Romina Mahinpei

mahinpei@princeton.edu

mahinpei.github.io mahinpei

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EDUCATION

M.S.E. in Computer Science

09/2024 - 01/2027Princeton University

• Research interests: AI in education, human-centered AI, social computing, computational social science

B.Sc. in Honours Computer Science with a Mathematics Minor

09/2020 - 04/2024GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

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The University of British Columbia (UBC)

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers

- 1. Irix Xu*, Romina Mahinpei*, Steven Wolfman, and Firas Moosvi. 2026. Performance and Start-Time Trends in Asynchronous Computer-Based Assessments. [Paper]. In Proceedings of the 57th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, Volume 2 (SIGCSE TS 2026). DOI: To Appear.
- 2. Romina Mahinpei, Manoel Horta Ribeiro, Mae Milano. 2025. Interactive Theorem Provers for Proof Education. [Paper]. In Proceedings of the 2025 ACM SIGPLAN International Symposium on SPLASH-E (SPLASH-E '25). DOI: 10.1145/3758317.3759679.
- 3. Ivan Orozco Vasquez*, Romina Mahinpei*, Noureddine Elouazizi, Cristina Conati. 2025. An Emergent Bottom-Up Categorization of Students' LLMs Usage in an Undergraduate Research Course. [Paper]. Artificial Intelligence in Education (AIED 2025). Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Volume 15881. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-98462-4 17.
- 4. Romina Mahinpei*, Iris Xu*, Steven Wolfman, and Firas Moosvi. 2025. A Generalized Framework for Describing Question Randomization. [Paper]. In Proceedings of the 2025 ACM Conference on International Computing Education, Volume 1 (ICER 2025). DOI: 10.1145/3702652.3744222.
- 5. Romina Mahinpei, Chen Greif. 2024. Mixed Precision MINRES. [Paper]. SIAM Undergraduate Research Online, Volume 17 (SIURO). Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. DOI: 10.1137/24s1678489.

Workshop Papers & Posters

- 1. Adam Craig Pocock, Joseph Wonsil, Romina Mahinpei, Jack Sullivan, Margo Seltzer, 2025, Provenance Design and Evolution in a Production ML Library. [Workshop Paper]. Championing Open-source DEvelopment in ML Workshop @ ICML25 (CODEML @ICML 2025), OpenReview: https://openreview.net/forum?id=VrbDf3UDgv.
- 2. Romina Mahinpei*, Iris Xu*, Steven Wolfman, and Firas Moosvi. 2024. A Generalized Framework for Describing Question Randomization. [Poster]. In Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education, Volume 2 (SIGCSE TS 2024). DOI: 10.1145/3626253,3635599.

AWARDS

McGraw Center for Teaching & Learning Fellowship | Princeton University

2024

• Awarded for the 2024-2025 academic year to support the research, design, and development of Princeton University's STEM pedagogical resources.

Academic Award of Excellence | Department of Computer Science, UBC

2024

• Awarded to the student with the highest graduating average of the B.Sc. in Honours Computer Science.

Markus Meister Memorial Prize | Department of Computer Science, UBC

2024

• Awarded to the graduating student with the highest standing in the final year of the B.Sc. in Computer Science.

Trek Excellence Scholarship for Continuing Students | UBC

2021-2023

• Awarded yearly to domestic undergraduate students in the top 5% of their year, faculty, and school.

• Selected as one of 100 Canadian high school seniors nationwide to receive a four-year, full-tuition STEM scholarship recognizing academic excellence, leadership potential, and community involvement.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Humans & Machines Lab | Dr. Manoel Horta Ribeiro | Princeton University

01/2025 - Present

- Studying the potential of large language models (LLMs) as companions to teaching assistants for grading and feedback provision tasks in theoretical, proof-based courses through a randomized controlled trial.
- Studying the long-term influence of YouTube's recommendation algorithm on public perceptions of veganism through a long-term online survey.

Human-AI Interaction Lab | Dr. Cristina Conati | UBC

01/2024 - 08/2025

- Studied students' self-reported LLM usage patterns in an undergraduate research course and developed a categorization of students' LLM usage patterns.
- Studied the potential of six classical collaborative filtering algorithms in providing personalized sets of practice questions in automated assessment systems using student performance data.

Scientific Computing Lab | Dr. Chen Greif | UBC

05/2023 - 05/2024

- Studied the potential of mixed precision arithmetic as an efficient preconditioning strategy for solving saddle-point linear systems using the Minimal Residual (MINRES) method while maintaining accuracy.
- Proposed, implemented, and compared the speed-up of two mixed precision variants of MINRES in CUDA C across a range of saddle-point linear systems arising from fluid dynamics.

Systopia Lab | Dr. Margo Seltzer | UBC

01/2022 - 01/2023

- Studied the current state of data workflows across users from academia and industry through a user study and identified ways in which data provenance could simplify those workflows.
- Designed, implemented, and tested the Model Card package for <u>Tribuo</u>, Oracle's open-source Java ML library, to allow Tribuo users to create partially automated machine learning model documentation.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introductory Machine Learning | Princeton University

09/2024 - Present

- Assisting students in COS 324, Princeton's introductory machine learning course.
- Hosting one-hour-long office hours once a week, holding one-hour-long tutorials once a week, creating exam questions, and completing administrative tasks as the course's head teaching assistant.

Operating Systems | UBC

09/2023 - 04/2024

- Assisted students in CPSC 313, UBC's computer hardware and operating systems course.
- Hosted one-hour-long office hours once a week, held one-hour-long tutorials once a week, managed the team of teaching assistants responsible for creating randomized assessment questions using the PrairieLearn system.

Software Engineering | UBC

09/2022 - 04/2023

- Assisted students in CPSC 210, UBC's software construction and development course.
- Hosted one-hour-long office hours once a week, held two-hour-long labs twice a week, and graded exams.

Differential & Integral Calculus | UBC

09/2021 - 04/2022

- Assisted students in differential and integral calculus in Science One, an immersive program emphasizing the integration of different scientific disciplines and ranking as UBC's highest level of first-year science.
- Hosted one-hour-long office hours twice a week, held exam review sessions, and graded exams.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Intern | Microsoft

06/2025 - 08/2025

• Interned as a software engineer for one of Xbox's **AI engineering** teams.

• Implemented a context-aware chat participant for the Visual Studio Code Copilot to assist developers in partner teams with using our libraries integrating data experimentation features into their codebases.

Software Engineering Intern | Microsoft

06/2024 - 08/2024

- Interned as a software engineer for one of Xbox's data experimentation teams.
- Implemented new Semantic Kernel plugins for the team's Copilot, defined metrics to evaluate the success of the plugins, and created a Power BI report to summarize and visualize the defined metrics.

Software Engineering Intern | Microsoft

06/2023 - 08/2023

- Interned as a software engineer for one of Xbox's data engineering teams.
- Defined metrics to track the availability of core streams and implemented the pipelines and a Power BI report to summarize and visualize the defined metrics.

Software Engineering Intern | Microsoft

06/2022 - 08/2022

- Interned as a software engineer for one of Xbox's services and operations teams.
- Defined and implemented a new feature to personalize users' gaming experiences.