

# ALEX JIAHONG LU

University of Michigan School of Information  
105 S. State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
alexjlu@umich.edu | alexlu.me

## RESEARCH AREAS

Computer-supported cooperative work (CSCW); science and technology studies (STS); human-computer interaction (HCI); surveillance and resistance; work and labor; poverty and inequality; community-based participatory research (CBPR)

## EDUCATION

**PhD Candidate in Information Science** Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
*University of Michigan, School of Information* 5/2024 (expt.)  
Dissertation Committee: Tawanna Dillahunt (Co-chair), Mark Ackerman (Co-chair), John Cheney-Lippold, Roderic Crooks (UC Irvine)

**Master of Science in Information (MS)** Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
*University of Michigan, School of Information* 2019

**Master of Social Work (MSW)** Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
*University of Michigan, School of Social Work* 2019  
Subconcentration: Social Policy and Evaluation

**Bachelor of Information Engineering and Media (BE)** Singapore  
*Nanyang Technological University* 2016  
First-Class Honors

## PUBLICATIONS **Journal Articles (Peer-Reviewed)**

- J.6 Chen, Y., **Lu, A.J.**, Wu, A.X. (2023) 'China' as a 'Black Box'? Re-thinking Methods through a sociotechnical perspective. In *Information, Communication & Society*.
- J.5 **Lu, A.J.**, Gilhool, A., Hsiao, J. C.-Y., Dillahunt, T.R.(2022). Emotional labor in everyday resilience: Class-based experiences of navigating unemployment amid the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol.6, No. CSCW2, Article 388. (CSCW 2022)
- J.4 **Lu, A.J.**, Dillahunt, T.R., Marcu, G., Ackerman, M.S. (2021). Data work in education: Enacting and negotiating care and control in teachers' use of data-driven classroom surveillance technology. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol.5, No. CSCW2, Article 452. (CSCW 2021)
- J.3 **Lu, A.J.**, Xu, X. (2020). "Learning for the rise of China": Exploring uses and gratifications of state-owned online platform. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*, Vol.4, No. CSCW1, Article 30. (CSCW 2020)
- J.2 Lee, J.Y., Lee, S.Y., Grogan-Kaylor, A., Ammari, T., **Lu, A.**, Davis-Kean, P. (2020). A qualitative analysis of stay-at-home parents' spanking Tweets. In *Journal of Child and Family Studies*.
- J.1 Perron B.E., Victor, B.G., Bushman G., Moore, A., Ryan, J., **Lu, A.J.**, Pielusch, E. (2019). Detecting substance-related problems in narrative inves-

tigation summaries of child abuse and neglect using text mining and machine learning. In *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

**Conference Proceedings (Peer-Reviewed)\***

- C.11 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.J.**, Velazquez, J. (2023). Eliciting alternative economic futures with working-class Detroiters: Centering Afrofuturism in speculative design. In *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (DIS 2023)
- C.10 **Lu, A.J.**, Sannon, S., Moy, C., Brewer, S., Green, J., Jackson, K.N., Reeder, D., Wafer, C., Ackerman, M.S., Dillahunt, T.R. (2023). Participatory noticing: Engaging arts- and community-based approaches in design research. In *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (DIS 2023) [**Best Paper Award**]
- C.9 **Lu, A.J.**, Sannon, S., Moy, C., Brewer, S., Green, J., Jackson, K.N., Reeder, D., Wafer, C., Ackerman, M.S., Dillahunt, T.R. (2023). Shifting from surveillance-as-safety to safety-through-noticing: A photovoice study with Eastside Detroit residents. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2023)
- C.8 Ankenbauer, S.A., **Lu, A.J.** (2022). Making space for cultural infrastructure: The breakdown and maintenance work of independent movie theaters during crisis. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2022)
- C.7 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.J.**, Israni, A., Lodha, R., Brewer, S., Robinson, T.S., Wilson, A.B., Wheeler, E. (2022). The village: Infrastructuring community-based mentoring to support adults experiencing poverty. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2022) [**Best Paper Honorable Mention**]
- C.6 Cherubini, M., **Lu, A.J.**, Hsiao, J.C.-Y., Zhao, M., Aggarwal, A., Dillahunt, T.R. (2021). Elucidating skills for job seekers: Insights and critical concerns from a field deployment in Switzerland. In *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (DIS 2021)
- C.5 **Lu, A.J.**, Marcu, G., Ackerman, M.S., Dillahunt, T.R. (2021). Coding bias in the use of behavior management technologies: Uncovering socio-technical consequences of data-driven surveillance in classrooms. In *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (DIS 2021) [**Best Paper Honorable Mention**]
- C.4 **Lu, A.J.**, Dillahunt, T.R. (2021). Uncovering the promises and challenges of social media use in the low-wage labor market: Insights from employers. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2021)
- C.3 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.J.\***, Israni, A.\*, Cai, M., Hsiao, J.C.-Y. (2021). Examining the Internet and social media use for employment: A survey of U.S. job seekers. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2021) [\*Contributed equally]
- C.2 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.** (2019). DreamGigs: Designing a tool to empower low-resource job seekers. In *Proceedings of ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2019)

