

## Yinan (Tom) Xuan

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<https://www.yinanxuan.com>

I focus on **health sensing** technologies, **machine learning**, and **HCI**. My expertise lies in developing interdisciplinary, wearable health solutions through an end-to-end approach. As a **generalist**, I am adept at **prototyping** both **hardware and software systems** and applying advanced **algorithms**. My commitment is to innovate in sensing for precise **monitoring of human physiological and activity metrics**.

## Education

### University of California, San Diego

La Jolla, CA

*Ph.D. Candidate in Electrical & Computer Engineering*

*July 2020 – 2025 (expected)*

*Advisor: Edward Wang*

*Areas: Ubiquitous Health Sensing*

*M.S. in Biological Science*

*Sept. 2017 – June 2020*

*Advisor: Jing Wang*

*Thesis: Computer Vision Aided Drosophila Gut Imaging Data Collection and Analysis*

*B.S. in Physiology & Neuroscience*

*Sept. 2013 – June 2017*

*Minor: Cognitive Science*

*Honors: MAGNA CUM LAUDE (GPA 3.89/4.00)*

## Experience

### Meta – Reality Labs

Jun. 2024 - Present

*Research Scientist Intern*

*Redmond, WA*

- Developed novel low-friction speech input systems by leveraging expertise in **acoustics, sensors, ML**, and **DSP**. Collaborated closely with **multiple cross-functional teams** and showcased a **real-time demo** to **Meta C-suite executives**.

### Meta – Reality Labs

Aug. 2023 – Jan. 2024

*Research Scientist Intern*

*Redmond, WA*

- Developed a **wearable** test vehicle with integrated motion sensors, responsible for its **mechanical design, sensor circuit integration**, and **firmware development**. Conducted a focused user study and trained an **NN model**. Developed a **real-time demo** w/ visualization.
- Orchestrated the technical setup for a ground truth data collection in a **100 people user study**, selecting optimal devices and engineering synchronization solutions for consistent data integration. Crafted a **Unity app** to facilitate the data collection workflow.

### University of California, San Diego – Electronic&Computer Engineering

Oct. 2019 – Present

*Graduate Student Researcher*

*La Jolla, CA*

- Designed and built BPClip, an ultra-low-cost blood pressure monitoring smartphone attachment consisted of 3D-printed hardware accessories and on-device ML/OpenCV Android application.
- Innovating a BLE-enabled tracking solution using the Nordic nRF52810 SoC to monitor bowel movements in IBS patients, enhancing patient care through precise activity logging. Complementing the hardware, an Android app is developed to facilitate real-time data capture and patient engagement.
- Developed a calibration method that enable accurate and consistent camera photoplethysmography measurement across multiple Android smart phones
- Designed and implemented SpecTracle, a vision-based unobtrusive facial tracking system for AR, which consists of fisheye lens cameras controlled by Raspberry Pi and an image based neural network model.
- Implemented a Unity exercising game prototype that uses IMU signals on Vuzix AR glasses
- Built an embedded system that allows compression testing for various materials and designs.

### Indie Game Developer

June 2021 – Present

- Project Management: Coordinated among team members and made decisions about development details and timeline.
- Development: Built all elements in the game with C# in Unity 2D, including but not limited to: Items, Quests, Dialogues, and Cut Scenes.
- Gameplay Design: Designed player experience and overall gameplay system.
- Technical Art: Designed and built VFXs with 2D lighting, shader graphs and particle system.

- Designed and implemented an olfaction VR device as a novel instrument to observe odor guided behaviors in *Drosophila*
- Designed, implemented and deployed an image processing software to facilitate bio-imaging data analysis pipeline that profiles *Drosophila* intestinal cells' response to different nutrients.
- Designed, implemented and deployed an automated solenoid valve control system for perfusion experiments that can independently control up to 22 valves.
- Collaborated in building and testing a customized three-photon fluorescent imaging microscope.
- Built a feedback-controlled temperature-based anesthetic platform to facilitate surgery process on *Drosophila*.

## Skills

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### Software

*Languages:* Python, Kotlin, C#, C/C++, MATLAB, Java, JavaScript, SQL (MySQL)

*Machine Learning Models:* Neural Networks, SVM, Hierarchical Clustering, DBSCAN, Gaussian Mixture Model, etc.

*Data Analysis/Preprocessing:* Dimension Reduction, Computer Vision / Image Processing, etc.

*Digital Signal Processing :* FIR/IIR Filter Design, Welch's Method for Noise Characterization, FFT, Spectrogram Analysis, PDM to PCM Conversion, Audio Signal Processing

*Mobile Development:* Android (Kotlin/JAVA), iOS (Swift), Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)

*Embedded System Programming:* nRF Connect SDK, Arduino, STM32, BLE

*Web Development:* HTML/CSS, Bootstrap, React, Node.js

*Game and UI Development:* Unity, Qt6, PyQt, VisPy, Real-Time Data Visualization

### Hardware

*Rapid Prototyping:* SolidWorks, NX, 3D printing with SLA/FDM using rigid/flexible material, laser cutting

*Embedded System Prototyping:* PCB design, hardware/component selection, Raspberry Pi

