

# Ruizhi Cheng

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[Homepage](#)  
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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My research interests lie in federated learning, social virtual reality (VR), and networked systems. My recent research focuses on leveraging federated learning, a privacy-preserving distributed machine learning technique, to protect user privacy of activity recognition and user authentication in social VR systems. I also have research experience in network measurement and user study in social VR systems.

## EDUCATION

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08/2021–Present    **Ph.D. Student, Department of Computer Science**  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA, USA  
**Advisor:** Dr. Bo Han

09/2017–06/2021    **B.S. in Computer Science**

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Nan Wu, Matteo Varvello, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “[Are We Ready for Metaverse? A Measurement Study of Social Virtual Reality Platforms](#)”. In Proceedings of ACM IMC, 2022. **Top Conference**
2. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Nan Wu, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “[Reality Check of Metaverse: A First Look at Commercial Social Virtual Reality Platforms](#)”. In Proceedings of Metabuild@IEEE VR, 2022. **Best Paper Award**
3. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Nan Wu, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “[Will Metaverse be NextG Internet? Vision, Hype, and Reality](#)”. IEEE Network, 2022.
4. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Erdem Murat, Lap-Fai Yu, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “Understanding User Experience of Online Education in Metaverse: A Systems Perspective”. Submitted to IEEE VR 2022.

5. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Puqi Zhou, Jie Li, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “Dissecting User Experience of Social VR: A Tale of Five Popular Platforms”. Submitted to IEEE VR 2022.
6. **Ruizhi Cheng**, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “Towards Zero-trust Security for the Metaverse”. Submitted to ACM HotMobile 2022.
7. Nan Wu, **Ruizhi Cheng**, Songqing Chen, and Bo Han. “[Preserving Privacy in Mobile Spatial Computing](#)”. In Proceedings of ACM NOSSDAV, 2022.

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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### Network Measurement of Social VR Platforms

- Conducted an in-depth measurement study on several social VR platforms, key enablers of the Metaverse
- Analyzed all measured platforms face throughput, end-to-end latency, and on-device resource computation resource utilization scalability issues
- Identified the local rendering techniques employed by these platforms as the main reason for their poor scalability

### An Online Classroom on Social VR

- Designed an online classroom on Mozilla Hubs, a social VR platform
- Proposed a novel analytic method that combines qualitative and quantitative analysis with end-to-end measurements to understand the user experience

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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1. [Best Paper Award](#), IEEE Metabuild, 2022
2. Student Travel Grant, IEEE VR, 2022
3. Mason Engineers Week Poster Winner, 2022

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### Reviewer

- Journal/Magazine: IEEE Network, IEEE MultiMedia, SAGE Open
- Conference: IEEE VR 2022

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Programming Languages.** Python, C++

**Deep/Federated Learning Frameworks.** Pytorch, Keras, TensorFlow Federated (TFF)