

Shaolun RUAN

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Research Area

To enhance the human ability to read and understand big data, I developed novel graphical representations and visual analytic systems that enable a more effective and smoother analysis using machines. Building upon the techniques from **Data Visualization** and **Human-Computer Interaction**, my work focuses on developing human-centered computing tools to address complex problems in various scientific domains, facilitating the process of explainability and data-driven decision-making. Our authoring tools and designs are appreciated and used by data enthusiasts, developers, and practitioners from different domains.

Education

Research scholar in Monash University

Faculty of Information Technology

Advised by Tim Dwyer, member of Immersive Analytics Lab.

Melbourne, Australia

2025.01 - present

Ph.D. candidate in Singapore Management University

School of Computing and Information System

Advised by Prof. Jiannan Li and Prof. Yong Wang

Singapore

2022.01 - present

B.S. in University of Electronic Science and Technology of China

School of Computing Science and Engineering

Member of Big Data Research Center

Chengdu, China

2015.09 - 2019.07

Notable Awards

Dean's List Award

Awarded for the top 3% PhD students in recognition of the significant research achievements.

2024

SMU Presidential Doctoral Fellowship

Awarded for PhD students who have consistently shown exceptional research achievements selected from the top 10% of PhD students.

2024

SMU Presidential Doctoral Fellowship

Awarded for PhD students who have consistently shown exceptional research achievements selected from the top 10% of PhD students.

2023

UESTC SCSE Outstanding Student Award

Awarded to students with an outstanding performance during the bachelor period.

2019

Mentorship and Publications

- Mentored Work -

Qipeng Wang(student), Rui Sheng, **Shaolun Ruan**(mentor), Xiaofu Jin, Chuhan Shi, Min Zhu.

SynthLens: Visual Analytics for Facilitating Multi-step Synthetic Route Design.

IEEE Transactions on Visualization & Computer Graphics (2025)

- Mentored Work -

Shaolun Ruan(mentor), Rohan Ramakrishnar(student), Chao Ren, Rudai Yan, Qiang Guan, Jiannan Li, Yong Wang.

Towards Explainable Quantum AI: Informing the Encoder Selection of Quantum Neural Networks via Visualization.

Under review.

- Mentored Work -

Qipeng Wang(student), **Shaolun Ruan**(mentor), Rui Sheng, Yong Wang, Min Zhu, Huamin Qu.
TrajLens: Visual Analytics for Constructing Cell Development Trajectories in Cross-Sample Analysis.
Conditionally accepted by IEEE VIS 2025.

Shaolun Ruan, Rui Sheng, Xiaolin Wen, Jiachen Wang, Tianyi Zhang, Yong Wang, Tim Dwyer, Jiannan Li.
Qualitative Study for LLM-assisted Design Study Process: Strategies, Challenges, and Roles.
Conditionally accepted by IEEE VIS 2025.

Shaolun Ruan, Qiang Guan, Paul Griffin, Ying Mao, Yong Wang.
QuantumEyes: Towards Better Interpretability of Quantum Circuits.
IEEE Transactions on Visualization & Computer Graphics (2023): 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TVCG.2023.3332999>

Shaolun Ruan, Zhiding Liang, Qiang Guan, Paul Griffin, Xiaolin Wen, Yanna Lin, and Yong Wang.
VIOLET: Visual Analytics for Explainable Quantum Neural Networks.
IEEE Transactions on Visualization & Computer Graphics (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1109/TVCG.2024.3388557>

Shaolun Ruan, Yong Wang, Weiwen Jiang, Ying Mao, Qiang Guan.
VACSEN: A Visualization Approach for Noise Awareness in Quantum Computing.
IEEE Transactions on Visualization & Computer Graphics 29.01 (2022): 462-472. <https://doi.org/10.1109/TVCG.2022.3209455>

Shaolun Ruan, Ribo Yuan, Qiang Guan, Yanna Lin, Ying Mao, Weiwen Jiang, Zhepeng Wang, Wei Xu, Yong Wang.
VENUS: A Geometrical Representation for Quantum State Visualization.
Computer Graphics Forum (CGF): 42-Issue 3. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cgf.14827>

Manusha Karunathilaka*, **Shaolun Ruan***, Lin-Ping Yuan, Jiannan Li, Zhiding Liang, Kavinda Athapaththu, Qiang Guan, Yong Wang.
Intuit: Explain Quantum Computing Concepts via AR-based Analogy.
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (Late-Breaking Work) 2025.

