

# Silas Hsu

Assistant Professor

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (2024 – )

Email [sihsu@calpoly.edu](mailto:sihsu@calpoly.edu)

Website <https://smhsu.github.io/>

Google scholar <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=y58a-6gAAAAJ&hl=en>

## Education

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<b>University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</b>	2018 – 2024
Ph.D. in Computer Science	
Dissertation title: Building Better Control Settings for Online Content Curation	
Advisor: Karrie Karahalios	
 <b>Washington University in St. Louis</b>	2012 – 2017
M.S. in Computer Science (2017)	
B.S. in Computer Science, Major in Music (2016)	

## Publications in HCI

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Silas Hsu, Vinay Koshy, Kristen Vaccaro, Christian Sandvig, and Karrie Karahalios. *Placebo Effect of Control Settings in Feeds Are Not Always Strong* (CHI '25). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3714197>

Silas Hsu and Karrie Karahalios. *Choosing What You Want Versus Getting What You Want: An Experiment with Choice in Video Ad Placement* (CHI '24). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642869>

Tiffany Wenting Li and Silas Hsu (co-first authors), M Fowler, Z Zhang, C Zilles, and Karrie Karahalios. *Am I Wrong, or is the Autograder Wrong? Effects of AI Grading Mistakes and Error Rate Perception on Learning* (ICER '23). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3568813.3600124>

Silas Hsu and Tiffany Wenting Li (co-first authors), Z Zhang, M Fowler, C Zilles, and Karrie Karahalios. *Attitudes Surrounding an Imperfect AI Autograder* (CHI '21). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445424>.

Silas Hsu, K Vaccaro, Y Yue, A Rickman, and Karrie Karahalios. *Awareness, Navigation, and Use of Feed Control Settings Online* (CHI '20). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3313831.3376583>

## Publications in visualization and bioinformatics

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Zubair Lalani, G Chu, Silas Hsu, S Kagawa, M Xiang, S Zaccario, and Mohammed El-Kebir. *CNAViz: An interactive webtool for user-guided segmentation of tumor DNA sequencing data* (PLOS Computational Biology 2022). <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1010614>

Daofeng Li, D Purushotham, J Harrison, Silas Hsu, 8 other authors, and Ting Wang. *WashU Epigenome Browser update 2022* (Nucleic Acids Research 2022). <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkac238>

Daofeng Li and Silas Hsu, D Purushotham, R Sears, and Ting Wang. *WashU Epigenome Browser update 2019* (Nucleic Acids Research 2019). <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkz348>.

Huawen Lin, N Nauman, A Albee, Silas Hsu, and Susan K Dutcher. *New mutations in flagellar motors identified by whole genome sequencing in Chlamydomonas* (Cilia 2013). <https://doi.org/10.1186/2046-2530-2-14>.

## Teaching experience

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Assistant Professor @ California Polytechnic State University  
 User-Centered Interface Design and Development  
 Dynamic Web Development

Teaching Assistant @ University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Data Visualization	2022
Social Visualization (obtained Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award)	2021
Intro to Computer Science	2019

Teaching Assistant @ Washington University in St. Louis

Algorithms and Data Structures	2015
Intro to Computer Science	2013, 2014

Piano Teacher @ Orchestrating Diversity 2014 – 2017  
*This was a volunteer position affiliated with Wash U St. Louis. It focused on giving free music lessons and experiences to children whose parents could not otherwise afford it.*

## Honors and awards

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Mavis Future Faculty Fellow	2022
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award	2021
Diffenbaugh Fellowship	2021 – 2022
Saburo Muroga Endowed Fellowship	2018 – 2019
Friends of Music scholarship awards at Washington University	2015, 2016
1 <sup>st</sup> place, Washington University Concerto and Aria Competition	2014

## Software engineering experience

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**Research Tech II** 2017 – 2018

*Washington University School of Medicine*

- Designed and built the web architecture of the Wash U Epigenome Browser for genomics visualization: <https://github.com/epgg/eg>
- Built the above for web browsers using React.
- Navigated and solved many issues surrounding big data visualization.

**Software Development Engineer Intern** 2015

*Amazon.com, under IMDb*

- Built a new REST service that stored and served links between IMDb titles and external vendors.
- Integrated the above system with IMDb's website, allowing film/TV pages to display real-time Amazon prices.