Tian Xu

3rd-year Ph.D. Student • tixu6250@colorado.edu • https://tianxu-hci.github.io/ • Google Scholar
Department of Information Science, 1045 18th Street, UCB 315, Boulder, Colorado 80309-0315

Education

Aug 2021 – May 2026 **University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Information Science** Boulder, CO, USA
Doctor of Philosophy in Information Science
- Emphases: human-computer interaction, health informatics, design
- Advisor: Dr. Stephen Voida

Aug 2018 – May 2020 **Syracuse University, School of Information Studies** Syracuse, NY, USA
Master of Science in Information Management
Certificate of Advanced Studies in Data Science
- Featured for contributing to the Microsoft & Syracuse Smart City Project

Sep 2010 – June 2013 **University of Electronic Science and Technology of China** Chengdu, China
Master of Law
- Scholarship for Academic Excellence

Sep 2006 – June 2010 **Communication University of China, Nanjing** Nanjing, China
Bachelor of Arts
- College Scholarship Recipient (Awarded Three Times)

Research Experience

Aug 2021 – Present **University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Information Science** Boulder, CO, USA
Graduate Research Assistant
- Led diverse-discipline teams to initiate research projects focusing on human-centered health technologies and human-AI interaction for healthcare
- Used qualitative and algorithmic methods to collect, analyze, and synthesize empirical data
- Studied people's lived experience to inform algorithm-enhanced health technology design
- Developed and submitted manuscripts to top-tier conferences in human-computer interaction

June 2020 – Dec 2020 **University of Washington, School of Medicine** Seattle, WA, USA
Graduate Research Assistant
- Created a survey using Qualtrics and Interpreted and analyzed survey data
- Created scripts to extract and prepare data for further research analysis
- Conducted preliminary analysis and pilot survey test

Feb 2019 – June 2021 **Syracuse University, School of Information Studies** Syracuse, NY, USA
Graduate Research Assistant
- Developed scripts to build a language model, calculating linguistic distance of communities
- Extracted key information to categorize topics using scikit-learn
- Annotated around 8,000 posts from Sina MicroBlog for a study on misinformation prediction
- Developed scripts to measure semantic distance and extract topics
- Used Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC) to understand psychological traits
- Collaborated to design experiments testing a mobile camera detection system in collaboration with a research group (CHIMPS Lab) of the HCI Institute at Carnegie Mellon University

Peer-Reviewed and Workshop Publications

Journal

[J3] **Tian Xu**, Junnan Yu, Dylan Thomas Doyle, and Stephen Voida. 2023. Technology-Mediated Strategies for Coping with Mental Health Challenges: Insights from People with Bipolar Disorder. *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.* 7, CSCW2, Article 240 (October 2023), 31 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3610031

[J2] Laurel H. Messer, Paul F. Cook, Stephen Voida, Casey Fiesler, Emily Fivekiller, Chinmay Agrawal, **Tian Xu**, Gregory P. Forlenza, and Sriram Sankaranarayanan. 2023. Situational Awareness and Proactive Engagement Predict Higher Time in Range in Adolescents and Young Adults Using Hybrid Closed-Loop. *Pediatric Diabetes* (May 2023). https://doi.org/10.1155/2023/1888738

[J1] Junnan Yu, **Tian Xu**, Camryn Kelley, Janet Ruppert, Ricarose Roque. 2024. To appear. Designing and Leveraging Technologies to Support Physical-Activity-based Learning Experiences for Young People: Characteristics and Opportunities. *Review of Educational Research*.

Conference

[C3] **Tian Xu**, Emily Jost, Laurel H. Messer, Paul F. Cook, Gregory P Forlenza, Sriram Sankaranarayanan, Casey Fiesler, and Stephen Voida. 2024. In Press. "Obviously, Nothing's Gonna Happen in Five Minutes": How Adolescents and Young Adults Infrastructure Resources to Learn Type 1 Diabetes Management. *In Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)*, May 11–16, 2024, Honolulu, Hawai'i. ACM, New York, NY, USA.

[C2] Jingyao Cen*, **Tian Xu***, and Junnan Yu. 2023. Examining Gender-Oriented Design Features in Computational Toys and Kits for Young Children. *In Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23)*, April 23–28, 2023, Hamburg, Germany. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 19 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3544548.3581035
*: *Authors made contributions of equal size and share first authorship.*

[C1] Janghee Cho, **Tian Xu**, Abigail Zimmermann-Niefield, and Stephen Voida. 2022. Reflection in Theory and Reflection in Practice: An Exploration of the Gaps in Reflection Support among Personal Informatics Apps. *In Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '22)*. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 142, 1–23. https://doi.org/10.1145/3491102.3501991
CHI 2022 Best Paper Honorable Mention (among the top 5% of 2,579 submissions)

Workshop

[W1] Paper: **Tian Xu**, Stephen Voida. 2022. *Technological Mediation of Strategies in Coping with Mental Health Challenges: A Case Study with People with Bipolar Disorder*. Position paper presented at the CHI 2022 Workshop on *Complex Health Needs & Technology Ecosystems*, New Orleans, LA

Research Grant and Fellowship Awarded

Mar 2024

- Beverly Sears Graduate Student Research Award $1000
  Awarded by Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder

Dec 2023

- CARTSS Graduate Student Research Award $1700
  Awarded by The Center to Advance Research and Teaching in the Social Sciences

Sep 2023

- CMCI Research/Creative Project Grant $1000
  Awarded by College of Media, Communication and Information, University of Colorado Boulder

Sep 2023

- Graduate School Travel Grant $450
  Awarded by Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder

Selected Media Coverage of Research

Broadcast media

Ivanhoe Broadcast News (interview). Boulder, Colorado, August 10, 2023

Professional Work Experience

Feb 2019 – Apr 2020

iConsult Collaborative at Syracuse University Syracuse, NY, USA
Data Analyst
- Supported the Public Works department of the City of Syracuse in achieving a data-driven work environment (Smart City Project)
- Developed a website for a non-profit organization to support their organization's development

Apr 2014 – Jul 2017

China Academy of Railway Sciences (CARS) Beijing, China
Assistant Engineer
- Led a fund-supported ($100,000) research project to establish CARS profile, serving as a consultant for an overseas business development strategy
- Coordinated with a 3-person UX team to establish an image database

Teaching Experience

University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Information Science

Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant for INFO2201 Computational Reasoning II (Python)

- Led weekly recitations and graded final projects for 56 undergraduates
- Held weekly office hours to assist students with assignments and programming problems

Syracuse University, School of Information Studies

Fall 2019 & Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant for IST664 Natural Language Processing (Python) and IST621 Information Management

- Held weekly office hours to assist students with assignments and programming problems
- Graded exams and weekly assignments for 40 graduates

Professional Activity

Reviewer: Journal of Scientific Reports (2023), ACM CSCW conference (2024, 2023), ACM CHI conference (2024, 2023, 2022-**Special Recognition award**), ACM Web Science conference (2020)