

Toby Jia-Jun Li

Curriculum Vitae

Human-Computer Interaction Institute
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Research Interests

Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Human-AI Interaction, End-User Development, Programming by Demonstration, Multi-Modal Interaction, Interactive Task Learning, Natural Language Programming, Instructable Agents, Developer Tools.

Education

Ph.D. in Human-Computer Interaction (expected in Spring 2021) **2015–Present**

Carnegie Mellon University, *Pittsburgh, PA*

Human Computer Interaction Institute, School of Computer Science

Advisor: Brad A. Myers

Committee: Tom M. Mitchell, Jeffery P. Bigham, John Zimmerman, and Philip J. Guo

B.S. with Distinction in Computer Science **2012–2015**

University of Minnesota, *Minneapolis, MN*

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Advisor: Brent J. Hecht

Major Peer-Reviewed Conference and Journal Papers

- [C.13] **Multi-Modal Repairs of Conversational Breakdowns in Task-Oriented Dialogs**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Jingya Chen, Haijun Xia, Tom M. Mitchell, and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST 2020)
- [C.12] **Geno: A Developer Tool for Authoring Multimodal Interaction on Existing Web Applications**
Ritam Sarmah, Yunpeng Ding, Di Wang, Cheuk Yin Phipson Lee, **Toby Jia-Jun Li** and Xiang ‘Anthony’ Chen
Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST 2020)
- [C.11] **Interactive Task Learning from GUI-Grounded Natural Language Instructions and Demonstrations**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2020): System Demonstrations
- [C.10] **Privacy-Preserving Script Sharing in GUI-based Programming-by-Demonstration Systems**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Jingya Chen, Brandon Canfield and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW 2020)

- [C.9] **PUMICE: A Multi-Modal Agent that Learns Concepts and Conditionals from Natural Language and Demonstrations**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Marissa Radensky, Justin Jia, Kirielle Singarajah, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST 2019)
- [C.8] **A Multi-Modal Interface for Specifying Data Descriptions in Programming by Demonstration Using Verbal Instructions**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Igor Labutov, Xiaohan Nancy Li, Xiaoyi Zhang, Wenzhe Shi, Wanling Ding, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC 2018)
- [C.7] **KITE: Building conversational bots from mobile apps**
Toby Jia-Jun Li and Oriana Riva
Proceedings of the the ACM Conference on Mobile Systems, Applications, and Services (MobiSys 2018)
- [C.6] **Programming IoT Devices by Demonstration Using Mobile Apps**
 **Toby Jia-Jun Li**, Yuanchun Li, Fanglin Chen and Brad A. Myers
International Symposium on End User Development (IS-EUD 2017). LNCS, vol. 10303
Best Paper Award
- [C.5] **SUGILITE: Creating Multimodal Smartphone Automation by Demonstration**
 **Toby Jia-Jun Li**, Amos Azaria and Brad A. Myers
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2017)
Best Paper Honorable Mention Award
- [C.4] **PrivacyStreams: Enabling Transparency in Personal Data Processing for Mobile Apps**
Yuanchun Li, Fanglin Chen, **Toby Jia-jun Li**, Yao Guo, Gang Huang, Matthew Fredrikson, Yuvraj Agarwal and Jason I. Hong
Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (PACM IMWUT / UbiComp 2017)
- [C.3] **Not at Home on the Range: Peer Production and the Urban/Rural Divide**
Isaac Johnson, Yilun Lin, **Toby Jia-Jun Li**, Andrew Hall, Aaron Halfaker, Johannes Schöning and Brent Hecht
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2016)
- [C.2] **Leveraging Advances in Natural Language Processing to Better Understand Tobler's First Law of Geography**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Shilad Sen and Brent Hecht
Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems (SIGSPATIAL 2014)
- [C.1] **WikiBrain: Democratizing Computation on Wikipedia**
Shilad Sen, **Toby Jia-Jun Li**, WikiBrain Team and Brent Hecht
Proceedings of the International Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym / WikiSym 2014)

Minor Lightly-Reviewed Posters, Extended Abstracts and Workshop Papers

- [W.8] **Towards Effective Human-AI Collaboration in GUI-Based Interactive Task Learning Agents**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Jingya Chen, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
CHI 2020 Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for HCI: A Modern Approach (AI4HCI)