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\*In information and computer sciences, conference articles are highly refereed and are considered archival (journal-equivalent) publications.

- C.1 Dillahunt, T.R., Lam, J., **Lu, A.**, Wheeler, E. (2018). Designing future employment applications for underserved job seekers: A speed dating study. In *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (DIS 2018). [**Best Paper Honorable Mention**]

#### **Case Studies, Articles, and Extended Abstracts (Peer-Reviewed)**

- EA.6 **Lu, A.J.**, Sannon, S., Brewer, S., Jackson, K.N., Green, M.J., Reeder, D., Wafer, C., Dillahunt, T.R. (2023). Organizing community-based events in participatory action research: Lessons learned from a Photovoice exhibition. In *Companion of the 2023 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2023 Case Study)
- EA.5 **Lu, A.J.** (2022). Toward everyday negotiation and resistance under data-driven surveillance. In *Interactions*, Vol.29, Issue 2.
- EA.4 Pine, K.H., Bossen, C., Møller, N.H., Miceli, M., **Lu, A.J.**, Chen, Y., Horgan, L., Su, Z., Neff, G., Mazmanian, M. (2022, April). Investigating Data Work Across Domains: New Perspectives on the Work of Creating Data. In *Companion of the 2022 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CHI 2022)
- EA.3 Ankenbauer, S.A., **Lu, A.J.** (2021). Navigating the “glimmer of hope”: Challenges and resilience among U.S. older adults in seeking COVID-19 vaccination. In *Companion of the 2021 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CSCW 2021)
- EA.2 Ankenbauer, S.A., **Lu, A.J.** (2020). Engaging offline communities online: A case study of independent theaters amid Covid-19. In *Companion of the 2020 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CSCW 2020)
- EA.1 **Lu, A.**, Brill, J., Dillahunt, T.R. (2018). DreamGigs: A “stepping stone” for low-resource job seekers to reach their ideal job. In *Companion of the 2018 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. (CSCW 2018)

#### **Conference Abstracts and Workshop Position Papers (Lightly Reviewed)**

- A.13 **Lu, A.J.** (2023). ‘Better than Nothing’: Detroit residents’ contested perceptions and imaginaries of ubiquitous surveillance technologies. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Sea, Sky, and Land: Engaging in Solidarity in Endangered Ecologies*. Honolulu, HI. (4S 2023)
- A.12 **Lu, A.J.** (2023). Toward the relationality and ethics of producing alternative research outcomes and knowledge dissemination. In *Workshop Beyond Academic Publication: Alternative Outcomes of HCI Research*. ACM Designing Interactive Systems. Pittsburgh, PA. (DIS 2023)
- A.11 **Lu, A.J.** (2022). From Fordist labor control to policing surveillance: Surveillance as racial infrastructure in modern Detroit. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Reunion, Recuperation, Reconfiguration: Knowledges and Technosciences for living together*. Cholula, Mexico. (4S 2022)
- A.10 **Lu, A.J.** (2022). From wearing disguise to wearing masquerade: Reconceptualizing everyday resistance to control and surveillance. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Reunion, Recuperation, Reconfiguration: Knowledges and Technosciences for living together*. Cholula, Mexico. (4S 2022)

