Chen Peng

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EDUCATION

University of Leeds, U.K. Feb 2020-Mar 2024

Ph.D. in Transport Studies (Human Factors & Safety)

Thesis: Understanding and Improving User Comfort in Automated Driving (link)

Supervisors: Prof Natasha Merat, Prof Marjan Hagenzieker, Dr Chongfeng Wei

Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands 2017-2019

MSc. in Human-Technology Interaction. *Distinction*.

Core courses: UX Design, Huma-Robot Interaction, Psychophysiology, Behavioural Research Methods, Human Factors, Perception, Cognitive Engineering, Interactive Virtual Environment

Thesis: Novel Sensorimotor Contingencies in VR: Effects of Vibrotactile Directional Cues on Perceptual Integration and Presence (link)

Supervisors: dr.ir. Antal Haans & Prof. dr. Wijnand IJsselsteijn

University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, China 2013-2017

BEng. Optoelectronic Information Science and Engineering

EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor (Lecturer) in Human Factors, School of Design and Creative Arts, Loughborough University, U.K. Oct 2025 -

Research and teaching in the area of human factors and ergonomics

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Institute for Transport Studies, University of Leeds, U.K. Feb 2023 – Oct 2025

Worked on the Road Safety Trust funded *e-SAFE* project, investigating anti-social and high-risk behaviours in e-mobility users in the UK, collaborating with local authorities, e.g., Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Worked on the EU-funded *Hi-Drive* project, with a focus on user comfort and human-like driving styles in automated driving, in a real-world setting, collaborating with both industrial and academic partners (e.g., Bosch, TU Delft).

Marie Curie Early-Stage Researcher, Institute for Transport Studies, University of Leeds, U.K. 2020-2023

Worked on the EU Horizon 2020 funded *SHAPE-IT* project and PhD research

on user comfort in automated driving.

Visiting Researcher (Secondment), TU Delft, Delft, Netherlands June-July 2023

Designed and conducted a study at TU Delft, investigating comfort requirements of users, especially the older population, in automated driving, using the Wizard-of-Oz vehicle, via qualitative interview method.

Visiting Researcher (Secondment), BOSCH, Renningen, Germany Oct-Dec 2021

Investigated the relationships between physiological indicators and motion sickness in highly automated driving, in a driving test track study funded by the *RUMBA* project.

Biometrics User Research Internship, Seasun Inc., Zhuhai, China July-Aug 2018

Used biometrics devices (EEG & eye-tracking) to measure users' emotional and attentional reactions to banner ads of games and conducted interviews to explore users' subjective attitudes toward tested ads.

PUBLICATION

Journal articles

1 **Peng, C.,** Wei, C., Solernou, A., Hagenzieker, M., & Merat, N. (2024). User comfort and naturalness of automated driving: The effect of vehicle kinematics and proxemics on subjective response. *Applied Ergonomics.* https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apergo.2024.104397

2 **Peng, C.**, Horn, S., Madigan, R., Marberger, C., Lee, J., Krems, J., Beggiato, M., Romano, R., Wei, C., Wooldridge, E., Hagenzieker, M., & Merat, N. (2024). Conceptualising user comfort in automated driving: Findings from an expert group workshop. *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trip.2024.101070

3 **Peng, C.,** Merat, N., Romano, R., Hajiseyedjavadi, F., Paschalidis, E., Wei, C., Radhakrishnan, V., Solernou, A., Forster, D., & Boer, E. (2022). Drivers' Evaluation of Different Automated Driving Styles: Is It both Comfortable and Natural? *Human Factors*. https://doi.org/10.1177/00187208221113448

4 Liu, H., Li, Y., Zeng, Z., Cheng, H., **Peng, C.**, & Wada, T. (2024). Is Silent eHMI Enough? A Passenger-Centric Study on Effective eHMI for Autonomous Personal Mobility Vehicles in the Field. *International Journal of Human–Computer Interaction*. https://doi.org/10.1080/10447318.2024.2306426

Journal articles (under review)

1 **Peng, C.**, Öztürk, İ., Nordhoff, S., Madigan, R., Hoogendoorn-Lanser, S., Hagenzieker, M., & Merat, N. Passenger comfort in automated vehicles on roads: Insights from younger and older adults. *Under Review*.

2 **Peng, C.**, Carlowitz, S.**,** Madigan, R., Schulz, M., Osswalt, S., Schultz, A., & Merat, N., Optimal Lateral Acceleration for Different Levels of Automated Driving: A Test Track Study of Passenger Evaluation for Curve Negotiation. *Under review.*

Conference proceedings

1 **Peng, C.**, Bazilinskyy, P., Yu, Y., and Merat, N. (2025). Measuring Passengers' Comfort and Perceived Safety in Automated Driving: Good Practices, Challenges, and Opportunities. In *17th International Conference on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications (AutomotiveUI Adjunct '25)*, September 21–25, 2025, Brisbane, QLD, Australia.

