

HUIMIN ZHAO

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on human-factor security and underage protection, with an emphasis on cyberbullying and online abuse detection, as well as the measurement and mitigation of various squatting attacks in domains and mobile apps. I am also broadly interested in systems and application security, privacy-preserving systems, secure software development, and cloud security.

EDUCATION

Colorado School of Mines

Aug. 2024 – Present

Ph.D. in Computer Science (in progress)

Selected courses: Information Security and Privacy, Advanced Computer Architecture, Theory of Computation, Cloud Computing

Renmin University of China

Sept. 2018 – Jun. 2022

B.B.A. in Accounting

Selected courses: Statistics, Calculus, Linear Algebra, Data Analysis

PUBLICATIONS

[2] Zhao, Huimin, *et. al.*, “Toxic in Real Time: Multimodal Cyberbullying Detection in Live Streaming Environments,” Under Review, 2026.

[1] Zhao, Huimin, *et. al.*, “The Hand-fly Effect: Investigating the Prevalence of Shift-Squatting in the Wild,” Under Review, 2025.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Cyberbullying Detection via Livestreams

Jan. 2025 – Present

Supervisor: Dr. Guannan Liu

Colorado School of Mines

- Designed an end-to-end pipeline for analyzing livestream content for signs of cyberbullying.
- Applied large vision-language models to extract multimodal features from Twitch videos.
- Collaborated on dataset construction and labeling criteria for toxic behavior detection.
- Currently evaluating model robustness under real-world streaming conditions.

Shift-Squatting in Domain Names and Mobile Apps

Aug. 2024 – Dec. 2024

Supervisor: Dr. Guannan Liu

Colorado School of Mines

- Investigated hand-shift-induced typosquatting on domains, apps, and software repositories.
- Built 48-character mapping tables to generate realistic typo variants.
- Automated detection pipeline using Google Play and DNS queries at scale.
- Authored and submitted a paper on shift-squatting prevalence and threat landscape.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant (Supervisor: Dr. Guannan Liu)

Aug. 2024 – Present

Colorado School of Mines

Teaching Assistant (CSCI 475: Information Security and Privacy)

Aug. 2025 – Present

Colorado School of Mines