RAWAN ALGHOFAILI

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EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor — August 2023 – Present
University of Texas at Dallas — Richardson, TX

Research Intern — May 2021 – December 2021
Meta Reality Labs — Toronto, Canada (Remote)

- Exploring gaze-driven models of interactions under uncertainty in AR/VR
- **Mentor:** Ben Lafreniere
- **Collaborators:** Tanya Jonker, Michael Glueck, Ting Zhang and Naveen Sendhilnathan

Research Intern — May 2020 – August 2020
Adobe Research — San Francisco, CA (Remote)

- Content authoring for AR via 2D sketch to 3D curve creation
- **Mentor:** Cuong Nguyen
- **Collaborators:** Vojtěch Krs, Nathan Carr, and Radomír Měch

Research Intern — June 2014 – August 2014
Cornell University — Ithaca, NY

- Furniture style classification from 2D images using a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)
- **Mentor:** Kavita Bala

EDUCATION

PhD in Computer Science — August 2022
George Mason University — Fairfax, VA

MS in Computer Science — December 2018
University of Massachusetts-Boston — Boston, MA

MEng in Computer Science — May 2014
Cornell University — Ithaca, NY

BS in Information Technology — June 2011
King Saud University — Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

PUBLICATIONS

CHI, IEEE VR, SIGGRAPH, and Eurographics are top Human-computer Interaction, Virtual/Augmented Reality, and Computer Graphics conferences. According to Google Scholar and as of 2024 they have the following h-5 index: CHI (129), IEEE VR (48), SIGGRAPH (112), and Eurographics (59).
Citations: 816, h-index: 7, i10-index: 7 (according to Google Scholar 2/2026).

Conferences

[C1] Xulong Tang, Eun Yeo, Ruiyu Mao, Xiaohu Guo, and **Rawan Alghofaili**. "Personalized dance synthesis based on physical and cognitive intensities". In: *2026 IEEE conference virtual reality and 3D user interfaces (VR)*. **IEEE VR**'26. Daegu, Korea, Mar. 2026.

[C2] **Rawan Alghofaili**, Naveen Sendhilnathan, Ting Zhang, Toby Grossman, Michael Glueck, Tanya R. Jonker, and Ben Lafreniere. "Interactive Mediation Techniques for Error-Aware Gesture Input Systems". In: *Proceedings of the 50th Graphics Interface Conference*. **GI**'24. Halifax, NS, Canada: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024, p. 12.

[C3] Minyoung Kim, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Changyang Li, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Dragon's Path: Synthesizing User-Centered Flying Creature Animation Paths for Outdoor Augmented Reality Experiences". In: *ACM SIGGRAPH 2024 Conference Papers*. **SIGGRAPH**'24. Denver, CO, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024.

[C4] Yu Liuchuan, Huining Feng, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Boyoung Byun, Swati Rampalli, Yoosun Chung, Vivian Genaro Motti, and Lap-Fai Yu. "HoloAAC: A Mixed Reality AAC Application for People with Expressive Language Difficulties". In: *Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality. 26th HCI International Conference (HCII)*. HCII'24. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2024, pp. 304–324.

[C5] **Rawan Alghofaili**, Cuong Nguyen, Vojtěch Krs, Nathan Carr, Radomír Měch, and Lap-Fai Yu. "WARPY: Sketching Environment-Aware 3D Curves in Mobile Augmented Reality". In: *2023 IEEE Conference Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces (VR)*. **IEEE VR**'23. 2023, pp. 367–377.

[C6] Wei Liang, Luhui Wang, Xinzhe Yu, Changyang Li, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Yining Lang, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Optimizing Product Placement for Virtual Stores". In: *2023 IEEE Conference Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces (VR)*. **IEEE VR**'23. 2023, pp. 336–346.

[C7] **Rawan Alghofaili**, Matthew Fisher, Richard Zhang, Michal Lukáč, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Exploring Sketch-based Character Design Guided by Automatic Colorization". In: *Graphics Interface 2021*. **GI**'21. 2021, p. 12.

[C8] Wei Liang, Xinzhe Yu, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Yining Lang, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Scene-Aware Behavior Synthesis for Virtual Pets in Mixed Reality". In: *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. **CHI**'21. Yokohama, Japan: ACM, 2021, p. 12.

[C9] **Rawan Alghofaili**, Yasuhito Sawahata, Haikun Huang, Hsueh-Cheng Wang, Takaaki Shiratori, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Lost in Style: Gaze-driven Adaptive Aid for VR Navigation". In: *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. **CHI**'19. Glasgow, Scotland Uk: ACM, 2019, p. 12.

[C10] **Rawan Alghofaili**, Michael Solah, Haikun Huang, Yasuhito Sawahata, Marc Pomplun, and Lap-Fai Yu. "Optimizing Visual Element Placement via Visual Attention Analysis". In: *2019 IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces (VR)*. **IEEE VR**'19. 2019, pp. 464–473.

Journals

[J1] Biao Xie, Huimin Liu, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Yongqi Zhang, Yeling Jiang, Flavio Destri Lobo, Changyang Li, Wanwan Li, Haikun Huang, Mesut Akdere, Christos Mousas, and Lap-Fai Yu. "A Review on Virtual Reality Skill Training Applications". In: ***Frontiers in Virtual Reality*** 2 (2021), p. 49.

