

ZHIXUAN (KYRIE) ZHOU

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<https://kyriezz.com>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research topics: gender bias, AI ethics, blockchain/Web3, social/streaming media

Methodologies: text mining, interview, qualitative content analysis, user experiment, survey

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

August 2020 - Present

PhD in Information Sciences

- Advisor: Dr. Yang Wang
- GPA: 3.89/4.00
- Relevant Courses: Design for Social Interact Exp, Social Computing, Information Assurance, Use and Users of Information, Responsible Data Science & AI, Introduction to Data Science, Foundations of Media Literacy, Instruct Strat for Media Lit, Digital Citizenship and Ethics

Wuhan University, Wuhan, China

September 2016 - June 2020

BEng in Computer Science (with honors)

- Thesis: Rumor detection on social media using graph neural networks
- GPA: 3.60/4.00

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, University of Illinois, advised by Dr. Yang Wang. Aug 2020-Present.

Research Assistant, University of Maryland, advised by Dr. Furong Huang. Aug-Oct 2019.

Research Assistant, Westlake University, advised by Dr. Yue Zhang. Jun-Jul 2019.

Research Assistant, Fudan University, advised by Dr. Xianghua Ding. May-Dec 2019.

Research Assistant, University of Wisconsin, advised by Dr. Justin Hsu. Sep-Dec 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, IS 202: Social Aspects of Information Technology, UIUC. Fall 2022.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tencent, Shenzhen, China

April 2020 - August 2020

Applied Research Intern

- Responsible for identifying unethical behavior, including feeding and cheating, in a MOBA (Multi-player Online Battle Arena) game.
- Curated expert rules for simulation data synthesis, with 20% of the data as unethical behavior.
- Built an XGBoost-based classifier for unethical behavior detection; reached an accuracy of 98% on simulation data and 92% on real game data later.

Bytedance, Beijing, China

October 2018 - December 2018

Part-time Research Associate

- Conducted literature review and collected recent news on fake news detection, online addiction, and ethical AI initiatives of Internet companies.

- Wrote reports to provide insights for the product/developing team, including practical design recommendations for products.

SERVICES

- **Conference PC member/reviewer:** ACL 2023, CHI Late-breaking Work 2023 (AC), ETRA 2023, VR 2023, CHI 2023, SRC'D 2023, OzCHI 2022, TEI 2023, ISMAR 2022, HAI 2022, ICMI 2022, SUI 2022, UbiComp/ISWC 2022, CSCW 2023, VAHC/VISxAI@VIS 2022, VRST 2022, ISS 2022, CHI Play 2022, HICSS 2023, EMNLP 2022, COLING 2022, ACL ARR April 2022, ACL ARR January 2022, HCI 2022
- **Journal reviewer:** ACM Transactions on Asian and Low-Resource Language Information Processing, Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing, The Data Base for Advances in Information Systems, Financial Innovation, Chinese Journal of Communication, Frontiers in Research Metrics and Analytics, IEEE Transactions on Big Data
- **Community:** PhD representative, Doctoral Studies Committee, iSchool, UIUC, 2022-Present
- **Mentoring:**
 1. Zixin Wang, Zhejiang University [HICSS 2023, iConference 2023, ICBC 2023]
 2. Zhixin Shi, Macau University of Science and Technology, now at Chinese University of Hong Kong [HCI International 2023]
 3. Jiamu Xie, Wuhan University [iConference 2023]
 4. Allison Sinnott, East Meadow High School

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Best Paper Award (11/678, 1.6%), HICSS, 2023
- Irwin Fellowship, UIUC, 2020
- Sharp Katharine Fellowship, UIUC, 2020
- Outstanding Graduate (24 out of 121, 20%), Hongyi Honor College, Wuhan University, 2020
- Candidate for Top 10 Students of Wuhan University, 2020
- Honorable Mention in Mathematical Contest In Modeling (MCM) as Student Advisor, 2019
- Academic Travel Grant (~\$1,000), Hongyi Honor College, Wuhan University, 2019
- Special Overseas Scholarship (~\$14,000), Wuhan University, 2018-2019
- Outstanding Student Award, Hongyi Honor College, Wuhan University, 2018
- Freshman Scholarship, Wuhan University, 2016

TALKS

- Duke Kunshan University, “AI Ethics: From Discovery to Education”
- University of Illinois, “AI Ethics: From Discovery to Education” [[Video \(starting from 12:12\)](#)]
- Researching Web3 Workshop, “Accessible and Equitable Web3 for Everyone?” [[Video](#)]

PUBLICATIONS

* indicates equal contribution. ** indicates corresponding author. Please refer to my [[website](#)] or [[google scholar](#)].

