Yuxi Wu, PhD

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Summary

I am a **human-computer interaction** and **design** researcher specializing in **usable privacy and security**. I examine how the deep entanglement of algorithmic technologies and digital services into society has resulted in concrete harms to people's privacy; I design collaborative and social systems to help people recover from these privacy losses.

Education

Georgia Institute of Technology *Ph.D., Computer Science.* 2024.
    Dissertation: "Designing Collective Action Systems for User Privacy."
    Advisors: Sauvik Das and W. Keith Edwards.
    Committee: Joseph Calandrino, Christopher Le Dantec, Richmond Wong, Ellen Zegura.

University of Chicago *M.S., Computational Analysis and Public Policy.* 2018.

University College London *B.A., Economics and Business.* 2015.

Academic Appointment

Northeastern University *Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Fellow.* 2024 to present.
    Faculty Mentor: Alexandra To.

Selected Awards

JP Morgan Chase *AI Research PhD Fellowship.* 2023 to 2024.

Georgia Institute of Technology *President's Fellowship.* 2019 to 2023.

CSCW *Best Paper Honorable Mention.* 2021.

Publications

Refereed Conference Papers and Journal Articles

[11] Youngwook Do, Tingyu Cheng, **Yuxi Wu**, HyunJoo Oh, Daniel J Wilson, Gregory D Abowd, and Sauvik Das. 2025. On-demand RFID: Improving Privacy, Security, and User Trust in RFID Activation through Physically-Intuitive Design. In *Proceedings of the Symposium on Usable Security and Privacy (**USEC**)*. (January 2025).

[10] **Yuxi Wu**, William Agnew, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2025. Design(ing) Fictions for Collective Civic Reporting of Privacy Harms. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (**CSCW**)*, 9, 2, (April 2025), 1–26.

[9] **Yuxi Wu**, Jacob Logas, Devansh Ponda, Julia Haines, Jiaming Li, Jeffrey Nichols, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2025. Modeling End-User Affective Discomfort With Mobile App Permissions Across Physical Contexts. In *Proceedings of the Symposium on Usable Security and Privacy (**USEC**)*. (January 2025).

[8] **Yuxi Wu**, Alexandra To, Emilee Rader, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2025. Provoking Transformation in Usable Privacy and Security: Designing for Enduring End-User Motivation Beyond Expert Compliance. In *Proceedings of the 2025 New Security Paradigms Workshop (**NSPW**)*. (August 2025).

[7] **Yuxi Wu**, Ruoxi Zhang, Shiyue Liu, Mufei He, Aidan Hong, Jeremy J. Northup, Call Kainaroi, Fei Fang, and Hong Shen. 2025. Navigating Security and Privacy Threats in Homeless Service Provision. In *34th USENIX Security Symposium (**USENIX Security 2025**)*. (August 2025).

[6] **Yuxi Wu**, Sydney Bice, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2023. The Slow Violence of Surveillance Capitalism: How Online Behavioral Advertising Harms People. In *Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (**FAccT**)*, 1826–1837.

[5] **Yuxi Wu**, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2022. "A Reasonable Thing to Ask For": Towards a Unified Voice in Privacy Collective Action. In *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (**CHI**)*, 1–17.

[4] **Yuxi Wu**, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2022. SoK: Social Cybersecurity. In *2022 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (**Oakland**)*. IEEE, 1863–1879.

[3] Youngwook Do, Jung Wook Park, **Yuxi Wu**, Avinandan Basu, Dingtian Zhang, Gregory D Abowd, and Sauvik Das. 2021. Smart Webcam Cover: Exploring the Design of an Intelligent Webcam Cover to Improve Usability and Trust. *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (**IMWUT**)*, 5, 4, 1–21.

[2] Sindhu Kiranmai Ernala, Stephanie S Yang, **Yuxi Wu**, Rachel Chen, Kristen Wells, and Sauvik Das. 2021. Exploring the Utility Versus Intrusiveness of Dynamic Audience Selection on Facebook. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (**CSCW**)*, 5, CSCW2, 1–30.

[1] **Yuxi Wu**, Panya Gupta, Miranda Wei, Yasemin Acar, Sascha Fahl, and Blase Ur. 2018. Your Secrets Are Safe: How browsers' explanations impact misconceptions about private browsing mode. In *Proceedings of the 2018 World Wide Web Conference (**WWW**)*, 217–226.

Organized Workshops

[1] **Yuxi Wu**, Beatriz Palacios Abad, Vishal Sharma, Hanlin Li, and Alexandra To. 2025. Alternative Technology Consumption Under Capitalism. *Forthcoming Special Interest Group (SIG) at CSCW 2025*.

