

Yuan Ren

Android Development, Web Programming, Machine Learning, Input and Interaction Techniques

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OVERVIEW

- Rapid learner with the capacity to adapt to challenges, grounded in a robust programming foundation
- Exceptional problem-solving skills, adept at identifying improvements and resolutions

INTERNSHIP

Google: Software Engineer Intern

May. 2022 - Aug. 2022

- Developed a prototype for seamless bidirectional translation on Android AR glasses and its companion phone, enabling fluent 1:1 conversations in bilingual scenarios
- Designed a comprehensive survey to assess user feedback on the prototype, focusing on usability and workload
- Outperformed Google Translate conversation mode, revealing **46%** less physical demand and **25%** less frustration
- Achieved a **21%** higher natural conversation flow score compared to Google Translate

University of California, Merced: Assistant Specialist

May. 2018 - Aug. 2019

- Researched on input and interaction methods on wearables

EDUCATION

Ph.D Candidate, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

Sep. 2019 - Now

University of California, Merced, CA

Research Area: Interaction & Input Methods on Wearable Devices, Haptics Feedback in VR/AR

Master of Science, Computer Science

Jan. 2015 - Jan. 2017

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Bachelor of Engineering, Software Engineering

Sep. 2010 - Jun. 2014

Beijing Jiaotong University, Beijing, China

PROJECTS

BinStars: A Netflix-Like TV Interaction App

Oct. 2022 - Jan. 2023

- Created an Android TV app resembling Netflix, featuring intuitive movie browsing and playback options
- Enhanced media controls via ExoPlayer, achieving a **19%** reduction in user wait times with optimized response
- Implemented a movie search feature with intelligent suggestions, revealing **30%** reduction in search query response time
- Integrated X-ray features, providing users with instant access to **20%** more detailed content information

Skills: Java, Android, EXOPlayer, JUnit

Breast Cancer Detector: A CNN-based Image Classifier [github link](#)

Oct. 2022 - Nov. 2022

- Developed a CNN-based breast cancer detection system distinguishing between benign and malignant cases
- Demonstrated exceptional accuracy with a recognition rate exceeding **93%**
- Used data visualization for clear and accessible presentation of complex information

Skills: Python, TensorFlow, CNN, Kaggle

WeShare: A Facebook-Like Interaction App

Aug. 2021 - Nov. 2021

- Developed a performant Facebook-like social web app with React-Redux for seamless status updates and user interactions
- Implemented user authentication through JSON Web Tokens (JWT) for enhanced security and efficiency
- Integrated real-time notifications with socket.io, resulting in a **30%** improvement in user engagement metrics
- Unit tested codebase with Mocha, ensuring robustness and stability, leading to a **25%** reduction in bug instances
- Optimized group collaboration with JIRA, leading to a **20%** efficiency boost and on-time deliverables

Skills: ReactJS, Redux, Node.js, Express, Webpack, MongoDB, Bootstrap, Mocha, Postman

Pink: An Android Client for Dribbble [github link](#)

Apr. 2018 - May. 2018

- Designed a card-based UI for presenting Dribbble artworks on Android, prioritizing user engagement
- Optimized user authentication via Dribbble API with OkHttp, reducing login times by **25%**
- Utilized Picasso for efficient image loading, resulting in a **40%** speedup and **15%** data reduction
- Engineered interactive features, leading to a **20%** increase in user interactions and a **25%** rise in engagement

Skills: Java, Android, OkHttp, Picasso, Postman, JUnit

OS: Weenix Operating System

Jan. 2017 - May. 2017

- Developed kernel-level processes and threads with features including cancellation, forking, and scheduling
- Applied polymorphism in the Virtual File System (VFS) for a uniform implementation of memory and file objects
- Implemented system calls for File System and Virtual Memory, bolstering user space robustness

