

# Zhuolin (Jolynn) Yang

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH OVERVIEW

I focus on both exploring how human behaviors can disclose private/sensitive information during interactions with everyday computing devices, and designing interactive systems that leverage human behaviors as a means to safeguard user privacy.

## EDUCATION

### University of Chicago (UChicago)

Ph.D., Computer Science, 2019 - Present  
Advisors: Prof. Ben Y. Zhao and Prof. Heather Zheng

### University at Buffalo (UB), the State University of New York (SUNY)

B.S., Computer Science (with Mathematics Minor), 2018  
Advisor: Prof. Wenyao Xu

## HONOR

- Best Paper Award, ACM Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems (SenSys'19), 2019 [[1 out of 28 accepted papers from 144 submissions](#)]
- NSF Travel Grant Award, ACM MobiCom, 2019
- Elaine K. Bernstein Women in Science Award, Physical Sciences Division, UChicago, 2019
- McCormick Fellowship, Department of Computer Science, UChicago, 2019
- Finalist Award (Project: mRehab), New York State Department of Health Aging Innovation Competition, 2018 [[5 out of 74 competitors](#)]
- Best Paper Runner-Up Award, ACM Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems (SenSys'18), 2018 [[5 out of 23 accepted papers from 147 submissions](#)]
- UB's Cambridge Undergraduate Scholar, 2018
- ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Scholarship, 2018
- UB CSE Departmental Research Award, 2018 [[2 out of 1191 graduates](#)]
- 2nd Place Award, Aging Innovation Challenge in UB Blackstone LaunchPad, 2018
- UB CURCA Research Award, 2017
- Grace Hopper Celebration Scholar, 2017 [[657 out of 18,000+ attendees](#)]
- NSF Student Attendance Scholarship, 2017
- 3rd Place Award, Mathematics Contest of Guangdong, 2010 [[Provincial level award](#)]

## SELECTED PUBLICATION

- **Z. Yang**, C. Li, A. Bhalla, B. Zhao, H. Zheng, “*Inception Attacks: Immersive Hijacking in Virtual Reality*”, arXiv, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.05721>, March 2024  
Selected Press: MIT Technology Review
- **Z. Yang**, Z. Sarwar, I. Hwang, R. Bhaskar, B. Zhao, H. Zheng, “*Can Virtual Reality Protect Users from Keystroke Inference Attacks?*”, Proceedings of USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX'24), Philadelphia, US, August 2024  
Selected Press: New Scientist

- **Z. Yang\***, Y. Chen\*, Z. Sarwar, H. Schwartz, B. Zhao, H. Zheng, “Towards a General Video-based Keystroke Inference Attack”, Proceedings of USENIX Security Symposium ([USENIX’23](#)), Anaheim, US, August 2023 (\* denotes equal contribution)
- Y. Chen, **Z. Yang**, R. Abbou, P. Lopes, B. Zhao, H. Zheng, “User Authentication via Electrical Muscle Stimulation”, Proceedings of ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems ([CHI’21](#)), Yokohama, Japan, April 2021
- Z. Li, **Z. Yang**, C. Song, C. Li, Z. Peng, W. Xu, “E-Eye: Hidden Electronics Recognition through mmWave Nonlinear Effects”, ACM Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems ([SenSys’18](#)), Shenzhen, China, Nov. 2018 [[Best paper runner-up award](#)]
- **Z. Yang**, C. Song, F. Lin, J. Langan, W. Xu, “A Smart Environment-Adapting Timed-Up-and-Go System Powered by Sensor-Embedded Insoles”, IEEE Internet of Things Journal ([IOTJ](#)), June 2018 [[Impact Factor: 10.238](#)]

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

- CS23400: *Mobile Computing*, Fall 2021
- CSE113: *Introduction to Computer Programming*, Fall 2017 [[150+ freshman students](#)]

RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant, SANDLab, University of Chicago, Summer 2019 - Present
- Research Assistant, Embedded Sensing and Computing Group, University at Buffalo (SUNY), 2016 - Spring 2019
- Visiting Student, NetOS Group, University of Cambridge, Summer 2018

ACTIVITY

- Invited talk, Stanford Security Lunch Speaking, Oct. 2022
- Volunteer and demo presenter, Women in Science and Engineering Accepted Students Day, SUNY Buffalo, Mar. 2018
- Participant, Video “Through Her Eyes: Pathways” by Melinda Gates for Computer Science Education Week, Dec. 2017
- Volunteer, ACM/IEEE International Conference on Connected Health: Applications, Systems and Engineering Technologies (**CHASE**), Philadelphia, US, July. 2017
- Volunteer, Spring Shoreline Sweep 2017, Buffalo Niagara RIVERKEEPER, Apr. 2017
- Volunteer, SUNY Buffalo Computer Science Education Week, Dec. 2016
- Participant, UB Hacking, SUNY Buffalo, Nov. 2016
- Intern (Web Developer), SUNY Buffalo Career Service Office, Spring 2016