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# Symposium on Asian HCI Research

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**Abstract.** In this one-day symposium in which we propose to bring together 10 to 12 researchers from Asia to come together to share their work and to discuss collaboration opportunities. This would be followed by a session in which we would explore and brainstorm about joint work and possibilities of collaboration.

**Keywords:** Human-computer interaction · Asia · Research in HCI

## 1 Introduction

Asia is a complex continent filled with diversity. It comprises of both developing countries and developed countries. With a population of 4.4 billion, the continent houses about 2/3rds of the world's population. In many ways, the problems faced by Asia are no different from the problems faced by the rest of the world. In some other ways though, the issues and concerns are unique.

Asia currently boasts of significant research in human-computer interaction (HCI). In the last 10 years, several international HCI conferences have been organised in Asia, including HCI International 2007 in China, CHI 2015 in South Korea, UIST 2016 in Japan, and the forthcoming INTERACT 2017 conference in India. Asia has also been a host of several local HCI events such as Chinese HCI conference, India HCI, CHI IndoUX etc. Unfortunately, there have not been too many opportunities for people to discuss and exchange ideas across the Asian countries. The APCHI conference that used to target the Asia-Pacific population has not run for the past three years.

Similar is the case with movement of researchers. There are several outstanding universities and industrial labs in Asia where HCI research takes place. Many universities from Asia are often involved in exchange of visits with universities in Europe and North America. Many students from Asia travel to do their masters and doctoral research in Europe and North America. Unfortunately, there has been relatively less research visits and student exchange within Asia.

We believe that Asian researchers have a lot to share among themselves. Given that the INTERACT 2017 conference will attract several Asian researchers to Mumbai, we propose to organise a one-day symposium.

## 2 The Proposal

We propose to organise a one-day symposium to celebrate the diversity of Asian HCI research. The organisers propose to invite about 10 of the following researchers to present their work. As many of these researchers come from developing countries, the organisers are looking for funding opportunities of partly supporting the travel costs of some of these researchers.

- Yoshifumi Kitamura, Japan
- Takahiro Miura, Japan
- Xiangshi Ren, Japan
- Zhengjie Liu, China
- Eunice Sari, Indonesia
- Shendong Zhao, Singapore
- Bimlesh Wadhwa, Singapore
- Ellen Do, Singapore
- Indika Perera, Sri Lanka
- Kaveh Bazargan, Iran
- Chui Yin Wang, Malaysia
- Nova Ahmed, Bangladesh

### 2.1 Need

Several students, teachers and industry professionals in Asian countries are aware of the research activities going on in Asia and their respective countries. One of the main difficulties for such people is to connect with like-minded people in order to start or augment their research interests. As discussed in Sect. 1, the availability of research opportunities in the developing countries of Asia are limited. Travelling is also an issue. People wait for events to be organized in their countries to build network with people to take their research interest ahead. There are challenges in having access to laboratory set-up as well.

This symposium will help people connect with researchers for funding, research opportunities and collaborations.

Given that we might be able to get some thought leading speakers from various countries, the symposium is likely to attract a large number of participants including current and prospective students, researchers and industry professionals.

## 2.2 The Programme

The symposium will consist of invited talks and a session for exchange of research areas, topics of interest, case studies, trends, and collaborations. We propose the following programme for the symposium:

- Session 1: 9 am to 11 am
  - Introductions, plans
  - Presentations by researcher 1, 2, 3, 4
- Session 2: 11:30 am to 1 pm
  - Presentations by researcher 5, 6, 7
- Session 3: 2 pm to 3:30 pm
  - Presentations by researcher 8, 9, 10
- Session 4: 4 pm to 5 pm
  - 3 parallel sessions on possible research areas for collaboration across Asian countries
  - Conclusion

## 2.3 Topics

The probable topics of activities/events for this symposium would be:

1. Presentation by Asian researchers
  - Focus areas
  - Topics of interest
  - Discussion on Case Studies
2. Current trends
3. Upcoming research areas
4. Challenges in research and how to overcome them
5. Possible areas of collaboration
6. Possible funding and research opportunities
7. Student/researcher/faculty exchange programmes

At the end of the day, we propose to have a session that will allow participants to discuss future collaborations and student and faculty exchange among universities.