Gender

- **Zhixuan Zhou***, Bohui Shen*, and Chuanli Xia. More Than a Wife and a Mom: A Study of Mom Vlogging Practices in China. arXiv. [[paper](#)]

- **Zhixuan Zhou**, Jiao Sun, Jiabin Pei, Nanyun Peng, and Jinjun Xiong. A Moral- and Event-Centric Discovery of Gender Bias in Fairy Tales at A Large Scale. Submitted to Women’s and Gender History Symposium (WGHS@UIUC). [\[paper\]](#)
- **Zhixuan Zhou**, Zixin Wang, and Franziska Zimmer. Anonymous Expression in an Online Community for Women in China. In 56th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS). [\[paper\]](#)

AI Ethics

- Zhixin Shi and **Zhixuan Zhou**. “Black-Box” Decision-Making of Medical AI and Ethical Issues: A Review. In 25th International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction (HCI International).
- Zachary Kilhoffer, **Zhixuan Zhou**, Firmiana Wang, Fahad Tamton, Yun Huang, Pilyoung Kim, Tom Yeh, and Yang Wang. “How technical do you get? I’m an English teacher”: Learning from High School Teachers about Teaching Cybersecurity and AI Ethics. In 44th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P).
- Mengyi Wei and **Zhixuan Zhou**. AI Ethics Issues in Real World: Evidence from AI Incident Database. In 56th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS). [\[paper\]](#) (**Best Paper Award, 11/678, 1.6%**)
- Zhiguo Zhou, Huiyu Cai, and **Zhixuan Zhou**. An Analysis of Pedestrians’ Behavior in Emergency Evacuation Using Cellular Automata Simulation. In 17th IEEE International Conference on Smart City (SmartCity). [\[paper\]](#)
- **Zhixuan Zhou**, Huankang Guan, Meghana Moorthy Bhat, and Justin Hsu. Fake News Detection via NLP is Vulnerable to Adversarial Attacks. In 11th International Conference on Agents and Artificial Intelligence (ICAART). In 14th Women in Machine Learning Workshop (WiML) co-located with NeurIPS. [\[paper\]](#)

Blockchain

- Andreea-Elena Drăgnoiu, Moritz Platt, Zixin Wang, and **Zhixuan Zhou**. The More You Know: Energy Labels Discourage Investors from Acquiring Unsustainable Cryptocurrencies. Submitted to 5th IEEE International Conference on Blockchain and Cryptocurrency (ICBC).
- Yunpeng Xiao, Bufan Deng, Siqi Chen, **Zhixuan Zhou**, Luyao Zhang, RAY LC, and Xin Tong. “Centralized or Decentralized?”: Ethical Concerns and Value Judgments of Stakeholders in the NFT Market. Submitted to 26th ACM Conference On Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW).
- Tanusree Sharma, **Zhixuan Zhou**, Andrew Miller, and Yang Wang. Exploring Security Practices of Smart Contract Developers. Submitted to ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI). [\[paper\]](#)
- **Zhixuan Zhou***, Tanusree Sharma*, Yun Huang, and Yang Wang. “It’s A Blessing and A Curse”: Unpacking Creators’ Practices with Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) and Their Communities. Submitted to ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI). In Crypto Economics Security Conference (CESC). [\[paper\]](#)
- **Zhixuan Zhou** and Bohui Shen. Toward Understanding the Use of Centralized Exchanges for Decentralized Cryptocurrency. In 13th International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics (AHFE). [\[paper\]](#)

Social/Streaming Media

- Xinru Tang, Xianghua Ding, and **Zhixuan Zhou**. “I’m Grateful for the Opportunities for Growth and the Respect I’ve Received”: A Study of Older Adults with Disadvantaged Backgrounds Active on Chinese Short Video Platforms. Submitted to 26th ACM Conference On Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW).

- Xiang Chen, Jiamu Xie, Zixin Wang, Bohui Shen, and **Zhixuan Zhou****. How Can We Express Ourselves Freely: Censorship, Self-censorship, and Anti-censorship on Chinese Social Media. In iConference. [\[paper\]](#)
- **Zhixuan Zhou**, Xianghua Ding, Xinru Tang, and Yunan Chen. “I Prefer an Everyday Style and Dislike Big Food Fighters”: Integrating Foodshow into Everyday Life. In 55th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS). [\[paper\]](#)