ALYSSA HWANG

alyssahwang@alumni.upenn.edu ◇ alyssahwang.com

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Detail-oriented, imaginative, teamwork-driven PhD graduate seeking roles in UXR, AI/HCI research, PM, AI strategy, or consulting. Experienced with user research, mixed-methods analysis, and AI-driven products.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania — Philadelphia, PA
PhD in Computer and Information Science — Dec 2025
MS in Computer and Information Science — Dec 2023
Advisors: Boon Thau Loo, Andrew Head
Thesis: User Interfaces for Fine-grained Integration of Information

Columbia University — New York, NY
BS in Computer Science — May 2020
Advisor: Kathleen McKeown
Thesis: Towards Augmenting Lexical Resources for Slang and African American English

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Amazon Web Services, *Applied Scientist Intern* — May–Sept 2022
- Develop cross-domain training method to generate a dataset for query-based multi-document summarization.

Google, *Software Engineering Intern* — May–Aug 2021
- Design clustering and ranking algorithm to display top user-submitted review images for Shopping.

Google Software Engineering Intern — June–Aug 2020
- Implement hierarchical RNN models in Tensorflow to predict dialogue act labels with BERT embeddings.

Google Software Engineering Intern — May–Aug 2019
- Build image carousel for displaying relevant images in Google Search event cards.

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fine-grained Figure-Text Integration at Document Scale, *Penn HCI* — June 2024–Oct 2025
- Implement AI pipeline with OpenAI API, Molmo, SegmentAnything2 to generate links between phrases and image segments in research papers; build augmented reading interface for published research papers.
- Conduct thinkaloud studies to observe user behavior; design and lead between-subjects study with reading quiz to quantify reading outcomes.

Ivie: Lightweight Anchored Explanations of Just-Generated Code, *Penn HCI* — Sept 2023–June 2024
- Assist with design of augmented code interface; conduct lab usability studies. Published at CHI 2024.

Grounded Intuition of GPT-Vision's Abilities with Scientific Images, *Penn NLP/Penn HCI* Aug–Oct 2023
- Define principled method for large-scale qualitative analysis of long-form LLM outputs; conduct case study with pre-release of GPT-Vision. Presented at Google PAIR, covered by TechCrunch and over 160 news outlets.

Rewriting the Script: Text Instructions for Voice Interaction, *Penn HCI/Penn NLP* — Jan–Dec 2022
- Observe participants cooking at home with a voice assistant to define common user challenges and LLM solutions. Apply thematic analysis and grounded theory to transcripts for qualitative analysis. Published at DIS 2023.

SELECTED HONORS

OpenAI DevDay Invited Attendee — Nov 2023
Penn Engineering Outstanding Service Award — May 2023
Amazon Alexa Taskbot Competition Finalist Team — Feb 2022
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship — April 2020