- A.9 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.J.**, Couch, J. (2022). Negotiating the boundaries of futures through speculative design. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Reunion, Recuperation, Reconfiguration: Knowledges and Technosciences for living together*. Cholula, Mexico. (4S 2022)
- A.8 **Lu, A.J.**, Chen, Y. (2022). Conceptualizing performative ideology labor in navigating dataist political communication surveillance in China. In *University of Washington Graduate Conference: Media, Power, Technological Determinism*. Seattle, WA.
- A.7 **Lu, A.J.**, Chen, Y. (2021). Conformity and obfuscation: Infrapolitical impression management under data-driven state surveillance. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Good Relations: Practices and Methods in Unequal and Uncertain Worlds*. Toronto and World-wide. (4S 2021)
- A.6 Chen, Y., **Lu, A.J.**, Riley, Jonathon (2021). A dystopian China imagined: Rhetorics and practices in the resistance of surveillance technologies in the U.S. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Good Relations: Practices and Methods in Unequal and Uncertain Worlds*. Toronto and World-wide. (4S 2021)
- A.5 Ankenbauer, S.A., **Lu, A.J.** (2021). Maintenance work of the independent movie theater during Covid-19. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Good Relations: Practices and Methods in Unequal and Uncertain Worlds*. Toronto and World-wide. (4S 2021)
- A.4 **Lu, A.J.**, Chen, Y., Kim, Y. (2020). Science and rumor of virus: the politics of information legitimacy of coronavirus in China. In *Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting — Locating and Timing Matters: Significance and Agency of STS in Emerging Worlds*. Prague, Czech Republic. (4S 2020)
- A.3 Victor, B., Perron, B., Bushman, G., Moore, A., Ryan, J., **Lu, A.**, Piellusch, E (2020). Development and validation of text mining and machine learning models to maximize the research value of narrative summaries in administrative child welfare records. In *Society for Social Work and Research 24th Annual Conference — Reducing Racial and Economic Inequality*. Washington, DC, USA. (SSWR 2020)
- A.2 **Lu, A.** & Lee, J.Y. (2019). Geocoding stay-at-home parents' self-defined locations. In *#UMTweetCon2019*. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- A.1 Lee, J.Y. & **Lu, A.** (2018, January). "Spank, Smack, & Whoop": Stay-at-home parents' spanking Tweets. In *Social Justice in Social Work Research Symposium*. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. [**Doctoral Poster Award**]

### **Policy Briefs, Public-facing Articles and Zines**

- P.3 Baker, R., Blackmer, P., **Lu, A.**, Smith, R., Watkins, P.G. (2022). *Green Light Black Futures Community Safety Survey: Report and Booklet*. Urban Praxis Workshop.
- P.2 Baker, R., Blackmer, P., **Lu, A.**, Smith, R. (2022). Building Black futures by knowing what keeps us safe: A report on the Green Light Black Futures community safety survey. In *Riverwise Detroit*.
- P.1 Dillahunt, T.R., **Lu, A.J.**, Branche-Wilson, A. (2021). The promises and perils of technology for marginalized job seekers. *University of Michigan Poverty Solutions Policy Briefs*

### Thesis and Technical Reports

- TR.2 **Lu, A.J.** (2019). Design practices and guidelines for empowerment. *Master's Thesis, School of Information, University of Michigan.*
- TR.1 **Lu, A.J.** (2015). Socio-feedback: The context analysis. *Bachelor's Thesis, School of Information Engineering and Media, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.*

### PANELS AND TALKS

#### Workshops and Panels Organized

- W.2 Chen, Y., Liu, C., Liu, C., **Lu, A.J.** (2022). Reconfiguring knowledge production of China in the "New Normal". Open panel in 4S 2022
- W.1 Pine, K.H., Bossen, C., Møller, N.H., Miceli, M., **Lu, A.J.**, Chen, Y., Horgan, L., Su, Z., Neff, G., Mazmanian, M. (2022). Investigating data work across domains: New perspectives on the work of creating data. Workshop in CHI 2022

