

Jessy Ceha

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Education

Ph.D. in Computer Science (Human-Computer Interaction) <i>University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada</i> Supervisor: Prof. Edith Law Thesis: Affective Expressions in Conversational Agents for Learning Environments	2021
M.Sc. in Human-Machine Communication (Computational Cognitive Science) <i>University of Groningen (RUG), Groningen, the Netherlands</i> Supervisor: Prof. Marieke van Vugt Thesis: Investigation into the Enhancement of Voice Perception: With Simulations of Cochlear Implants and Bimodal Hearing	2016
B.Sc. in Cognitive Systems <i>University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada</i>	2014

Experience

Research Assistant (Ph.D.) <i>School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo</i> Various projects focused on social A.I. agents (robots; chatbots; voice assistants). Resulted in publications [P1], [P2], [P3], [P5], [P6], and work-in-progress [W1].	2017 – Present
Research Assistant (M.Sc.) <i>Dept. of Audiology, University Medical Centre & Dept. of Experimental Psychology, RUG</i> Psycho-acoustic experiments with simulations of bimodal hearing [P7] and EEG neurofeedback for improving auditory speech perception for cochlear implant wearers.	2015 – 2016
Research Intern <i>Philips, Drachten, the Netherlands</i> Worked with the Philips Consumer Lifestyle division to conduct technical research. Involved fabrication via 3D printing, PCBs, followed by user studies on developed systems.	2014 – 2016
Research Assistant (M.Sc.) <i>Institute of A.I. and Cognitive Engineering, RUG</i> Conducted research on cognitive and user modelling.	2014 – 2016

Skills

Technical

R, SPSS, Python, Java, MATLAB, Javascript, HTML/CSS, OpenViBE, Arduino, ROS

Research

Applied experience with adults & children in clinical, field, & lab settings

Study design

Ethics and grant applications

Conversational interaction design (incl. dialog generation, speech synthesis, & user experience)

Human-physiology measurement (EEG, EMG, pupil dilation, eye tracking)

Interview and questionnaire design & administration

Usability testing

Participatory & Co-design methodologies

Qualitative & Quantitative data collection & analysis

Refereed Publications

*** Note on conference papers: in *Human-Computer Interaction*, these are the preferred publication venues, being timelier and having the greatest impact. Top-tier conferences require rigorous multi-stage review of manuscripts for archival proceedings.

- [P1] **Ceha, J.**, Law, E., Kulić, D., Oudeyer, P-Y., and Roy, D. (2021). *Identifying Functions and Behaviours of Social Robots for In-Class Learning Activities: Teachers' Perspective*. International Journal of Social Robotics. Springer Nature B.V., 1-15. DOI: 10.1007/s12369-021-00820-7.
- [P2] **Ceha, J.**, Lee, K. J., Nilsen, L., Goh, J., and Law, E. (2021). *Can a Humorous Conversational Agent Enhance Learning Experience and Outcomes?* In Proceedings of CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '21). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 685, 1-14. DOI: 10.1145/3411764.3445068. **Best Paper Honorable Mention (Top 5% of submissions)**. [Acceptance rate: 23%]
- [P3] Appriou, A., **Ceha, J.**, Pramij, S., Dutartre, D., Law, E., Oudeyer, P-Y., and Lotte, F. (2020). *Towards measuring states of epistemic curiosity through electroencephalographic signals*. 2020 IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC), 2020, pp. 4006-4011. DOI: 10.1109/SMC42975.2020.9283108.
- [P4] Henderson, J., **Ceha, J.**, and Lank, E. (2020). *STAT: Subtle Typing Around the Thigh for Head-Mounted Displays*. In 22nd International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction with Mobile Devices and Services (MobileHCI '20). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 27, 1-11. DOI: 10.1145/3379503.3403549. [Acceptance rate: 24%]
- [P5] Law, E., Ravari, P. B., Chhibber, N., Kulić, D., Lin, S., Pantasdo, K. D., **Ceha, J.**, Suh, S., and Dillen, N. (2020). *Curiosity Notebook: A Platform for Learning by Teaching Conversational Agents*. In Extended Abstracts of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '20). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 1-9. DOI: 10.1145/3334480.3382783
- [P6] **Ceha, J.**, Chhibber, N., Goh, J., McDonald, C., Oudeyer, P-Y., Kulić, D., and Law, E. (2019). *Expression of Curiosity in Social Robots: Design, Perception, and Effects on Behaviour*. In Proceedings of CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '19), May 4-9, 2019, Glasgow, Scotland UK. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 11 Pages. DOI: 10.1145/3290605.3300636. [Acceptance rate: 23.8%]
- [P7] Başkent, D., Luckmann, A., **Ceha, J.**, Gaudrain, E., and Tamati, T. N. (2018). *The discrimination of voice cues in simulations of bimodal electro-acoustic cochlear-implant hearing*. The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 143(4), EL292. DOI: 10.1145/10.1121/1.5034171

