Qi (Sam) Zhao

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EDUCATION

University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, United States · August 2025 – May 2030(exp)
Ph.D. of Human-Centered Computing

Indiana University Indianapolis, Indianapolis, United States · August 2023 – May 2025
Master of Science in Human Computer Interaction · GPA: 4.00/4.00
Thesis Title: Understanding Post-retirement Workers in the Gig Economy as Online Personal Shoppers: Motivations, Expectations and Technology-related Challenges

Hang Zhou Dianzi University, Hangzhou, China · September 2019 – July 2023
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Technology · GPA: 4.27/5.00
Thesis: Design and Implementation of a Continuous Integration and Deployment Platform Based on Docker Compose
Key Courses: Database and course design, Computer Architecture, Operating Systems, Computer Network, and Data Structure
Skills: HTML, JavaScript, CSS, MySQL, PHP, C++, Docker, PostgreSQL, Firebase;

PUBLICATIONS

1. Yuwen Lu, Meng Chen, **Qi Zhao**, Victor Cox, Yang Yang, Meng Jiang, Jay Brockman, Tamara Kay, Toby Jia-Jun Li. 2024. CREPE: A Mobile Screen Data Collector Using Graph Query. CSCW 2025 in revisions. https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.16173

EXPERIENCE

Bizchat: An AI-Powered Tool for Business Plan Writing · Baltimore, United States
Graduate Research Assistant · August 2025 – Present
- Analyzed Interview transcripts of entrepreneurs and log data from the online database of Firebase.
- Developed core features and Maintain exisiting code bases using React.js and Typescript.
- Developed pitch decks for showcasing BizChat in order to present in local community

Automation Tech in Service Work · Indianapolis, United States
Graduate Research Assistant · January 2024 – May 2024
- Understood the research process of a qualitative research project with a focus on interview method.
- Read paper related to social justice and wage theft; Learned reflexive thematic analysis technique.
- Analyzed interview transcripts and Wrote interview memo.

CREPE: A Mobile Screen Data Collector Using Graph Query · South Bend, United States
Research Collaborator · January 2024 – May 2024
- Understood the research process of a Technical HCI research project.
- Used JAVA to write technical features of the Android app.
- Helped recruit participants and facilitate the pre-pilot study session, with a focus on the consent form and configuring the app on the participants' mobile phones.

Exploring Adolescent Suicide Risk Factors through Visualizing Self-Report Survey · Indianapolis, United States
Graduate Research Assistant · August 2023 – May 2024
- Developed a new type of parallel coordinates on a multi-scale based on a large-scale survey data. This survey includes 10000+ participants with over 300 survey questions across 3 years.
- Used D3.js to develop interactive visualization Chart and Python to process survey data.
- Used hierarchical clustering method to cluster survey questions based on the correlation matrix.
- Analyzed the clustering data using hierarchical visualization method.

Internship

Hikvision · Hangzhou, China
Front-end Developer · April 2022 - August 2022
- Completed 30+ tasks and fixed 60+ bugs; worked with a UX designer to implement the new design prototypes of different test platforms; implemented front-end pages with interactable components using HTML, JavaScript and CSS.
- Developed new features for an inner UI automation test platform, including one that allowed test developers to create test scripts based on their mouse actions; reduced time for test developers to write test cases by 20%, which was praised by my mentor and test developers.