#### Invited Talks and Panels

- T.6 Dillahunt, T.R. & **Lu, A.J.** (April, 2023). Reenvisioning Surveillance Infrastructure through Speculative Design and Photovoice. *BostonCHI*
- T.5 **Lu, A.J.** (February, 2023). Shifting from surveillance-as-safety to safety-through-noticing: A photovoice study with Eastside Detroit residents. *STREET Lab, University of Toronto*
- T.4 **Lu, A.J.** (October, 2022). Aligning Technology Design with Community Values and Strengths. In *Digital Inclusion Week. Connect 313*. Detroit, MI.
- T.3 **Lu, A.J.** (November, 2021). Towards representing lived experiences and everyday negotiation with surveillance. *Digital Study Institute. University of Michigan.*
- T.2 **Lu, A.J.** (April, 2019). #Parenting projects: Using Twitter to understand mothering and fathering. *Methods Hour, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan.*
- T.1 **Lu, A.J.** (April, 2019). Designing employment tools with underserved communities. *Introduction to Information Science. Undergraduate Class. University of Michigan.*

### GRANTS & FUNDING

- Voices of Parkside: Disseminating Findings of Videovoice on Safety and Surveillance in Public Housing Community (\$5,000) 2023  
*University of Michigan 2023 Promoting Academic and Community Engagement (PACE) Dissemination Grant (PI)*
- Emancipating Community Futures: Co-Designing Children's Books Across Generations in Eastside Detroit (\$5,000) 2023-2024  
*University of Michigan 2023 Anti-Racism Graduate Research Grants (PI)*
- Speculating Community Resilience and Safety through Intergenerationally Co-Designing Children's Books in Eastside Detroit (\$5,000) 2023-2024  
*Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (Grant Writer)*
- Operationalizing Videovoice to Capture and Communicate Lived Experiences of Safety and Surveillance among Eastside Detroiters (\$5,000) 2022-2023  
*Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (Grant Writer)*

EAGER: SAI: Community-Informed Surveillance Infrastructure for Public Safety and Equity (\$299,779) <i>National Science Foundation BCS-2121723 (Grant Writer)</i>	2021-2023
Surveillance Tech and the Racial Divide: Using Videovoice to Capture Black Experiences of Policing among Eastside Detroiters (\$49,990) <i>University of Michigan Office of Research, Research Catalyst and Innovation Program Anti-Racism Grant (Grant Writer)</i>	2021-2022
UMSI Travel Grant (\$385) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2021
Rackham International Student Fellowship (\$10,000) <i>University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate School</i>	2020-2021
UMSI Travel Grant (\$300) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2020
Phi Kappa Phi Project Grant (\$5,000) <i>Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, University of Michigan Chapter</i>	2019
UMSI Travel Grant (\$1,000) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2018
Summer Internship Grant (\$750) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2018
Tuition Grant <i>Singapore Ministry of Education</i>	2012-2016

## AWARDS

Best Paper Award for [C.10], DIS 2023 <i>ACM Designing Interactive Systems</i>	2023
Best Paper Honorable Mention Award for [C.7], CHI 2022 <i>ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems</i>	2022
Best Paper Honorable Mention Award for [C.5], DIS 2021 <i>ACM Designing Interactive Systems</i>	2021
Pre-candidacy Project Milestone Distinction Award (Top 10%) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2020
Margaret Mann Award, which honors one or more Master's students who demonstrate exceptional academic ability and professional promise <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i>	2019
Dean's Mission Scholarship <i>University of Michigan, School of Social Work</i>	2018
Best Paper Honorable Mention Award for [C.1], DIS 2018 <i>ACM Designing Interactive Systems</i>	2018
Doctoral Poster Award <i>University of Michigan, School of Social Work</i>	2018
President Research Scholar <i>Nanyang Technological University</i>	2013
Full Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies <i>Nanyang Technological University</i>	2012-2016

