

# Ru Zhao

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Human-Computer Interaction | User Experience | Ubiquitous Computing | Affective Computing | Machine Learning

## Education

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Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

2017 - current

Ph.D. in Information Science (advised by Sue Fussell)

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.

2014

B.S. in Computer Science w. minor in Mathematics (advised by M. Ehsan Hoque)

## Publications

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**Samiha Samrose\***, **Ru Zhao\***, Jeffrey White, Vivian Li, Luis Nova, Yichen Lu, M. Rafayet Ali, M. Ehsan Hoque, CoCo: Collaboration Coach for Understanding Team Dynamics during Video Conferencing (**IMWUT**, to appear in **UbiComp**), Sep, 2018 (\* equal contribution)

M. Iftekhar Tanveer, **Ru Zhao**, M. Ehsan Hoque, [Automatic Identification of Non-Meaningful Body-Movements and What It Reveals About Humans](#) (in arXiv)

Lei Chen, **Ru Zhao**, Blair Lehman, Chee Wee Leong, Gary Feng, M. Ehsan Hoque, [Automated Video Judgement on a Large-Sized Corpus Collected Online](#), *7th Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction (ACII)*, October, 2017. [Best Paper Nomination]

**Ru Zhao**, Vivian Li, Hugo Barbosa, Gourab Ghoshal, M. Ehsan Hoque, [A Semi-Automated, Collaborative, & Online Training Module for Communication Skills](#), *PACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (IMWUT)*, appeared in *UbiComp*. Sep, 2017.

M. Rafayet Ali, Facundo Ciano, **Ru Zhao**, Iftekhar Naim, M. Ehsan Hoque, [ROC Comment: Automated Descriptive and Subjective Captioning of Behavioral Videos](#), *Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp)*, Sep, 2016.

M. Iftekhar Tanveer, **Ru Zhao**, Kezhen Chen, Zoe Tiet, M. Ehsan Hoque, [AutoManner: An Automated Interface for Making Public Speakers Aware of Their Mannerisms](#), *Proceedings of the 21st ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI)*, April, 2016.

Michelle Fung, Yina Jin, **Ru Zhao**, M. Ehsan Hoque, [ROC Speak: Semi-Automated Personalized Feedback on Nonverbal Behavior from Recorded Videos](#), *Proceedings of the 17th International Conference on Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp)*, September 2015.

**Ru Zhao**, Alistair Kwan, *Wiki Visualizer for Blackboard*, University of Rochester IT Department, Aug 2013. [[Poster Demo](#)]

## Programming and Speaking Languages

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Web Languages (JavaScript/PHP/HTML/CSS/MySQL/NodeJS), Java, Python

Proficient

C++, Ruby, LISP, Prolog, Matlab

Basic

Chinese (Cantonese), English

Native, Read and Write

Chinese (Mandarin)

Fluent, Read and Write



## Notable Projects

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**ROC Speak** – platform that leverages machine learning and crowdsourcing to provide feedback on user’s public speaking skills

**ROC Comment** – platform that generates personal feedback on speaking behavior by using KNN on pre-collected sets of feedback

**AutoManner** – platform that identifies repetitive patterns that users exhibit by applying SISC unsupervised algorithm on skeletal data captured from Microsoft Kinect

**CoCo (Collaboration Coach)** – platform to analyze group interactions based on audiovisual data. Provide feedback to improve team health and coordination during those conference.

**Social Skill Assessment** – Collaborate with Dr. Lei Chen from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) to develop methods for assessing social skills based on questions in teamwork, leadership, communication, and negotiation.

**Improving Customer Service in Banking** – Communicate and work with bankers from ICIC Bank of India (2<sup>nd</sup> largest bank in India) in developing AI agent for improving customer service.

## Work & Research Experience

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### Research Assistant in the Intercultural Communication Lab at Cornell University

Aug 2017 – current

Research ways to understand human behaviors and design computer systems to induce positive behavioral change.

### Research Assistant in the HCI Lab at Univ. of Rochester

Aug 2014 – May 2017

Research ways to understand human behaviors and design computer systems to induce positive behavioral change. Collaborated with corporations such as Educational Testing Services (ETS) and ICIC bank of India.

### App Developer for IT and CETL at Univ. of Rochester

Jun 2013 – Dec 2013

Develop an application for analyzing wiki data from blackboard for the IT and CETL (Center of Excellent in Teaching and Learning) department. Advised by director of CETL Dr. Alistair Kwan (now at University of Auckland).

## Teaching Experience

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### Cornell University

CS 1300/INFO 1300 Introductory Design and Programming for the Web (Graduate T.A for Dr. Kyle Harms)

Fall 2017

- Help manage 34 undergraduate T.As in a class of 324 students

### University of Rochester

CSC 212/412 Human Computer Interaction (T.A for Dr. Ehsan Hoque)

Fall 2014, Fall 2015

CSC 575 Interactive Machine Learning (T.A for Dr. Ehsan Hoque)

Spring 2015

CSC 172 Data Structures (Workshop Leader for Dr. Chris Brown)

Fall 2013

CSC 171 Science of Programming (Lab T.A for Dr. Ted Pawlicki)

Fall 2013