Xiaolin Wen, Tai Nguyen, **Shaolun Ruan**, Qiaomu Shen, Jun Sun, Feida Zhu, Yong Wang.
PonxziLens+: Visualizing Bytecode Actions for Smart Ponzi Scheme Identification.
IEEE Transactions on Visualization & Computer Graphics (2024).

Shaolun Ruan, Yong Wang, and Qiang Guan.
Intercept Graph: An Interactive Radial Visualization for Comparison of State Changes.
2021 IEEE Visualization Conference (VIS). IEEE, 2021: 111-115. <https://doi.org/10.1109/VIS49827.2021.9623307>

Shaolun Ruan, Yong Wang, Hailong Jiang, Weijia Xu, Qiang Guan.
BatchLens: A Visualization Approach for Analyzing Batch Jobs in Cloud Systems.
Proceedings of DATE 2022. IEEE, 2022: 108-111. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9774668>

Hailong Jiang*, **Shaolun Ruan***, Bo Fang, Yong Wang, Qiang Guan.
Visilience: An Interactive Visualization Framework for Resilience Analysis using Control-Flow Graph.
Proceedings of IEEE PRDC 2023. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10356508>

Shaolun Ruan, Zhikang Wang, Furui Cheng, Rui Sheng, Kai Qian, Jiangning Song, Jiannan Li, Yong Wang.
ImaGene: A Multimodal Visualization Tool for Gene-powered Cancer Prognosis.
Under review by IEEE VIS.

Rui Sheng, Zelin Zang, Jiachen Wang, Yan Luo, Zixin Chen, Yan Zhou, **Shaolun Ruan**, Huamin Qu.
CellScout: Visual Analytics for Mining Biomarkers in Cell State Discovery.
Under review by IEEE VIS.

Invited Talks

VIS meets Quantum Computing, HKUST Invited Talk on Enhancing the Transparency of Quantum Computing using Visualization.	2023.11
VAST Panel, HKUST Invited Speaker in the VisLab HAI Seminar.	2023.12
Towards Making Your VIS Paper Writing Better, UESTC, China Invited Talk About the Sharing of Academic Writing.	2024.01
VIS meets Quantum Computing, Sichuan University, China Invited Talk on Enhancing the Transparency of Quantum Computing using Visualization.	2024.01
Stepping Into the Era of Interpretable Quantum Computing, University of Notre Dame Invited Lecture in QuCS Lecture Series.	2024.02
VIS meets Quantum Computing, Central South University Invited Talk on Enhancing the Transparency of Quantum Computing using Visualization.	2024.04
VIS meets Quantum Computing, GAMES Webinar Invited Speaker for Research Talk and Panel Discussion.	2024.05

Teaching

Teaching Assistant IS428 - Visual Analytics for Business Intelligence	School of Computing and Information System, SMU AY2023-24, Spring
Teaching Assistant CS711 - Learning and Planning in Intelligent Systems	School of Computing and Information System, SMU AY2024-25, Fall

Media

[QuCS Lecture] No.59 [QuCS Lecture Series](#) by me ([Post](#)).

[SMU SCIS Department- News] [SCIS Dean's List Award](#) at 2024 has been released.

[SCU VIS News] Talk at SCU VIS Lab by me ([Chinese Article](#)).

[GAMES Webinar - Updates] No. 324 [GAMES Webinar](#) - Talk and Panel by me ([Chinese Article](#)).

[UESTC News] The School of Computer Science held the first 'Outstanding Award' ceremony ([Chinese Article](#)).