- [W.7] **Interactive Task and Concept Learning from Natural Language Instructions and GUI Demonstrations**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Marissa Radensky, Justin Jia, Kirielle Singarajah, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
The AAAI-20 Workshop on Intelligent Process Automation (IPA-20)
- [W.6] **A Multi-Modal Approach to Concept Learning in Task Oriented Conversational Agents**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Marissa Radensky, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
CHI 2019 Workshop on Conversational Agents: Acting on the Wave of Research and Development
- [W.5] **How End Users Express Conditionals in Programming by Demonstration for Mobile Apps**
 Marissa Radensky, **Toby Jia-Jun Li** and Brad A. Myers
IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC 2018) Poster Track
- [W.4] **Supporting Co-Adaptive Human-Agent Relationship through Programming by Demonstration using Existing GUIs**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Igor Labutov, Xiaohan Nancy Li, Tom M. Mitchell and Brad A. Myers
CHI 2018 Workshop on Rethinking Interaction
- [W.3] **End User Mobile Task Automation using Multimodal Programming by Demonstration**
Toby Jia-Jun Li
IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC 2017) Graduate Consortium
- [W.2] **Designing a Conversational Interface for a Multimodal Smartphone Programming by Demonstration Agent**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Brad A. Myers, Amos Azaria, Igor Labutov, Alexander Rudnicky and Tom M. Mitchell
CHI 2017 Workshop on Conversational UX Design
- [W.1] **Smartphone Text Entry in Cross-Application Tasks**
Toby Jia-Jun Li and Brad A. Myers
CHI 2016 Workshop on Inviscid Text Entry and Beyond

Book Sections

- [B.2] **Teaching Agents When They Fail: End User Development in Goal-Oriented Conversational Agents**
Toby Jia-Jun Li, Igor Labutov, Brad A. Myers, Amos Azaria, Alexander Rudnicky and Tom M. Mitchell
 Chapter of *Studies in Conversational UX Design*. Springer
- [B.1] **Making End User Development More Natural**
 Brad A. Myers, Amy Ko, Chris Scaffidi, Stephen Oney, YoungSeok Yoon, Kerry Chang, Mary Beth Kery and **Toby Jia-Jun Li**
 Chapter of *New Perspectives in End-User Development*. Springer

Patents

- [P.1] **Automatically generating conversational services from a computing application**
 Oriana Riva, Jason Kace, Doug Burger and **Toby Jia-Jun Li**
 U.S. Patent Application 16/002,915. Filed December 12, 2019

Invited Talks and Presentations

- [T.10] **SUGILITE: A Multi-Modal Agent that Learns Tasks from Natural Language and Demonstrations**
Presentation at *the ACL 2020 Workshop on Natural Language Interfaces*
Seattle, WA. July 10, 2020
- [T.9] **Interactive Task Learning from GUI-Grounded Natural Language Instructions and Demonstrations**
Invited Talk at *the AAAI-20 Workshop on Intelligent Process Automation (IPA-20)*
New York, NY. Feb 7, 2020
- [T.8] **SUGILITE: A Multi-Modal Agent that Learns Tasks from Natural Language and Demonstrations**
Demonstration at *the 21st International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS 2019)*
Pittsburgh, PA. Oct. 28, 2019
- [T.7] **SUGILITE: A Multi-Modal Agent that Learns Tasks from Natural Language and Demonstrations**
Invited Lightning Talk at CMU HCII 25th Anniversary
Pittsburgh, PA. Oct. 25, 2019
- [T.6] **Machine Learning from Human Instruction: Every Person a Programmer**
Invited Talk at J.P. Morgan (*with Forough Arabshahi*)
New York, NY. May 24, 2019
- [T.5] **Teaching Intelligent Agents New Tricks: Natural Language Instructions plus Programming-by-Demonstration for Teaching Tasks**
Invited Talk at *Human Computer Interaction Consortium (HCIC '18)* (*with Brad Myers*)
Watsonville, CA. Jun. 25, 2018
- [T.4] **SUGILITE: Enabling InMind Agent to Learn New Tasks from User Demonstration**
Invited Talk at Oath (formerly Yahoo!)
Sunnyvale, CA. May 30, 2018
- [T.3] **Atlasify – The Geography of Everything**
Invited Demo at *3M Science and Engineering Symposium*
St Paul, MN. Jun 25, 2015
- [T.2] **Atlasify – The Geography of Everything**
Invited Demo at *the Social Media and Business Analytics Collaborative (SOBACO) Spring Research Symposium*
Minneapolis, MN. May 14, 2015
- [T.1] **WikiBrain: Making Computer Programs Smarter with Knowledge from Wikipedia**
Invited Demo at *the Social Media and Business Analytics Collaborative (SOBACO) Spring Research Symposium*
Minneapolis, MN. May 6, 2014.