## Publications

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### Peer-Reviewed Publications

1. **Xuan, Y.**, Barry, C., De Souza, J. et al. [\*Ultra-low-cost mechanical smartphone attachment for no-calibration blood pressure measurement\*](#). **Nature Scientific Reports** 13, 8105 (2023).
2. Barry, C., **Xuan, Y.**, Fascetti, A. et al. [\*Oscillometric blood pressure measurements on smartphones using vibrometric force estimation\*](#). **Nature Scientific Reports** 14, 26206 (2024).
3. **Xuan, Y.**, Barry, C., Antipa, N., & Wang, E. J. (2023). [\*A Calibration Method for Smartphone Camera Photoplethysmography\*](#). **Frontiers in Digital Health**, 5. (2023)
4. Barry, C., Souza, J., **Xuan, Y.**, Holden, J., Granholm, E., Wang, E. [\*At-Home Pupillometry using Smartphone Facial Identification Cameras\*](#). **CHI 2022 Best Paper Honorable Mention Award**
5. Lin, H.-H., Kuang, M. C., Hossain, I., **Xuan, Y.**, Beebe, L., Shepherd, A. K., Rolandi, M., Wang, J. W. (2022). [\*A nutrient-specific gut hormone arbitrates between courtship and feeding\*](#). In **Nature**. Springer Science and Business Media LLC.
6. Yu, V., Rahimy, M., Korrapati, A., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2016). [\*Electronic cigarettes induce DNA strand breaks and cell death independently of nicotine in cell lines\*](#). *Oral Oncology*, 52, 58–65.
7. Zou, A. E., Ku, J., Honda, T. K., Yu, V., Kuo, S. Z., Zheng, H., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2015). [\*Transcriptome sequencing uncovers novel long noncoding and small nucleolar RNAs dysregulated in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma\*](#). *RNA*, 21(6), 1122–1134.
8. Zou, A. E., Zheng, H., Saad, M. A., Rahimy, M., Ku, J., Kuo, S. Z., Honda, T. K., Wang-Rodriguez, J., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2016). [\*The non-coding landscape of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma\*](#). *Oncotarget*, 7(32), 51211–51222.

### Preprints

9. **Xuan, Y.**, Viswanath, V., Chu, S., Bartolf, O., Echterhoff, J., Wang, E. [\*SpecTracle: Wearable Facial Motion Tracking from Unobstructing Peripheral Cameras\*](#)

## Posters

10. **Xuan, Y.**, Fascetti, A.J., Barry, C.O., & Wang, E.J. (2024). [\*Development of a One Dollar Blood Pressure Monitor.\*](#)
11. Zou, A. E., Krishnan, A. R., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2016). [\*Abstract 977: RNA-sequencing analysis implicates novel non-coding RNAs in human papillomavirus-associated head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.\*](#) Molecular and Cellular Biology, Genetics.
12. Korrapati, A., Yu, V., Saad, M. A., Rahimy, M., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2016). [\*Abstract 4069: The carcinogenic effects of electronic cigarettes in oral cancer.\*](#) Tumor Biology.
13. Ku, J., Zou, A. E., Honda, T. K., Zheng, H., Saad, M. A., Yu, V., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2015). [\*Abstract 3836: Identification of key survival-correlating microRNAs and Piwi-interacting RNAs dysregulated in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.\*](#) Molecular and Cellular Biology.
14. Honda, T. K., Zou, A., Yu, V., Zheng, H., Kuo, S., Saad, M., **Xuan, Y.**, et al. (2015). [\*Abstract 151: Transcriptome-wide expression profiling of long noncoding and small nucleolar RNAs in head and neck squamous cell carcinomas identifies novel transcripts associated with survival.\*](#) Molecular and Cellular Biology.

## Teaching and Mentoring Experience

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### Teaching Assistant

2023 Spring - UCSD ECE 16 - Rapid Hardware and Software Design for Interfacing with the World

2022 Winter - UCSD ECE 16

2018 Fall - UCSD BIPN 100 - Human Physiology I

### Mentorship

2022 - Grace Jin, undergraduate researcher from UCSD CSE department

2022 - Joseph Kuo, undergraduate researcher from UCSD ESE department

2021 - MAE student team, undergraduate capstone project

2020 - Sunny Chu, undergraduate researcher from UCSD ECE department

2020 - Owen Bartolf, undergraduate researcher from UCSD CSE department

### Service

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- Reviewer for npj Digital Medicine
- Reviewer for The Lancet Digital Health
- Reviewer for Frontiers In Digital Health
- Reviewer for CHI 2025 Papers
- Reviewer for CHI 2024 Papers
- Reviewer for CHI 2023 Papers
- Reviewer for IMWUT 2023
- Reviewer for IMWUT 2022
- Reviewer for IEEE VR 2023
- Reviewer for ISWC 2022 Notes Briefs
- Reviewer for UbiComp/ISWC 2020 Posters and Demos

## Membership & Honors

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- Member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Member of Muir College's Senior Honors Caledonian Society

## Languages

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- Mandarin - Native Speaker
- English - Professional
- Japanese – Limited Professional (passed JLPT N1 w/ full score)
- Cantonese - Daily Communication