

# Zhiping (Arya) Zhang

**Email:** [zhang.zhip@northeastern.edu](mailto:zhang.zhip@northeastern.edu)

**Website:** [zhipingzhang.com](http://zhipingzhang.com)

[Google Scholar](#)

My research focuses on 1) understanding ethical challenges in personalized agentic AI systems; and 2) designing effective human-AI collaboration mechanisms that align AI behavior with both societal norms and individual values in real-world applications.

Education	<b>Ph.D. student in Computer Science</b>	Boston, US
	<i>Northeastern University (NEU), Supervisor: Prof. Tianshi Li</i>	2024 - 2029 (Exp.)
	<b>M.Sc. in Industrial Design (HCI Track)</b>	Eindhoven, Netherlands
	<i>Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e)</i>	2018 - 2020
	<b>B.Eng. in Industrial Design (Honours, Top 1)</b>	China & UK
	<i>University of Liverpool (UoL), Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University</i>	2014 - 2018
Research Experience	<b>Privacy-Enabling AI &amp; Computer-Human Interaction Lab</b>	2024 - present
	Conducted human-centered privacy research on language models and agentic AI systems using mixed methods, system building, and computational experiments. First-authored papers published in CHI '24 [C.2], CSCW '25 [C.3], and submitted to CHI '26 [I.1, I.2]. (Advised by <i>Prof. Tianshi Li</i> )	
	<b>CompLING Lab-AI Group, UWaterloo</b>	Summer 2025
	Led a project on mitigating privacy concerns in personalized LM agents by balancing human control and agent autonomy. Developed an LLM agent system and conducted a computational experiment. First-authored paper submitted to CHI '26 [I.2]. (Advised by <i>Prof. Freda Shi</i> )	
	<b>Social Robotics Lab, TU/e</b>	2019
	Worked on social robot role design, robot behavior programming, and conducted a field test. Co-authored paper published in HRI '20 [C.1]. (Advised by <i>Prof. Emilia Barakova &amp; Panos Markopoulos</i> )	
Industry Experience	<b>AI Product Manager, Fiture</b>	2021 - 2023
	Explored AI-powered home gym equipment, bridging algorithms and real products (a voice assistant, natural language & body-pose remote control, and a course searching and recommendation system).	
	<b>User Experience Design &amp; Research, Alibaba</b>	2020 - 2021
	Researched and designed user experience to support multi-role collaboration in enterprise purchasing systems. (an intelligent purchasing conversational agent: enhanced purchasers' workflow and increased user satisfaction by 22% after launch).	

\* indicates co-first authorship.

Peer-reviewed conference and journal papers	<b>[C.4] Dark Patterns Meet GUI Agents: LLM Agent Susceptibility to Manipulative Interfaces and the Role of Human Oversight</b> Jingyu Tang*, Chaoran Chen*, Jiawen Li, <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Bingcan Guo, Ibrahim Khalilov, Simret Araya Gebreegziabher, Bingsheng Yao, Dakuo Wang, Yanfang Ye, Tianshi Li, Ziang Xiao, Yaxing Yao, Toby Jia-Jun Li In Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '26)
	<b>[C.3] Secret Use of Large Language Model (LLM)</b> <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Chenxinran Shen, Bingsheng Yao, Dakuo Wang, Tianshi Li. In Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW '25)
	<b>[C.2] “It’s a Fair Game”, or Is It? Examining How Users Navigate Disclosure Risks and Benefits When Using LLM-Based Conversational Agents</b> <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Michelle Jia, Hao-Ping (Hank) Lee, Bingsheng Yao, Sauvik Das, Ada Lerner, Dakuo Wang, Tianshi Li. In Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)
	<b>[C.1] Robot role design for implementing social facilitation theory in musical instruments practicing</b> Heqiu Song, <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Emilia I. Barakova, Jaap Ham, Panos Markopoulos In Proceedings of the 2020 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI '20).
In Submission	<b>[I.2] Autonomy Matters: A Study on Personalization-Privacy Dilemma in LLM Agents</b> <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Yi Evie Zhang, Freda Shi, Tianshi Li
	<b>[I.1] Privacy Leakage Overshadowed by Views of AI: A Study on Human Oversight of Privacy in Language Model Agent</b> <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Bingcan Guo, Tianshi Li
SIG/Poster/ Workshop	<b>[W.1] Toward a Human-centered Evaluation Framework for Trustworthy LLM-Powered GUI Agents</b> Chaoran Chen*, <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> *, Ibrahim Khalilov, Bingcan Guo, Simret A Gebreegziabher, Yanfang Ye, Ziang Xiao, Yaxing Yao, Tianshi Li, Toby Jia-Jun Li (HEAL @CHI '25)
	<b>[P.1] The Obvious Invisible Threat: LLM-Powered GUI Agents' Vulnerability to Fine-Print Injections</b> Chaoran Chen, <i>Zhiping Zhang</i> , Bingcan Guo, Shang Ma, Ibrahim Khalilov, Simret A Gebreegziabher, Ziang Xiao, Yaxing Yao, Tianshi Li, Toby Jia-Jun Li (SOUPS '25)

[S.1] **Human-Centered Privacy Research in the Age of Large Language Models**  
Tianshi Li, Sauvik Das, Hao-Ping (Hank) Lee, Dakuo Wang, Bingsheng Yao,  
*Zhiping Zhang*  
In Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '24)

Professional  
Service

**Program Committee**  
2026: (Associate Chair) CHI '26 Poster , AgentCraft @IUI '26  
2025: IUI '26, HAIPS @CCS '25  
  
**External Reviewer**  
✿ *Received “special recognitions” for outstanding reviews*  
2025: ✿CHI '26, HRI '26, IMWUT '25, UIST '25, TEI '25, IJHCS  
2024: ✿CHI '25, CSCW '24, CUI '24

Awards

IF Design Award Winner	2024
Reddot Award Winner	2023
IF Talent Award Winner	2020
Alibaba High-level Talents Scholarship	2020
China-U.S Young Maker Competition Final Excellence Award	2018
Best Overall Academic Performance (Top 1)	2018
Academic Achievement Award Scholarship (Top 5%)	2018
Academic Excellence Award Scholarship (Top 10%)	2017
COMAP's Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling - Achievement Meritorious Winer (Top 5%)	2016