

Ruijia “Regina” Cheng

Qualitative & Quantitative UX researcher

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Ph.D. in Human-computer interaction (HCI). 6+ years of experience in **qualitative and quantitative research** on **AI-powered programming, creativity and writing software, online communities, and education technology.**

Key Skills **Qualitative Research:** interview, ethnography, usability testing, design probe, grounded theory, design workshops, thematic analysis, literature review | **Quantitative Research:** survey, A/B testing, experiment design, statistical modeling, inferential statistics, psychophysics | **Programming:** Python, R, SQL, MATLAB, JavaScript, web development (React, Node.js), machine learning (PyTorch), Unity | **Design:** Photoshop, Figma, Illustration, Blender

Selected Professional Experiences

Apple AI/ML Resident in Human Centered Machine Intelligence

07/2023 to present

- **Led** and collaborated in research about AI in data visualization, creativity support, and software development tools.
- Contributed to the **development of internal tools and products.** **Published** in broader academic communities.

University of Washington Graduate Researcher, HCI

09/2018 to 06/2023

- **Led 10+ formative and evaluative** research projects and **published research reports** on top HCI venues. Topics include online peer production platforms, data science & programming tools, STEM education, and creativity support.
- Conducted **100+ interviews & 50+ user studies**; analyzed activity log of **500k+ users** using **statistical methods**.
- Designed and built **data pipelines** and **user-facing web applications**.
- **Managed** teams of 5-10 researchers and engineers, **set agendas**, and **mentored** junior researchers.

Microsoft Research HCI Research Intern, AI Software Development Tools

06/2022 to 09/2022

- **Led** a multi-phase research on user trust in **AI-powered code generation** tools; designed and conducted **30+ interviews & 20+ evaluative studies** with software engineers; **built** visual **prototypes** to convey design insights.
- Generated **research reports** for engineering teams and disseminated findings in broader academic communities.
- Reported design insights to director-level stakeholders and GitHub Copilot product team.

Dataminr HCI Research Intern, Human-AI Collaboration in NLP

09/2021 to 12/2021

- **Led** research on **human-in-the-loop** text summarization; **synthesized 600+ academic literatures** into design framework; **developed Figma prototypes** and conducted **evaluative studies** with **crowd workers**.
- Generated **research reports** for internal usage and **publications** in broader academic communities.
- **Reported to director-level stakeholders** and impacted the design of internal **AI-powered tools**.

Meta UX Research Intern, Video Recommendation

06/2020 to 09/2020

- **Led 20k+ surveys** in **5 countries**, **interviews**, **usability tests**, and **statistical analysis of 20k+ user logs**.
- **Impacted** the design of recommendation algorithms and video players with insights from **international markets**.
- Collaborated effectively with **cross-functional teams** (engineering, design, PM, and data) and **vendors**.

Education

University of Washington (UW)

Doctor of Philosophy in Human Centered Design & Engineering 2023

Master of Science in Human Centered Design & Engineering 2021

University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Magna Cum Laude

Bachelor of Science in Cognitive Science with a Specialization in Computation 2018

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics: Applied Science 2018