

# Szeyi (Reina) Chan

✉ [chan.szey@northeastern.edu](mailto:chan.szey@northeastern.edu)   <https://szyeireinachan.github.io/>    LinkedIn    Google Scholar

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-Centered AI | Assistive Technologies | Designing for Aging in Place | Aging and Accessibility

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## EDUCATION

**Northeastern University**

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Advisor: Prof. Xiang Zhi Tan

Boston, MA

May 2025 – Present

**Northeastern University**

M.S in Computer Science

Boston, MA

Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2024

**University of Massachusetts Amherst**

B.S. in Resource Economic

Amherst, MA

Sept. 2013 – May 2017

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## PUBLICATION (\* denotes equal contribution)

### Under Submission

[U1] Human and LLM-Based Voice Assistant Interaction: An Analytical Framework for User Verbal and Non-verbal Behaviors

Szeyi Chan, Shihan Fu, Jiachen Li, Bingsheng Yao, Smit Desai, Mirjana Prpa, and Dakuo Wang

*ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction*

### Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

[C3] Insights from Designing Context-Aware Meal Preparation Assistance for Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Their Care Partners

Szeyi Chan\*, Jiachen Li\*, Siman Ao, Yufei Wang, Ibrahim Bilau, Brian Jones, Eunhwa Yang, Elizabeth D. Mynatt and Xiang Zhi Tan

*ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS) 2025*

[C2] “Mango Mango, How to Let The Lettuce Dry Without A Spinner?”: Exploring User Perceptions of Using An LLM-Based Conversational Assistant Toward Cooking Partner

Szeyi Chan\*, Jiachen Li\*, Bingsheng Yao, Amama Mahmood, Chien-Ming Huang, Holly Jimison, Elizabeth D. Mynatt, and Dakuo Wang

*ACM Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW) 2025*

[C1] Assessing Empathy Across Game Fidelity Levels: A Case Study of 3D and Text-Based Versions of Brukel

Szeyi Chan, James Cox, Ala Ebrahimi and Bob De Schutter

*Digital Games Research Association (DiGRA) 2025*

### Peer-Reviewed Conference Short Papers

[S4] Cardistry: Exploring a GPT Model Workflow as an Adapted Method of Gaminiscing

Brandon Lyman, James Cox, Ala Ebrahimi, Szeyi Chan, Christopher Barney and Bob De Schutter

*ACM Foundations of Digital Games (FDG) 2024*

- [S3] Brukel vs Brukel: Impact of Game Fidelity on Player Experience In Gaminiscing Games  
**Szeyi Chan**, James Cox, Ala Ebrahimi, Brandon Lyman and Bob De Schutter  
*IEEE Conference on Games (CoG) 2023*
- [S2] Catch The Butterfly: Using Gaminiscing to Design a Serious Game about Immigrants  
 Ala Ebrahimi, Brandon Lyman, James Cox, **Szeyi Chan** and Bob De Schutter  
*IEEE Conference on Games (CoG) 2023*
- [S1] Catch The Butterfly: A Gaminiscing Game about Immigration  
 Ala Ebrahimi, Brandon Lyman, James Cox, **Szeyi Chan** and Bob De Schutter  
*IEEE Conference on Games 2023 (CoG) - Demo*

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## HONORS, AWARDS & GRANTS

Northeastern University Khoury Distinguished Fellowship	2025 – 2026
Northeastern University NSF-Funded Research Apprenticeship (DREAM) (\$ 12,000)	2023
Northeastern University Khoury Research Apprenticeship (\$ 6,700)	Sept. 2022 – Dec. 2022
Northeastern University Grace Hopper Celebration Scholarship	Sept. 2022
Northeastern University Facebook Align Scholarship (\$ 12,500)	2021
University of Massachusetts Amherst Dean List	2014 – 2015

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<b>Graduate Student Research Assistant, Northeastern University</b> People And Robot Collaborative Systems Lab - Advisor: Prof. Zhi Tan	Sept. 2024 – Present
<b>Summer Research Program Intern, MIT Lincoln Laboratory</b> AI Technology Group - Mentors: Dr. Rohan Paleja, Dr. Ho Chit Siu	Jun. 2024 – Sept. 2024
<b>Research Apprentice, Northeastern University</b> NSF-Funded Program (DREAM) - Mentor: Prof. Mirjana Prpa, Prof. Dakuo Wang	Jan. 2024 – Aug. 2024
<b>Graduate Student Research Assistant, Northeastern University</b> Human-Centered AI Lab - Advisor: Prof. Dakuo Wang	Apr. 2023 – Aug. 2024
<b>Khoury Research Apprentice, Northeastern University</b> Designed for Aging Gamers Studio - Advisor: Prof. Bob De Schutter	Sept. 2022 – Dec. 2024

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

<b>Software Engineer Intern</b> Kohl's - Remote	Jun. 2023 – Aug. 2023
<b>Software Development Co-op</b> MIT Lincoln Laboratory - Lexington, MA	Jan. 2023 – May 2023
<b>Category Manager, Category Leadership Associate</b> Advantage Solutions - Harrisburg, PA	Jul. 2017 – Sept. 2021

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Service-Learning Teaching Assistant   NEU CS7170 Human-Centered AI	Sept. 2023 – Dec. 2023
Teaching Assistant   Res-Econ 102 Introduction to Resource Economics	Jan. 2017 – May. 2017

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## MENTORSHIP

Avi Kapur Srinivasan, BSCS at Northeastern University	July. 2025 – Present
David Xiao, BSCS at Northeastern University	July. 2025 – Present
Ethan Man, BSCS at Northeastern University	July. 2025 – Present
Sanya Mittal, BSCS at Northeastern University	July. 2025 – Present

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## SERVICES

**Academic Review:** IMWUT 2025, CUI WiP 2025, CHI LBW 2025, CSCW 2025, CoG 2023  
**Student Volunteer:** DIS 2025

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## OUTREACH

Khoury Faculty Selection Subcommittee Student Volunteer, Northeastern University	Sept. 2022 – Dec. 2022
Member of Rewriting the Code, Graduate Women Coders, Women in Tech	Sept. 2021 – Present

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## MEDIA COVERAGE

- “The researcher’s apprentice: master’s students showcase innovative projects”  
Northeastern University Khoury News
- Mar. 2023
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## SKILLS

### Languages

Python, Java, C++, C, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Kotlin, R

### Technologies

React, Express, Bootstrap, Node, Android SDK, Jetpack Compose, MySQL, MongoDB, Figma, PyTorch

### Research Skills

Data Analysis, User Research, User Experience Design, User Interface Design, Prototyping, Usability Testing, User Persona and Scenario, Storyboard, Storytelling, Journey Map