Workshops

[W1] Lap-Fai Yu, Changyang Li, Yongqi Zhang, **Rawan Alghofaili**, Haikun Huang, Liuchuan Yu, Huimin Liu, Minsoo Choi, Brenda Bannan, and Christos Mousas. "Establishing Design Computing and Extended Reality Facilities for Remote Virtual Reality Training". In: *2023 IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces Abstracts and Workshops (VRW)*. 2023, pp. 216–220.

Professional Service and Outreach

Program Committee

- IEEE VR 2025-2026
- ISMAR 2025-2026
- Eurographics 2025
- CHI Late-Breaking Works (LBWS) track 2023, 2024
- ETRA short papers 2021, 2023, 2024
- CHI PLAY 2022 Work-In-Progress (WiP) 2022–2023
- ACM SIGGRAPH / Eurographics Symposium on Computer Animation (SCA) 2023
- IEEE MetaCom 2023
- ACHI 2019

Organizing Committee

- TrainingXR@IEEE VR: 2020, 2024–2025
  Workshop on 3D Content Creation for Simulated Training in eXtended Reality
- UT Dallas CS K-12 Outreach workshop: Summer 2024
  Augmented Reality 3D User Interface Design and Development

Reviewer

- IEEE VR 2020-2026
- SIGGRAPH 2026
- CHI 2020-2024
- UIST 2023
- TOG 2023
- TVCG 2023
- VRST 2020-2021
- CHI PLAY (2020); CASA (2019); CAVW (2019)

Talks

- Guest lecture at CS6331 - Multimedia Systems at the University of Texas at Dallas 2023
- The Texas Human-Computer Interaction (TxHCI) seminar 2023
- MAGFest: Music and Gaming Festival 2023
- T-Mobile Advanced and Emerging Technologies 2022
- Meta Reality Labs 2021
- NHK Science & Technology Research Laboratories 2019

Panels

- Sci-Tech Discovery Center - Women+ STEM Day 2023
- MAGFest: Music and Gaming Festival - Education in VR panel 2023

University Service

PhD Admission Committee (UT Dallas) 2023–Present
CS K-12 Outreach Committee (UT Dallas) 2024–Present
Publicity Committee (UT Dallas) 2025–Present

Honors and Awards

Special Recognition for Outstanding Review, UIST 2023
Distinguished Academic Achievement Award, George Mason University 2022
King Saud University fellowship 2011–2022

Mentoring Experience

PhD

- Xulong Tang (UT Dallas) 2023–Present
- Euon Yeo (UT Dallas) 2024–Present
- Yuxiao Wang (UT Dallas) Fall 2024–Present
- Ramkrishna Saha (UT Dallas) 2024
- Muhaimin Bin Munir (UT Dallas) 2023
- Minyoung Kim (GMU) 2021–2023

MS

- Nomaan Khan (UT Dallas) 2024
- Yining Lang (Beijing Institute of Technology, now at Alibaba Group) 2020–2021
- Xinzhe Yu (Beijing Institute of Technology) 2020–2021

Undergraduate

- Daisy Gan (UT Dallas) 2023–Present
- Sarah Jacob (UT Dallas, Undergraduate Research Scholar Award) 2024–Present
- Venkatasai Gudisa (UT Dallas, Undergraduate Research Scholar Award) 2024–Present
- Anish Reddy Alle (UT Dallas, Undergraduate Research Scholar Award) 2024–Present
- Sri Vellanki (UT Dallas) 2024–Present
- Rohith Karthikeyan (UT Austin) 2024–Present

- Shreya Karthikeyan (UT Austin) 2024–Present
- Greeshma Nerella (UT Dallas) 2024–Present
- Faizul Anis (UT Dallas) 2024–Present
- Paresh Grover (UT Dallas) Fall 2024–Present
- Shraddha Subash (UT Dallas, Undergraduate Research Scholar Award) 2024
- Pranjal Ghimire (UT Dallas) 2024
- Abbas Khawaja (UT Dallas) Spring 2024–Summer 2024
- Vaishnavi Josyula (UT Dallas) Spring 2024
- Sowresh Mecheri-Senthil (UT Dallas) Fall 2023–Spring 2024
- Swati Rampalli (University of Minnesota, NSF REU program) Summer 2021

K-12

- UTD CS Lab Summer Research: Akash Vasan, , Bidhan Karki, and Rishi Nigam Summer 2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Dallas | ***Assistant Professor*** Richardson, TX
Graduate: CS 6326 - Human-Computer Interaction Fall 2023, Fall 2024
Undergraduate: CS 4301 - AR 3D UI Design & Development Spring 2024

University of Massachusetts at Boston | ***Lecturer*** Boston, MA
Undergraduate: CS105 - Introduction to Computer Concepts Fall 2018

University of Massachusetts at Boston | ***Teaching Assistant*** Boston, MA
Undergraduate: CS410 - Introduction to Software Engineering Spring 2018

King Saud University | ***Teaching Assistant*** Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Undergraduate: CSC112 & CSC113 - Computer Programming I and II Fall 2011, Spring 2012

REFERENCES

Lap-Fai (Craig) Yu: Associate Professor at George Mason University, Dissertation Advisor
Cuong Nguyen: Research Scientist at Adobe Research
Ben Lafreniere: Research Scientist at Meta Reality Labs
Yasuhito Sawahata: Research Scientist at Japan Broadcasting Corporation