

Gabriel Lima

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests reside at the intersection of human-computer interaction (HCI) and artificial intelligence (AI) ethics. I interrogate the prevailing narratives surrounding AI, explore how they shape laypeople's understanding of the technology, and seek to identify strategies to promote more grounded perceptions of real-world AI systems. I also explore whether and how the public opinion about AI can inform AI governance to ensure that it benefits those subjected to consequential AI systems.

During my PhD, I have focused on investigating how different ways of talking about AI and its ethical implications can shape the public's perception of AI systems. My research approach is highly interdisciplinary; I collaborate with scholars from psychology, law, sociology, and communication and employ quantitative and computational methods to capture and make sense of narratives about AI and people's perceptions and opinions.

During my BS and MS, I investigated people's perceptions of moral and legal responsibility for algorithmic decision-making. My research focused on capturing who people consider responsible when AI causes harm to embed laypeople's opinions in normative research and policymaking to mitigate potential conflicts between folk expectations and AI governance.

EDUCATION

Max Planck Institute for Security and Privacy (MPI-SP)

Bochum, Germany, Sep. 2023 – Present

Ph.D. in Computer Science. Advisor: Yixin Zou.

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

Daejeon, South Korea, Mar. 2021 – Feb. 2023

M.S. in Computer Science. Advisor: Meeyoung Cha.

Thesis: The Conflict Between Explainability and Responsibility in Algorithmic Decision-Making

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)

Daejeon, South Korea, Feb. 2017 – Feb. 2021

Advanced B.S. in Computer Science (with honors).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Do Citizens Agree with the EU AI Act? Public Perspectives on Risk and Regulation of AI Systems

Gabriel Lima, Gustavo Gil Gasiola, Frederike Zufall, Yixin Zou

Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2026

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3772318.3790535>

Lay Perceptions of Algorithmic Discrimination in the Context of Systemic Injustice

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Markus Langer, Yixin Zou

Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2025

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713536>

Best Paper Honorable Mention Award

Public Opinions About Copyright for AI-Generated Art: The Role of Egocentricity, Competition, and Experience

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Elissa Redmiles

Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2025

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713338>

Who Should Pay When Machines Cause Harm? Laypeople's Expectations of Legal Damages for Machine-Caused Harm

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Jin Keun Jeong, Meeyoung Cha

Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAcT). 2023

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3593013.3593992>

Blaming Humans and Machines: What Shapes People's Reactions to Algorithmic Harm

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Meeyoung Cha

Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2023

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3544548.3580953>

The Conflict Between Explainable and Accountable Decision-Making Algorithms

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Jin Keun Jeong, Meeyoung Cha

Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT). 2022

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3593013.3593992>

Best Student Paper at the "Issues in XAI #4: Explainable AI: Between Ethics and Epistemology" Workshop

HONORS AND AWARDS

Best Paper Honorable Mention Award at ACM CHI (Top 5%)

2025

Received for the paper titled "Lay Perceptions of Algorithmic Discrimination in the Context of Systemic Injustice."

Recognition for Diversity and Inclusion at ACM CSCW

2025

Received for the paper titled "Beyond 'Vulnerable Populations': A Unified Understanding of Vulnerability From A Socio-Ecological Perspective"

KAIST School of Computing Outstanding Thesis Award

2023

Received for my M.S. thesis titled "The Conflict Between Explainability and Responsibility in Algorithmic Decision-Making."

SIGCHI Gary Marsden Travel Award

2023

Received USD 2,500 to attend ACM CHI 2023 and present my paper titled "Blaming Humans and Machines: What Shapes People's Reactions to Algorithmic Harm."

Best Student Paper Award

2022

Received at the "Issues in XAI #4: Explainable AI: Between Ethics and Epistemology" workshop for the paper titled "The Conflict Between Explainable and Accountable Decision-Making Algorithms," which was later published at ACM FAccT 2022.

New Horizons Award at ACM EAAMO

2022

Received at the ACM Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO '22) for the paper titled "Dimensions of Diversity in Human Perceptions of Algorithmic Fairness." The New Horizons Award is given to papers "bridging research and practice that EAAMO aspires to foster."

KAIST School of Humanities and Social Sciences Best Paper Award

Spring Semester, 2020

Received for the paper titled "How Granting Rights to AI and Robots Might Conflict with Human Rights."

KAIST School of Computing Dean's List

Fall Semester, 2018

Received for outstanding academic achievement.