Skills: C, QEMU, gdb

ZuFangBao: A Web App for Credit Card Rental Payment

Sep. 2014 - Dec. 2014

- Designed and implemented the RESTful Event Management API Microservices using Spring MVC
- Configured efficient Hibernate fetch and flush strategies with a **19%** enhancement in Data Access Layer performance
- Implemented batch updates strategically, with the goal of achieving a **20%** improvement in query efficiency
- Developed unit testing for the Data Access Layer, optimizing performance through Spring Data JPA (Hibernate)

Skills: Java, Spring, Hibernate, JQuery, SQL, Bootstrap

Automatic Number Plate Recognizer

May. 2014 - Jun. 2014

- Developed a C++ desktop app with an overall **15%** reduction in processing time for plate uploading and recognition
- Improved data transfer speed in a server-client model by **20%** using TCP socket programming and MFC libraries
- Improved recognition accuracy by **10%** through advanced algorithms, including an artificial neural network
- Performance gains were driven by strategic optimizations like parallel processing and enhanced memory utilization

Skills: C++, Grayscale, Binarization, Bilateral Filters, Socket Programming, MFC

AWARDS

Best Paper Awards. ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces Conference (ISS) 2022

Best Paper Honorable Mention Award. ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces Conference (ISS) 2021

FELLOWSHIP

Summer EECS Bobcat Travel Fellowship at UC Merced 2022

Summer EECS Bobcat Summer Fellowship at UC Merced 2020

PUBLICATIONS

More details [here](#)

[1] [Yuan Ren](#), Ahmed Sabbir Arif. *Investigating a Force-Based Selection Method for Smartwatches in a 1D Fitts' Law Study and Two New Character-Level Keyboards*, Conference on Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction, TEI 2023

[2] [Yuan Ren](#), Ahmed Sabbir Arif. *Stepper, Swipe, Tilt, Force: Comparative Evaluation of Four Number Pickers for Smartwatches*, ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces Conference, ISS 2021 (**Honorable Mention Award**)

[3] Tafadzwa Joseph Dube, [Yuan Ren](#), Hannah Limerick, I. Scott MacKenzie, Ahmed Sabbir Arif. *Push, Tap, Dwell, and Pinch: Evaluation of Four Mid-Air Selection Methods Augmented with Ultrasonic Haptic Feedback*, ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces Conference, ISS 2022 (**Best Paper Award**)

[4] Ghazal Zand, [Yuan Ren](#), Ahmed Sabbir Arif. *TiltWalker: Operating a Telepresence Robot with One-Hand by Tilt Controls on a Smartphone*, ACM Interactive Surfaces and Spaces Conference, ISS 2022

[5] Gulnar Rakhmetulla, [Yuan Ren](#), Ahmed Sabbir Arif. *GeShort: One-Handed Mobile Text Editing and Formatting with Gestural Shortcuts and a Floating Clipboard*, ACM Mobile Human-Computer Interaction Conference, MobileHCI 2023.

TEACHING ASSISTANT

CSE 021: Introduction to Computing II	University of California, Merced
CSE 155: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction	University of California, Merced
CSE 120: Software Engineering	University of California, Merced
CSE 140: Computer Architecture	University of California, Merced
CSE 022: Introduction to Programming	University of California, Merced

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer for Conference: **DIS** 2023, **TEI** 2024

PRESENTATIONS

Present a work *GeShort: One-Handed Mobile Text Editing and Formatting* on MobileCHI 2023 2023
Athens, Greece, remotely

Present a work *A Force-Based Selection Method for Smartwatches* on TEI 2023 2023
Warsaw Poland, remotely

COURSES TAKEN

Advanced Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Software Architecture, Advanced Mobile Device and Game Consoles, Computer Networks, Game Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics, Introduction to Digital Media, Analysis Scientific Writing and Presentation Skill

SKILLS

Languages: Java, Python, Swift, JavaScript, C

OS: Linux/Unix, MacOS, Windows

Web Technologies: Node.js, React, Redux, Django, Spring

Data Analysis: Python, SPSS

Other: Video Editing and Publishing Operations