

Shaomei Wu

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shaomei.github.io

Areas of Interest

- **AI & HCI:** design human-centered, empowering AI experiences for marginalized groups.
- **Accessibility:** understand the experience of people with disabilities; build technologies for equal access and full inclusion.
- **Computational Social Sciences:** study social phenomena through data & computational methods.

Employment

2013 - Present	Facebook Oct 2020 - Present, Staff Software Engineer, Tech Lead, <i>Instagram Equity</i> May 2018 - Oct 2020, Staff Research Scientist, <i>Facebook AI</i> Mar 2013 - May 2018, Senior Research Scientist, <i>Core Data Science</i>
2011 - 2012	Cornell University Graduate Research Assistant, <i>Social Dynamics Lab</i> .
2006 - 2011	Google Sep 2011 - Dec 2011, Software Engineering Intern, <i>Google.org</i> Jun 2011 - Aug 2011, Research Intern, <i>Google Research</i> May 2009 - Aug 2009, Software Engineering Intern, <i>Local Search</i> May 2008 - Aug 2008, Software Engineering Intern, <i>Local Search</i> Jun 2007 - Aug 2007, Software Engineering Intern, <i>Google Search</i> Jul 2006 - Sep 2006, Software Engineering Intern, <i>Google Beijing</i>
2010	Yahoo Research May 2010 - Oct 2010, Research Intern, <i>Yahoo Research New York</i>
2004 - 2005	Microsoft Research Research Intern, <i>System Research Group</i>

Education

2012	PhD, Information Science , <i>Cornell University</i>
2007	MS, Computer Science , <i>University of California, Santa Barbara</i>
2005	BS, Computer Science , <i>Tsinghua University</i>

Publications

AI, HCI, Accessibility

2019	Design and Evaluation of a Social Media Writing Support Tool for People with Dyslexia , Shaomei Wu, Lindsay Reynolds, Xian Li, Francisco (Paco) Guzman. In <i>Proc. of the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '19)</i> Addressing the Accessibility of Social Media . Cole Gleason, Patrick Carrington, Lydia B Chilton, Benjamin M Gorman, Hernisa Kacorri, Andrés Monroy-Hernández, Meredith Ringel Morris, Garreth W Tigwell, and Shaomei Wu . <i>CSCW 2019 Extended Abstract</i> .
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- 2018 **“I’m Never Happy with What I Write”: Challenges and Strategies of People with Dyslexia on Social Media**, Lindsay Reynolds, **Shaomei Wu**. In *Proc. of the 12th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*. **Best Paper Runner-up**
- The Effect of Computer-Generated Descriptions on Photo-Sharing Experiences of People with Visual Impairments**, Yuhang Zhao, **Shaomei Wu**, Lindsay Reynolds, Shiri Azenkot. In *Proc. of the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW ’18)*
- A Face Recognition Application for People with Visual Impairments: Understanding Use Beyond the Lab**, Yuhang Zhao, **Shaomei Wu**, Lindsay Reynolds, Shiri Azenkot. In *Proc. of the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI ’18)*
- 2017 **Automatic Alt-text: Computer-generated Image Descriptions for Blind Users on a Social Network Service**, **Shaomei Wu**, Jeffrey Wieland, Omid Farivar, Julie Schiller. In *Proc. of the 20th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW ’17)*
- 2016 **How Blind People Interact with Visual Content on Social Networking Services**, Violeta Voykinska, Shiri Azenkot, **Shaomei Wu**, and Gilly Leshed. In *Proc. of the 19th ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW ’16)*
- 2014 **Visually Impaired Users on an Online Social Network**, **Shaomei Wu**, Lada Adamic. In *Proc. of The ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI ’14)*.
- Viralness & Social networks
- 2015 **The Lifecycles of Apps in a Social Ecosystem**, Isabel Kloumann, Lada Adamic, Jon Kleinberg, and **Shaomei Wu**. In *Proc. of the 24th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW ’15)*.
- 2013 **Arrival and Departure Dynamics in Social Networks**, **Shaomei Wu**, Atish Das Sarma, Alex Fabrikant, Silvio Lattanzi, and Andrew Tomkins. In *Proc. of the 6th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM ’13)*.
- 2011 **Does Bad News Go Away Faster?**, **Shaomei Wu**, Chenhao Tan, Jon Kleinberg, and Michael Macy. In *Proc. of the 5th International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM ’11)*.
- Who Says What to Whom on Twitter**, **Shaomei Wu**, Jake M. Hofman, Winter A. Mason, and Duncan J. Watts. In *Proc. of the 20th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW ’11)*. **Over 1000 citations by 2019.**
- Mining Collective Local Knowledge from Google MyMaps**, **Shaomei Wu**, Shenwei Liu, Dan Cosley, and Michael Macy. In *Proc. of the 20th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW ’11)*.
- Blogs
- 2018 **Using AI to help people with visual impairments share images on Facebook**. *Facebook Research Blog*, November 2, 2018
- Designing a face recognition application for people with visual impairments**. (with Lindsay Reynolds). *Facebook Research Blog*, April 23, 2018

- 2016 [How blind people interact with visual content on social networking sites](#). *Facebook Research Blog*, April 4, 2016
- [Under the hood: Building accessibility tools for the visually impaired on Facebook](#). (with Darío García García, Manohar Paluri). *Facebook Engineering Blog*, April 4, 2016
- [Using Artificial Intelligence to Help Blind People ‘See’ Facebook](#). (with Hermes Pique and Jeffrey Wieland). *Facebook Newsroom*, April 4, 2016

Selected Press Citations

- 2016 Featured (with Jeffrey Wieland, Matt King) in [“Facebook Just Launched AI-Powered Technology That Reads Photos to the Blind”](#), *Fortune*, April 5.
- 2011 Featured in [“The New York Times and Twitter”](#), *The New York Times*, March 29.
- Work featured in [“The Twittersphere is Dominated By Less than One Percent of Twitter Users”](#), *Time*, March 29.
- Work featured in [“Jack Dorsey Rejoins Twitter: Returning to the Nest”](#), *The Economist*, March 29.

Professional Services

- **Associate Chair:** the ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) (2018, 2020, 2021)
- **Senior Program Committee:** the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) (2016 - 2021)
- **Workshop Chair:** ICWSM (2019)
- **Tutorial Chair:** ICWSM (2021)
- **Doctorate Consortium Chair:** WebForAll(W4A) (2021)
- **Program Committee:** the Web Conference (2019, 2021), the International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS) (2015 - 2021), ICWSM (2013, 2014).
- **Organizer:** *Addressing the Accessibility of Social Media Workshop @ CSCW* (2019).
- **Reviewer:** the ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing, the ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) (2012), CHI (2016, 2017, 2019), the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW) (2018, 2019, 2020), the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST) (2019), New Media & Society

References

A full list of references is available upon request.