Relevant Research Grants

JP Morgan Research Award: Machine Learning from Human Instruction: Every Person a Programmer

PI: Tom M. Mitchell, Co-PI: Brad A. Myers

\$149,207 (2019)

- This grant was directly based on my research in [C.9] on combining natural language task instructions with GUI-grounded demonstrations. I helped write the proposal, prepared the progress reports, and gave invited talks at JP Morgan.

Google Cloud Research Credit Grant: SUGILITE: A Multi-Modal Agent that Learns Tasks from Natural Language and Demonstrations

PI: Toby Jia-Jun Li

\$2,000 in credits (2019-2020)

- This grant funded the infrastructure and computational resources used the development and the field deployment of our SUGILITE system.

NSF IIS-1814472: CHS: Small: Multimodal Conversational Assistant that Learns from Demonstrations

PI: Brad A. Myers and Tom M. Mitchell

\$499,019 (2018-2021)

- This grant was directly based on my research in [C.5-11] on enabling conversational assistants to learn from demonstrations. I helped write the proposal and prepared the progress reports.

Yahoo InMind Award: Automating Repetitive and Cross-App Tasks

PI: Brad A. Myers, Co-I: Toby Jia-Jun Li

\$400,000 (2016-2019)

- This grant was directly based on my research in [C.5-6] on automating repetitive and cross-app tasks through programming by demonstration. I helped write the proposal, prepared progress reports, and gave invited talks at Yahoo!.

Selected Honors and Awards

Yahoo! InMind Fellowship (<i>Full support for 4 years</i>)	2016–2019
NSF Travel Grant for ACM IUI 2019 (<i>\$450</i>)	2019
NSF Travel Grant for ACM MobiSys 2018 (<i>\$1,500</i>)	2018
Rethinking Interaction CHI 2018 Workshop Grant (<i>\$1,000</i>)	2018
IS-EUD 2017 Best Paper Award	2017
CHI 2017 Best Paper Honorable Mention Award	2017
VL/HCC 2017 Doctoral Consortium Grant (<i>\$1,200</i>)	2017
2016 Bosch Internet of Things Hackathon – 1st place (<i>\$1,000</i>)	2016
University of Minnesota Gold Global Excellence Scholarship (<i>\$33,680 over 4 years</i>)	2012–2015
UROP Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program Grant (<i>\$1,400</i>)	2013–2014
NSF Travel Grant for ACM SIGSPATIAL 2014 (<i>\$720</i>)	2014
ESRI Scholarship (<i>\$2,000</i>)	2014
University of Minnesota Cultural Corps Awards (<i>\$150</i>)	2014
University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering: Dean's List	2012–2015
ACM/ICPC International Collegiate Programming Contest Word Final Qualifier	2013

Relevant Research Experience**Engineering Implementation Consultant****Aug. 2017–Dec. 2017****Research Intern****May. 2017–Aug. 2017**

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Mentor: Dr. Oriana Riva

- Designed, developed, and studied a new conversational bot development tool using deep neural network, user task modeling, and mobile app analysis. My work was published [C.7] and patented [P.1].

Research Assistant**Jan. 2013 – Aug. 2015**

GroupLens Research, University of Minnesota

- Led the development and field deployment of ATLASIFY – a novel interactive spatial visualization and exploratory search system used by over 10,000 unique users [T.2] [T.3].
- Developed major parts of WIKIBRAIN – a popular open-source software framework for knowledge extraction and computation on Wikipedia [C.1] [T.1].
- Designed and conducted spatial and natural language analysis on Wikipedia data for evaluating Tobler's First Law of Geography and measuring the urban/rural bias in Wikipedia [C.2] [C.3].

