XIN SUN

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EDUCATION

Ph.D: University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands   **May.2021 — Current**
(**NLP Focus:**) Aligning LLMs with domain expertise in delivering psychotherapy for health intervention
(**HCI-Psychology Focus:**) Understanding trust in generative (multimodal) AI through behavioral and physiological sensing

MSc: Heidelberg University, Faculty Mathematics and Informatics, Germany   **Nov.2017 - Jan.2021**
Major: Scientific Computing (Math & NLP)   German grades: 1.8 / 5.0

BSc: Xidian University (211 Project), Faculty Mathematics and Statistics, China   **Sep.2011 - Jul.2015**
Major: Computational Mathematics   GPA: 83.62   Ranking: 15%

RESEARCH AND WORKING EXPERIENCE

Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI), the Netherlands   **Aug.2023 – Current**
Human-AI Interaction   *Visiting Scholar*
- Physio and psychological perception in human interactions with LLMs and generative AI-driven multimodal interfaces.

Alibaba Group, New Retail Technology Group , China   **May.2020 – Oct.2020**
NLP Algorithm Engineer   *Full-time Internship*
- Key phrases extraction and summary generation - Active learning - Data augmentation

SAP, Intelligent Data & Analytics group, Germany   **Apr.2019 – Oct.2019**
Data Scientist   *Full-time Internship*
- Stochastic data forecasting - SAP HANA / Feature engineering / Data visualization

Applied Technology Research Institute of Tsinghua University, China   **Jul.2018 – Sep.2018**
Machine Learning Researcher   *Full-time Internship*
- ECG data prediction and Knowledge Graph construction for heart states

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS (FIRST AUTHOR ONLY)

1. **Xin Sun**, Xiao Tang, Abdallah El Ali, Zhuying Li, Pengjie Ren, Jan de Wit, Jiahuan Pei, Jos Bosch. Rethinking the Alignment of Psychotherapy Dialogue Generation with Motivational Interviewing Strategies. International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2025)
2. **Xin Sun**, Erkan Basar, Iris Hendrickx, Jan de Wit, Tibor Bosse, Gert-Jan De Bruijn, Jos A.Bosch, Emiel Krahmer. How Well Can LLMs Reflect? A Human Evaluation of LLM-generated Reflections for Motivational Interviewing Dialogues. International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2025)
3. **Xin Sun**, Yunjie Liu, Jos A. Bosch, and Zhuying Li. Interface Matters: Exploring Trust Perception in Health Information from Large Language Models via Text, Speech, and Embodiment. Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW 2024)
4. **Xin Sun**, Jiahuan Pei, Jan de Wit, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Emiel Krahmer, Jos TP Dobber, Jos Bosch. Eliciting Motivational Interviewing Skill Codes in Psychotherapy with LLMs: A Bilingual Dataset and Analytical Study. International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2024)
5. **Xin Sun**, Yunjie Liu, Jan De Wit, Jos A. Bosch, and Zhuying Li. Trust by Interface: How Different User Interfaces Shape Human Trust in Health Information from Large Language Model. (Poster) ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2024)
6. **Xin Sun**, Isabelle Teljeur, Zhuying Li, Jos A. Bosch. Can a Funny Chatbot Make a Difference? Infusing Humor into Conversational Agent for Behavioral Intervention. ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI 2024)
7. **Xin Sun**, Emiel Krahmer, Jan De Wit, Reinout Wiers, and Jos A. Bosch. Plug and Play Conversations: The Micro-Conversation Scheme for Modular Development of Hybrid CA. (Poster) Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW 2023)
8. **Xin Sun**, Jos A. Bosch, Jan De Wit, and Emiel Krahmer. Human-in-the-Loop Interaction for Continuously Improving Generative Model in CAs for Behavioral Intervention. (Poster) ACM Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI 2023)
9. **Xin Sun**, Boris Schmitz, and Jos A. Bosch. TIMELY: Providing In-Time Support for Cardiovascular Rehabilitation with 'Patients and Practitioners in the Loop'. (Poster) ACM Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI 2023)
10. **Xin Sun** et al. Virtual Support for Real-World Movement: Using Chatbots to Overcome Barriers to Physical Activity. Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence and Applications (HHAI 2023)

