# ZIANG XIAO

201 N. Goodwin Ave, Urbana IL, 61801 • 217-281-2005 • ziangxiao5135@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** *Sept 2016-Present*

Ph.D Candidate in Computer Science

Co-Advised by Professor Wai-Tat Fu and Professor Hari Sundaram

GPA: 4.00

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** *2012-2016*

Cum Laude

B.S. with Highest Distinction in Psychology

and High Distinction in Statistics & Computer Science

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interest in human-computer interaction lies at the intersection of human decision-making, learning, and social computing. The direction of my current research is focused on using technology to persuade people with beneficial behaviors, such as active learning and healthy lifestyle, that benefit themselves and the larger group as a whole.

## PUBLICATION

c1. **Xiao, Z.**, Wauck, H., Peng, Z., Ren, H., Zhang, L., Zuo, S., Yao, Y., and Fu, W.. 2018.*Cubicle: An Adaptive Educational Gaming Platform for Training Spatial Visualization Skills.* Accepted by the 23rd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI '18).

c2. Chiu, P., Wauck, H., **Xiao, Z**, Yao, Y., and Fu, W. 2018. *Supporting Spatial Skills Learning with Gesture-based Embodied Design.* Accepted by the 23rd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI '18).

c3. **Xiao, Z.**, Yao, Y., and Fu, W. 2018. *An Intelligent Educational Platform for Training Spatial Visualization Skills.* Accepted by the 23rd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces Companion (IUI '18 Companion).

c4. **Xiao, Z.**, Yao, Y., Yen, C, Dey, S., Wauck, H., Leake, J., Woodard, B., Wolters, A., and Fu, W. 2017. *A Scalable Online Platform for Evaluating and Training Visuospatial Skills of Engineering Students.* In Proceedings of the 124th 2017 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition (ASEE '17). Columbus, Ohio.

c5. Wauck, H., **Xiao, Z.**, Chiu, P., and Fu, W.. 2017. Untangling the Relationship Between Spatial Skills, Game Features, and Gender in a Video Game. In Proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI '17). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 125-136

t1. **Xiao, Z**. 2016. *Does Grammatically Gendered Language Have an Impact on Investors Behaviors? Companies with Grammatically Masculine Names Show More Stock Momentum Than Those with Grammatically Feminine Names.* Bachelor Thesis. University of Illinois, Champaign, United States.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Summer Research Intern**

Juji. Inc, Saratoga CA. May 2018-Present

**Advisor: Michelle X. Zhou & Huahai Yang**

- Conducting text mining using LDA and lda2vec to understand human-virtual agent conversation dynamic
- Studying how virtual agent's personality affect people's engagement in a conversation
- Building an analyzing tool that automatically discover the relationship between human individuality and behavior

**Research Assistant, Crowd Dynamics Lab**

Computer Science Department, University of Illinois                              June 2016-Present

**Advisor: Hari Sundaram**

- Investigated the persuasiveness of algorithmically synthesized comic-style messages in behavior adoption.
- Studied how the persuasive messages can build upon the effect of active social role in decision-making.
- Developed and evaluated a web/mobile research platform for conducting large scale field study.

**Research Assistant, Cascade Lab**

Computer Science Department, University of Illinois                              Aug 2015-Present

**Advisor: Wai-Tat Fu**

- Developed and evaluated a scalable online platform for training spatial visualization skills
- Studied the effect of personality composition in team dynamics under academic setting
- Created and tested an educational game "Cubicle" for spatial visualization skill training

**Research Assistant, Stanford Interventions Lab**

Psychology Department, Stanford University                              June 2015-May 2016

**Advisor: Geoffrey Cohen & Omid Fotuhi**

- Cleaned and coded massive dataset from Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- Designed analysis plan to test the effect of self-affirmation intervention on MOOCs dataset
- Conducted multivariate ANOVA test, Principal Component Analysis, Factor analysis, and Moderation test on testing the effect of mindsets on Type 1 adolescent diabetes.

**Research Assistant, Culture and Social Behavior Lab**

Psychology Department, University of Illinois                              Jan 2015-May 2016

**Advisor: Dov Cohen**

- Conduct research to investigate the impact of language on people's financial decisions
- Developed a stock market simulation program in R Language by adapting momentum trading strategy
- Designed experiments to test how grammatically gendered language affect peoples Designed experiments to test how grammatically gendered language affect people's financial decisions

1. **Xiao, Z.**, Yuqi Yao and Wai-Tat Fu. *Motivating Long-term Self-training in Spatial Visualization Skills.*

## PRESENTATIONS

1. "A scalable online platform for evaluating and training visuospatial skills of engineering students" at **Brown Bag Talk at College of Education**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign                              *Mar 2017*
2. "Does Grammatically Gendered Language Have an Impact on Investors' Behaviors?" (Poster) at **Undergraduate Research Symposium**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign                              *Apr 2016*
3. *"Longitudinal Associations between Self-Regulation and Mental Health across Early Childhood to Adolescence"* (Poster) *at* **16th Biennial Meeting of Society for Research on Adolescence** Baltimore, Md.                              *Mar 2016*
4. "Self-Regulation and Mental Health" (Poster) at **Undergraduate Research Symposium**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign                              *Apr 2015*

## ACADEMIC HONORS

Third Prize in China Collegiate Computing Contest Mobile Application Innovation Contest                              Sept 2017

Harry Triandis Award                              May 2016

James Scholar Preble Research Award                                    May 2016
James E. Spoor Scholarship                                            Aug 2015
James Scholar Preble Research Award                                    May 2015

## SERVICE

| | |
|---|---|
| ACM IUI 2018 Program Committee Member | 2017 |
| ACM SIGCHI Student Volunteer | May 2017 |
| Teaching Assistant of Unser Interface Design | Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018 |
| Darkroom Technician at Urbana Museum of Photography | June 2015 - Present |

## TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH SKILLS

**Programing Language:** Python; JavaScript; React-Native; HTML; MySQL

**Statistics Tools:** R; Python; MATLAB

**Research Methods:** Lab/Field Experiment Design; Constructed/Semi-Constructed Interview; Usability Evaluation