Works In Preparation

- [W1] **Ceha, J.** and Law, E. (2021). *Expressive Auditory Gestures in a Voice-Based Pedagogical Agent*. (Under Review).

Non-Refereed Publications

- [N1] **Ceha, J.** (2021). *Affective Expressions in Conversational Agents for Learning Environments: Effects of curiosity, humour, and expressive auditory gestures*. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Waterloo, Canada.
- [N2] Law, E., Nilsen, E., Lee, K.J., Chauhan, A., **Ceha, J.**, Baghaei, P., Debbane, A., and Yang, K. (2020). *Learning and Teaching with Conversational Agents*. In CHI 2020 Workshop on Grand Challenges in Conversational UI.
- [N3] **Ceha, J.** (2016). *Investigation into the Enhancement of Voice Perception: with simulations of cochlear implants and bimodal hearing*. Master's Thesis, University of Groningen, the Netherlands.

Teaching

CS 449/649 – Human-Computer Interaction – TA <i>University of Waterloo</i>	2020, 2021
CS 349 – Introduction to User Interfaces – TA/Instructional Apprentice <i>University of Waterloo</i>	2018, 2020
CS 106 – Introduction to Computer Programming 2 – TA/Instructional Apprentice <i>University of Waterloo</i>	2018, 2021
CS 105 – Introduction to Computer Programming 1 – TA/Instructional Apprentice <i>University of Waterloo</i>	2017, 2018, 2019

Awards

NSERC Postgraduate Scholarship-Doctoral <i>University of Waterloo</i> Awarded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to high-calibre scholars on a competitive basis. Valued at \$42 000 CAD.	2019 – 2021
University of Waterloo President's Graduate Scholarship <i>University of Waterloo</i> Provided to outstanding graduate students who hold certain major federally and provincially funded competition-based scholarships. Valued at \$10 000 CAD annually.	2019 – 2021
Math Domestic Graduate Student Award <i>University of Waterloo</i> Awarded to incoming Canadian graduate students. Valued at \$6 000 CAD annually.	2017 – 2021
University of Waterloo Provost Doctoral Entrance Award for Women <i>University of Waterloo</i> Awarded by the Faculty of Mathematics to outstanding female Ph.D. students on a competitive basis. Valued at \$5 000 CAD.	2017
Avril McDonald Award <i>RUG</i> Awarded by the Rosalind Franklin Fellows of the University of Groningen on a competitive basis each year to 3-4 students to encourage promising female scientists to pursue an academic career. Valued at \$1 000 EUR.	2016

Service

Peer Reviewer <i>ACM venues (CHI, HRI, IDC), IEEE venues (HRI, ICDL)</i>	2017 – Present
CHI Conference Student Volunteer <i>ACM SIGCHI</i>	May 2019 Glasgow, Scotland
Educational Assistant <i>Prueter Public School</i>	May 2019 Kitchener, ON, Canada
Workshop Chair – Human-Robot Interaction <i>SHAD Canada</i>	July 2018 Waterloo, ON, Canada
Workshop Instructor – UX Design and Research <i>GIRLsmarts4tech</i>	June 2018 Waterloo, ON, Canada