KAIST Graduate/Undergraduate Research Project (CURP) Funding

2018

Received KRW 8,000,000 (USD 6,700) for a research project on classifying emotion from raw speech data.

SERVICE

Program Committee Member / Associate Chair

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)

Critical Computing, Sustainability, and Social Justice subcommittee

2026

Reviewer

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)	2023–2026
<i>Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews: ACM CHI 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026</i>	
IEEE Security & Privacy	2025
ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)	2023, 2026
Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO)	2023
ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)	2022–2023
<i>Special Recognition for Outstanding Review: ACM CSCW 2022</i>	
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) - Late Breaking Work	2022–2023
International Journal of Human-Computer Studies	2022
We Robot Conference	2021

Co-Founder & Member of the MPI-SP Ethics Review Board (ERB) 2024 – Present
 Designed and implemented all processes relevant to the Ethics Review Board (ERB) at MPI-SP.
 Currently a member of the board, being responsible for reviewing studies.

PhD Representative for MPI-SP Apr. 2024 – Present
 Responsible for representing MPI-SP PhD students in meetings discussing student-related issues at MPI-SP and the Max Planck Society.

Member of the Max Planck Law | Tech | Society Initiative Dec. 2023 – Present
 Hosted speakers on topics in the intersection of law, technology, and society, and organized symposiums for graduate students from all around the world.

WORK EXPERIENCES

Instructor

AI Ethics & Society (212044) Ruhr University Bochum — Winter Semester 2025/26

Teaching Assistant

Privacy, Data Governance and Usability (212037) Ruhr University Bochum — Winter Semester 2023/24, 2024/25
 Data Science Methodology (CS564) KAIST — Fall Semester 2021, Spring Semester 2022
 Scientific Writing (CC500) KAIST — Fall Semester 2021

Research Intern

Max Planck Institute for Software Systems (MPI-SWS). Supervisor: Elissa Redmiles. Jun. 2023–Aug. 2023

MEDIA/ACADEMIC COVERAGE

Impacts: Law and AI - Max Planck Law Oct. 2024
 Reference to my ACM FAccT 2022 paper titled “The Conflict Between Explainable and Accountable Decision-Making Algorithms.”
<https://law.mpg.de/impact/law-and-ai/>

Should Robots With Artificial Intelligence Have Moral or Legal Rights? - The Wall Street Journal Apr. 2023
 Reference to my ACM CSCW 2020 paper titled “Collecting the Public Perception of AI and Robot Rights.”
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/robots-ai-legal-rights-3c47ef40>

PUBLICATIONS LIST

Conferences are the primary publication venues for computer science/human-computer interaction (CS/HCI) research. Thus, the majority of my research is published in CS/HCI conference proceedings.

* denotes co-first authorship.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

C1) **Do Citizens Agree with the EU AI Act? Public Perspectives on Risk and Regulation of AI Systems**

Gabriel Lima, Gustavo Gil Gasiola, Frederike Zufall, Yixin Zou
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2026
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3772318.3790535>

- C2) **What is Safety? Corporate Discourse, Power, and the Politics of Generative AI Safety**
Ankolika De, Gabriel Lima, Yixin Zou
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2026
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3772318.3791632>
- C3) **Lay Perceptions of Algorithmic Discrimination in the Context of Systemic Injustice**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Markus Langer, Yixin Zou
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2025
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713536>
Best Paper Honorable Mention Award
- C4) **Public Opinions About Copyright for AI-Generated Art: The Role of Egocentricity, Competition, and Experience**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Elissa Redmiles
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2025
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3706598.3713338>
- C5) **Beyond ‘Vulnerable Populations:’ A Unified Understanding of Vulnerability From A Socio-Ecological Perspective**
Xinru Tang, Gabriel Lima, Li Jiang Jiang, Lucy Simko, Yixin Zou
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). 2025
<https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3710935>
Recognition for Diversity and Inclusion
- C6) **Who Should Pay When Machines Cause Harm? Laypeople's Expectations of Legal Damages for Machine-Caused Harm**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Jin Keun Jeong, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT). 2023
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3593013.3593992>
- C7) **Blaming Humans and Machines: What Shapes People's Reactions to Algorithmic Harm**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2023
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3544548.3580953>
- C8) **The Conflict Between Explainable and Accountable Decision-Making Algorithms**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Jin Keun Jeong, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT). 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3531146.3534628>
Best Student Paper at the “Issues in XAI #4: Explainable AI: Between Ethics and Epistemology” Workshop
- C9) **Others Are to Blame: Whom People Consider Responsible for Online Misinformation**
Gabriel Lima, Jiyoung Han, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3512953>
- C10) **Emotion Bubbles: Emotional Compositions of Online Discourse Before and After the COVID-19 Outbreak**
Assem Zhunis, Gabriel Lima, Hyeonho Song, Jiyoung Han, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the Web Conference (WebConf). 2022

