24, 2019)