<b>RESEARCH EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Graduate Student Research Assistant</b> <i>Social Innovations Group, University of Michigan</i> PI: Tawanna Dillahunt	Ann Arbor, MI, USA 8/2017 - Ongoing
	<b>Graduate Student Research Assistant</b> <i>GabiLab, University of Michigan</i> PI: Gabriela Marcu	Ann Arbor, MI, USA 1/2020 - 5/2020
	<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>Child and Adolescent Data Lab, University of Michigan</i> PI: Brian E. Perron, Joseph Ryan	Ann Arbor, MI, USA 8/2017 - 5/2019
	<b>Research Assistant</b> <i>Parenting in Context Research Lab, University of Michigan</i> PI: Shawna J. Lee, Joyce Y. Lee	Ann Arbor, MI, USA 1/2018 - 5/2019
<b>PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>UX Researcher Intern</b> <i>Meta</i>	Menlo Park, CA, USA 6/2022 - 9/2022
	<b>Advisory Associate, Digital Solutions</b> <i>Ernst &amp; Young Advisory Pte. Ltd.</i>	Singapore 7/2016 - 7/2017
	<b>Software Engineer Intern</b> <i>Visa Inc.</i>	Singapore 5/2015 - 8/2015
<b>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Graduate Student Instructor</b> SI 582: Introduction to Interaction Design (24 students) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i> Primary instructor: Dr. Julie Hui	Winter 2021
	<b>Graduate Student Instructor</b> SI 582: Introduction to Interaction Design (31 students) <i>University of Michigan, School of Information</i> Primary instructors: Dr. Vadim Besprozvan, Elena Godin	Fall 2020
<b>SERVICES</b>	<b>Mentoring</b> Xuecong Xu*, M.S. in Human Centered Design & Eng., University of Washington Anandita Aggarwal*, M.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Ruchita Lodha*, M.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Eleanor Wikstrom, B.A. Social Studies, Harvard University Cameron Moy*, B.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Emilia O'Brien, B.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Julia Couch, B.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Anna Gilhool*, B.S. in Information Science, University of Michigan Mingzhi Cai*, B.S. in Data Science, University of Michigan Muhan Zhao*, B.S. in Computer Science, University of Michigan Haonan Li, B.S. in Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Michigan	
	<b>Peer Reviewing</b> ACM CHI: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (Special Recognition for Outstanding	

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\*Co-authored publication(s)

Review 2022, 2023)  
ACM CSCW: 2020, 2021, 2022 (Special Recognition for Outstanding Review 2020, 2022)  
ACM DIS: 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023  
ACM TOCHI: 2021  
ECSCW: 2023

### **Groups and Activities**

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, University of Michigan Chapter 2019 - 2020  
*Student Vice President*

Community Technical Assistance Collaborative (CTAC) 2017 - 2019  
University of Michigan, Edward Ginsberg Center  
*Student Coordinator*

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**Web Designer Volunteer** Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
*Our House* 11/2017 - 07/2018

**Child Welfare Service Volunteer** San Jose, Costa Rica  
*Maximo Nivel* 05/2016 - 07/2016

**Child Education Volunteer** Ramecchap, Nepal  
*Nepal Orphans Home* 02/2016 - 05/2016

**Community Service Volunteer** Singapore  
*Beyond Social Services Club* 08/2013 - 08/2015

## **SKILLS**

### **Research Methods**

Qualitative approaches (Interview, Ethnography, Contextual inquiry, Diary study, Focus group, Speed-dating study, Literature review)

UX Evaluation (A/B testing, Usability testing)

Community-based participatory approaches (Participatory design, Speculative design, Photovoice)

### **Language**

Mandarin (Native)

German (Basic)

American Sign Language (Basic)

### **Qualitative Data Analysis**

ATLAS.ti, NVivo, Taguette

### **Coding**

Front-end Development (Ionic, Angular, JavaScript)

Back-end Development (Python)

Data Analysis (R)

### **Graphic Design & Data Visualization**

Figma, Adobe XD/Photoshop/Illustrator/InDesign

Tableau, d3.js, R (ggplot2)

Sketching, Photographing

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Member; ACM Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI)

Member; Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)

*Last Updated: July, 2023*