11. **Xin Sun**, Jan de Wit, Zhuying Li, Jiahuan Pei, Abdallah El Ali, Jos A Bosch. Script-Strategy Aligned Generation: Aligning LLMs with Expert-Crafted Dialogue Scripts and Therapeutic Strategies for Psychotherapy. Pre-printed on arXiv. Under review (Anonymous)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS (FIRST AUTHOR ONLY)

1. **Xin Sun et al**. Understanding Trust Perception in AI-Generated Information with Behavioral and Physiological Sensing (**Eye-tracking and Physiological Study**). ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (SCI-1). Under review, as the first author.
2. **Xin Sun et al**. From Agents to Interfaces: Understanding Trust in Health Information from Conversational Search (**Mixed-methods**). International Journal of Human-Computer Studies (SCI-1). Under review, as the first author.

COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATIONS

1. Zhuying Li, Si Cheng, Zhenhuan Chen, **Xin Sun**, Jiatong Li, Ding Ding. SleepyFlora: Supporting Sleep Sharing and Augmentation over a Distance for Social Bonding across Time Zones. Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW 2023)
2. Benjamin Beilharz, **Xin Sun**, Sariya Karimova, and Stefan Riezler. LibriVoxDeEn - A Corpus for German-to-English Speech-Translation and Speech Recognition. International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2020)
3. Zhuying Li, Yan Wang, **Xin Sun**. Integrating Culture in Human-Food Interaction: A Study of Cultural and Creative Food Experiences and Technological Interactions. International Journal of Human-Computer Studies (SCI-1). Minor revision.
4. Yuto Mandai, Katie Seaborn, **Xin Sun**, Tomoyasu Nakano, Yijia Wang, Jun Kato. Super Kawaii Vocalics: Amplifying the "Cute" Factor in Computer Voice. ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2025). Major revision.
5. Mirela Habibovic, Emma Douma, Hendrik Schäfer, Manuela Sestayo-Fernandez, Tom Roovers, **Xin Sun**, ... Boris Schmitz. A patient-centered risk prediction, prevention and intervention platform to support the continuum of care in coronary artery disease using eHealth and artificial intelligence. Journal of Medical Internet Research (SCI-1). Major revision.

REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

- As a reviewer in the area of HCI: CHI2024; CHI2025; CHI Play2023; CHI Play2024; CUI2023; CUI2024; Frontiers-in-Physiology (Journal); IJHCI (Journal);
- As a reviewer in the area of NLP: COLING2025; TOIS (Journal);

SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

Bachelor Thesis Projects

- 2024.09-2024.12 Alicia Dräger; Lan Dang; Nora Zouli. BSc Thesis in Psychology. University of Amsterdam. Trusting the Search: Unraveling Human Trust in Health Information from Google and ChatGPT. **Pre-printed on arXiv (2024)**.
- 2022.11-2023.03 Dimosthenis Casula; Arathy Navaratnam; Anna Popp; Franziska Knopp; Giovanni Busini; Jan Wesołowski. BSc Thesis in Psychology. University of Amsterdam. Virtual Support for Real-World Movement: Using Chatbots to Overcome Barriers to Physical Activity. **Published in Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence and Applications**

Master Thesis Projects

- 2023.09-2024.02 Isabelle Teljeur. MSc Thesis in Brain and Cognition. University of Amsterdam. The Impact of a Humorous vs. Non-Humorous Communication Style in a Chatbot Physical Activity Intervention: The Mediating Roles of User Engagement and Motivation. **Published in ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces 2024**
- 2023.04-2023.10 Sofya Selivanova. MSc Thesis in Clinical Psychology. University of Amsterdam. Chatbot vs Clinician: What Diagnostic Method of Depression is More Accurate and Satisfactory?
- 2022.09-2023.02 Isa de Vries. MSc Thesis in Clinical Psychology. University of Amsterdam. The Effect of Affirmations on Change Talk in Chatbots.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Programming: Python / JavaScript / SQL / PyTorch
R&D: Machine & Deep learning / NLP & NLG / Web & APIs & Conversational agents development
Data Analysis: Qualitative and Quantitative / Behavioral and Physiological data
User Study: Interview, Survey, Behavior and Physiological Study (e.g., Eye-tracking, ECG, EDA)
Speaking language: Mandarin Native - English C1 - German B1