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3485447.3512132>

- C11) **Dimensions of Diversity in Human Perceptions of Algorithmic Fairness**
Nina Grgić-Hlača, Gabriel Lima, Adrian Weller, Elissa M. Redmiles
Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO). 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3551624.3555306>
New Horizons Award
- C12) **Human Perceptions on Moral Responsibility of AI: A Case Study in AI-Assisted Bail Decision-Making**
Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2021
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445260>
- C13) **Collecting the Public Perception of AI and Robot Rights**
Gabriel Lima, Changyeon Kim, Seungho Ryu, Chihyung Jeon, Meeyoung Cha
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). 2020
<https://doi.org/10.1145/3415206>

JOURNAL PAPERS

- J1) **User-Chatbot Conversations During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Study Based on Topic Modeling and Sentiment Analysis**
Hyojin Chin, Gabriel Lima, Mingi Shin, Assem Zhunis, Chiyoung Cha, Junghoi Choi, Meeyoung Cha
Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR). 2023
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2196/40922>
- J2) **Misinformation, Believability, and Vaccine Acceptance Over 40 Countries: Takeaways From the Initial Phase of The COVID-19 Infodemic**
Karandeep Singh*, Gabriel Lima*, Meeyoung Cha, Chiyoung Cha, Juhi Kulshrestha, Yong-Yeol Ahn, Onur Varol
PLOS ONE. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0263381>
- J3) **QAnon Shifts Into the Mainstream, Remains a Far-Right Ally**
Saifelddeen Zihiri*, Gabriel Lima*, Jiyoung Han, Meeyoung Cha, Wonjae Lee
Heliyon. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2022.e08764>
- J4) **The Conflict Between People's Urge to Punish AI and Legal Systems**
Gabriel Lima, Meeyoung Cha, Chihyung Jeon, Kyung Sin Park
Frontiers in Robotics and AI. 2021
<https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2021.756242>
- J5) **On the Social-Relational Moral Standing of AI: An Empirical Study Using AI-Generated Art**
Gabriel Lima, Assem Zhunis, Lev Manovich, Meeyoung Cha
Frontiers in Robotics and AI. 2021
<https://doi.org/10.3389/frobt.2021.719944>
- J6) **Prevalence of Misinformation and Factchecks on the COVID-19 Pandemic in 35 Countries: Observational Infodemiology Study**
Meeyoung Cha, Chiyoung Cha, Karandeep Singh, Gabriel Lima, Yong-Yeol Ahn, Juhi Kulshrestha, Onur Varol
JMIR Human Factors. 2021
<https://doi.org/10.2196/23279>

BOOK CHAPTERS

B1) **Human Perceptions of AI-Caused Harm**

Gabriel Lima, Meeyoung Cha

The Cambridge Handbook of Experimental Jurisprudence. 2025

<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009170901.028>

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

WP1) **Who Should Algorithms Favor—If Anyone? Attitudes Towards Fair, Affirmative, and Discriminatory Decision-Making Algorithms**

Anonymized [first author]

Under review. 2026

WP2) **AI Chatbots Are Not Fire—They Are Just Facebook**

Anonymized [first author]

Under review. 2026

WORKSHOP/SHORT PAPERS

W1) **How XAI May Be Exploited To Create Seemingly Blameworthy AI**

Gabriel Lima, Nina Grgić-Hlača, Meeyoung Cha, Jin Keun Jeong

Human-Centered Explainable AI (HCXAI) Workshop at the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2022

W2) **Will Punishing Robots Become Imperative in the Future?**

Gabriel Lima, Chihyung Jeon, Meeyoung Cha, Kyungsin Park

Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2020

<https://doi.org/10.1145/3334480.3383006>

W3) **Descriptive AI Ethics: Collecting and Understanding the Public Opinion**

Gabriel Lima, Meeyoung Cha

Ethics in Design Workshop at the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW). 2020

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.05957>

W4) **Responsible AI and Its Stakeholders**

Gabriel Lima, Meeyoung Cha

Fair and Responsible AI Workshop at 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2020

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.11434>