Invited Articles (Lightly Peer-Reviewed)

[2]   Sauvik Das and **Yuxi Wu**. 2022. From Our Fellows: How Online Behavioral Advertising Harms People. *Center for Democracy and Technology.*

[1]   Sauvik Das, W Keith Edwards, DeBrae Kennedy-Mayo, Peter Swire, and **Yuxi Wu**. 2021. Privacy for the People? Exploring Collective Action as a Mechanism to Shift Power to Consumers in End-User Privacy. *IEEE Security & Privacy*, 19, 05, 66–70.

Posters and Workshop Papers (Non-Archival, Lightly Reviewed)

[3]   **Yuxi Wu**. 2025. Journaling Privacy Harms. In *9th Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection (**ConPro**).*

[2]   **Yuxi Wu**, William Agnew, W Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2024. Design(ing) Fictions for Collective Civic Reporting of Privacy Harms. *6th Annual Symposium on Applications of Contextual Integrity (**PrivaCI**).*

[1]   **Yuxi Wu**, W. Keith Edwards, and Sauvik Das. 2023. SoK: Social Cybersecurity. *Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (**SOUPS**).*

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

Northeastern University *Host: Alexandra To.* 04/25.
'Taxonomizing, Measuring, and Responding to Privacy Harms."

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) *Annual Meeting.* 02/25.
"Designing Collective Action Systems for User Privacy."

University of Maryland–Baltimore County *School of Public Policy.* 04/24.
"Taxonomizing, Measuring, and Responding to Privacy Harms."

University of Maryland–College Park textitHost: Dana Priest. 01/24.
"Ad Technology Infrastructures."

Carnegie Mellon University *Host: Sauvik Das.* 03/23.
"Designing Collective Action Systems for User Privacy."

Georgia Institute of Technology *Host: Alyssa Sheehan.* 07/21.
"Privacy for the People."

Academic Service

Service to the Discipline

Associate Chair
CHI 2026 Privacy and Security Subcommittee

CHI 2025 User Experience and Usability Subcommittee

Program Committee
USENIX Security Posters 2025
CCS 2025
CSCW Posters 2024
USEC 2024, 2025

Reviewer
CHI 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024*
CHI LBW 2022
CSCW 2022, 2024
DIS 2021, 2024
IEEE S&P Magazine
Special Recognitions for Outstanding Reviews

Student Volunteer
CHI 2022
IEEE S&P 2022

Institutional Service

PhD Recruiting and Outreach, Georgia Institute of Technology
Panelist, Current PhD Students in Interactive Computing, 2020, 2023, 2024
Panelist and Member, Graduate Women in College of Computing, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Student Reviewer, Georgia Tech School of Interactive Computing PhD Admissions, 2024

Teaching

College of Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology
TA, Human-Computer Interaction. Fall 2023.
Co-Instructor, Usable Privacy and Security. Spring 2023.
TA, Computing, Society, and Professionalism. Fall 2022.
TA, User Interface Design. Summer 2021.

Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
TA, Data Skills for Public Policy (R). Winter 2018.
TA, Introduction to Programming for Public Policy (Python). Fall 2017.

Mentorship

Master's Students
Regina Wang, Northeastern University

Undergraduate Students
    Ruoxi (Pauline) Zhang, Carnegie Mellon University
    Shiyue (Zoe) Liu, Carnegie Mellon University
    Sydney Bice, Georgia Institute of Technology
    Stephanie Yang, Georgia Institute of Technology
    Nancy Wang, Georgia Institute of Technology

Grants and Funding

Northeastern University *Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship* ($50,000). 2024 to 2026.

JP Morgan Chase *AI Research PhD Fellowship* (Tuition and Stipend). 2023 to 2024.

ACM FAccT *Travel Grant* ($1400). 2023.

IEEE S&P *Student Travel Grant* ($1300). 2022.

Georgia Institute of Technology GVU Center *Travel Grant* ($300). 2022.

Georgia Institute of Technology *President's Fellowship* ($22,000). 2019 to 2023.

Additional Experience

Democratic National Committee *Mobilization Analytics Manager*. 2018 to 2019.
    Led Mobilization data team during 2018 midterm elections. Oversaw data warehouse migration from Vertica to BigQuery. Designed experiments for grassroots fundraising and voter outreach. Modeled donor engagement and prospects. Created, maintained, and overhauled reporting pipelines for the DNC and vendors.

Dept. of Computer Science, University of Chicago *Research Assistant*. 2017 to 2018.
    Worked with Prof. Blase Ur to research user misconceptions about private browsing.

Urban Center for Computation and Data *Research Assistant*. Summer 2017.
    Performed time series analyses and density-based clustering of Chicago crime data.

Skills and Methods

Programming and Technical Python (Pandas, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, statsmodels), SQL, Google BigQuery, R (tidyverse), Stata, HTML/CSS, LaTeX

Research and Design Survey and questionnaire instrument design, qualitative data analysis, quantitative data analysis, interviewing, discussion moderation, design fiction, storyboarding