## 3 The Organisers

### 3.1 About Yoshifumi Kitamura

Yoshifumi Kitamura is active researcher from Japan. He has been active in organising several conferences and events including UIST 2016 and SIGGRAPH Asia 2015 in recent times. He represents Japan on the IFIP TC13, and is a member of the ACM SIGCHI Asian Development Committee. He received the B.Sc., M.Sc. and PhD. degrees in Engineering from Osaka University in 1985, 1987 and 1996, respectively. From 1987 to 1992, he was at the Information Systems Research Center of Canon Inc.,

where he was involved in research on artificial intelligence, image processing, computer vision, and 3D data processing. From 1992 to 1996, he was a researcher at ATR Communication Systems Research Laboratories, where he worked on sophisticated user interface in virtual environments. From 1997 to 2002, he was an Associate Professor at Graduate School of Engineering, and from 2002 to 2010, he was an Associate Professor at Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, Osaka University. From April 2010, he is currently a Professor at Research Institute of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University. His research interests include interactive content design, human computer interactions, and 3D user interfaces.

### **3.2 About Zhengjie Liu**

Zhengjie is Professor at Dalian Maritime University and founding director of Sino European Usability Center. He has been involved in human-computer interaction (HCI) since 1989 and has helped the germination and growth of this field especially user experience practice in China. He is experienced in consultancy and training to industry including many multinational companies. His area is human-computer interaction design focusing on issues related to user experience and user-centered design and innovation. He is a co-founder of SIGCHI China and has served on roles at ACM SIGCHI executive committee supporting HCI growth in developing worlds and at IFIP TC.13 Committee on HCI. He is on editorial board of several journals in HCI and ISO working groups on usability and human-centered design. He is awardee of IFIP TC13 Pioneers Award in 2013.

### **3.3 About Eunice Sari**

Dr. Sari is the CEO and Co-Founder of UX Indonesia ([uxindo.com](http://uxindo.com)) – the first HCI and UX business in Indonesia since 2002. She is also the first Indonesian Female Google Expert in UX/UI who have helped over a hundred of start-ups around the world. As a UX/CX Expert and ICT in Education Expert, she has more than 15 + years of experience working in both academia and industries. She has pioneered a number of forward-thinking and innovative projects in order to effect changes in life and improve the bottom line of business in various vertical industries in USA, Europe, Australia and Asia. Eunice is a leading UX/CX expert in Southeast Asia. She co-founded and chaired the Indonesia ACM SIGCHI Chapter (Association Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction a.k.a CHI UX Indonesia), and later the Association of Digital Interaction Indonesia - Perkumpulan Interaksi Digital Indonesia (PIDI). She is also the co-founder of ACM SIGCHI Southeast Asia community, the South East Asia Liaison for ACM SIGCHI Asia Development Committee, the Expert Member of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) TC 13 – Human Computer Interaction (HCI) for Indonesia, and the Western Australia Representative for the Human Factors Ergonomic Association Computer Human Interaction Special Interest Group (HFESA CHISIG). With her roles, she facilitates the collaboration between academia and industry in the fields of Education, Technology, HCI and UX, particularly in Southeast Asia and Pacific.

### **3.4 About Anshuman Sharma**

Anshuman Sharma has over 20 years of industry experience in the field of HCI - in areas of Interaction Design, Usability and User Research. He has held senior positions in organizations like Siemens, TCS and PlayTech. At present, he is Global Head of User-Experience Design (UXD) practice at L&T Infotech, Bangalore, India where he supports Application IP development and supports many Fortune 500 clients globally. His areas of work are Application Design & Transformation, Creativity & Innovation models in UX, User Research, Usability Analysis and Interaction Design. He has experience in domains like BFSI, eCommerce, Telecom, Product Lifecycle Management (PLM), Online Gaming and eLearning. He has published several research papers and has a patent to his name. He received his Master's Degree (M.Des.) in Industrial Design from Instrument Design & Development Center (IDDC) IIT Delhi and B.Tech. in City & Urban Planning from GRD School of Planning, Amritsar, India. He is on Scientific panel and International Programme committee of conferences on research on creativity and design like International Conference on Research into Design (ICoRD) and International Conference on Creativity and Cognition in Art and Design (ICCCAD).