Teaching Experience**Guest Lecturer**, 05-830: *Advanced User Interface Software***Fall 2020**

Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Teaching Assistant, 05-391 / 05-891: *Designing Human-Centered Software***Spring 2019**

Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Teaching Assistant, 05-410 / 05-610: *User-Centered Research & Evaluation***Fall 2018**

Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Teaching Staff, CSCI 5715: *From GPS and Google Maps to Spatial Computing***Fall 2014**

Coursera MOOC & Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering, Univ. of Minnesota

Teaching Assistant, CSCI 2011: *Discrete Structures of Computer Science***Fall 2013, Spring 2014**

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota

Students Mentored**Tiffany Cai** (CMU)**Spring 2017**

- Worked on a new mobile keyboard for recording text entries in demonstration.

Jeremy Wei (CMU)**Spring 2017**

- Worked on identifying crucial actions in demonstrated scripts.

Xiaohan Nancy Li (CMU, now at Microsoft)**Fall 2017**

- Worked on representing and querying snapshots of mobile GUIs. [C.8][W.4]

Wenze Shi (CMU)**Spring 2018**

- Worked on extracting semantic entities from mobile GUIs. [C.8]

Wanling Ding (CMU)**Spring 2018**

- Worked on generating user friendly representations for demonstrated scripts. [C.8]

Marissa Radensky (Amherst College, REU intern at CMU, now Ph.D. student at UW)**Summer 2018**

- Worked on supporting conditionals in programming by demonstration. [W.5][W.6][C.9]

Justin Jia (CMU)**Spring 2019**

- Worked on semantic parsing for concept instructions. [C.9]

Kirielle Singarajah (CMU)**Spring 2019**

- Worked on semantic parsing for concept instructions. [C.9]

Brandon Canfield (Yale University, REU intern at CMU)**Summer 2019**

- Worked on enabling privacy-preserving sharing of end user developed scripts. [C.10]

William Timkey (Cornell University, REU intern at CMU, now at Univ. of Cambridge) **Summer 2019**

- *Worked crowd-sourced data collection for semantic parsers.*

Jingya Chen (CMU)

Summer 2019–2020

- *Worked on multi-modal error handling for speech interfaces. [W.8][C.10][C.13]*

Lindsay Popowski (Harvey Mudd College, REU intern at CMU)

Summer 2020

Vanessa Hu (Harvard University, REU intern at CMU)

Summer 2020

Professional Service

Academic Service

Associate Chair, ACM CHI 2020 Late Breaking Work Track

Program Committee, AAAI-20 Workshop on Intelligent Process Automation (IPA 20)

Associate Chair, ACM CHI 2019 Late Breaking Work Track

Session Chair, ACM CHI 2019 Session on *Conversational Interactions*

Paper Reviewing

Conferences: **ACM CHI** (2017-2020), **ACM UIST** (2017-2020), **ACM CSCW** (2018-2020), **ACM DIS** (2018-2020), **ACM MobileHCI** (2018-2020), **ACM TEI** (2018), **ACM SIGCSE** (2018), **ACM CHI PLAY** (2019).

- Received “special recognitions” for outstanding reviews for ACM UIST 2017, ACM CHI 2018, and ACM DIS 2020.

Journals: **ACM IMWUT** (2017-2020), **IEEE TMC** (2018), **IEEE TSC** (2020), **IEEE Pervasive** (2018-2019), **IJGIS** (2017), **IEEE Access** (2019-2020)

Departmental and Community Service

Coordinator, CMU HCII Open House Faculty Research Talks (2020)

Committee Member, CMU HCII Faculty Lunch Organization Committee (2019-2020)

Committee Member, CMU HCII Ph.D. Student Lounge Committee (2019-2020)

Committee Member, CMU HCII Ph.D. Admissions Committee (2018-2019)

Student Volunteer, ACM IUI 2019, ACM SIGSPATIAL 2014

Languages

English – Native or bilingual proficiency, **Chinese (Mandarin)** – Native or bilingual proficiency

Technical Skills

Programming Languages: C/C++, Java, Python, Scheme, Android, JavaScript, SQL, HTML and others

Keywords: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing, Dialog Systems, Conversational UX