2 **Peng, C.**, Öztürk, İ., Nordhoff, S., Madigan, R., Hoogendoorn-Lanser, S., Hagenzieker, M., & Merat, N (2025). Older passengers' expectations about highly automated driving: Implications for inclusive designs. In *17th International Conference on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications (AutomotiveUI Adjunct '25)*, September 21–25, 2025, Brisbane, QLD, Australia.

3 Liu, H., Li, Y., Zeng, Z., Cheng, H., **Peng, C.**, & Wada, T. (2025). Inspiring External Human-Machine Interface Designs for Autonomous Personal Mobility Vehicle: Causal Discovering the Influence of Passengers' Personality Traits on User Experience. *2025 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS 2025),* Hangzhou, China

4 **Peng, C**., Öztürk, İ., Nordhoff, S., Madigan, R., Hoogendoorn-Lanser, S., Hagenzieker, M., & Merat, N. (2023). Exploring user comfort in automated driving: A qualitative study with younger and older users using the Wizard-Of-Oz method. *15th International Conference on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications (AutomotiveUI '23 Adjunct)*, Ingolstadt, Germany

5 **Peng, C.**, Hajiseyedjavadi, F., & Merat, N. (2022). A comparison of two methodologies for subjective evaluation of comfort in automated vehicles. *The 12th International Conference on Methods and Techniques in Behavioural Research and 6th Seminar on Behavioural Methods*, May, 192–199. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.20066849.v1

Technical reports

1 Figalová, N., Mbelekani, N. Y., Zhang, C., Yang, Y., **Peng, C.**, Nasser, M., Yuan-Cheng, L., Muhammad, A. P., Tabone, W., Berge, S. H., Jokhio, S., He, X., Kalantari, A. H., Mohammadi, A., Yang, X., Bärgman, J., & Baumann, M. (2021). *Methodological Framework for Modelling and Empirical Approaches (Deliverable D1.1 in the H2020 MSCA ITN project SHAPE-IT)*. SHAPE-IT Consortium. https://doi.org/10.17196/shape-it/2021/02/D1.1

2 Merat, N., Yang, Y., Lee, Y. M., Berge, S. H., Figalová, N., Jokhio, S., **Peng, C.**, Mbelekani, N. Y., Nasser, M., Muhammad, A. P., Tabone, W., Yuan-Cheng, L., Baumann, M., & Bärgman, J. (2021). *An Overview of Interfaces for Automated Vehicles (inside/outside) (Deliverable D2.1 in the H2020 MSCA ITN project SHAPE-IT)*. SHAPE-IT Consortium. https://doi.org/10.17196/shape-it/2021/02/D2.1

3 Merat, N., Lee, Y. M., **Peng, C**., Figalova, N., Mbelekani, N., Muhammad, A. P., Yuan-Cheng, L., He, X., & Yang, X. (2023). *Design guidelines for acceptable, transparent, and safe AVs in urban environments: Deliverable 2.6 in the EC ITN project SHAPE-IT*. https://doi.org/10.17196/shape-it/2023/D2.6

4 Madigan, R., Lee, Y. M., Merat, N., Goodridge, C., Lehtonen, E., Wolter, S., Wilbrink, M., Oehl, M., Dozza, M., Edelmann, A., Happee, R., Hennes, N., Horn, S., Maggi, D., Merlhiot, G., Metz, B., Metzulat, M., Nordhoff, S., **Peng, C**., … Wörle, J. (2023, October 9).*User Evaluation Methods: Deliverable D4.4 in the HiDrive project*.

Presentations & talks

Public Webinar on Comfort and Motion Sickness, Hi-Drive, online 2025

Seminar at School of Psychology and Counselling, Queensland University of Technology 2025

"User Comfort in Automated Driving"

Comfort and Acceptance Panel Discussion, HiDrive SP6 Workshop, Leeds 2025

Motion Comfort Workshop at Tomorrow Mobility Congress (Spain) 2024
"Impact of longitudinal & lateral acceleration on passenger comfort in automated driving (L4)"
"Passenger comfort in automated vehicles on roads: Insights from younger and older adults"

SHAPE-IT final showcase event (Sweden) 2023
"The Magic Carriage: A Story of Comfort in Self Driving" (talk)

International Conference on Traffic and Transport Psychology (ICTTP) (Sweden) 2023
"Conceptualising user comfort in automated driving"
"The Effect of Road Environments on Driving Behaviour"

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) Europe Chapter 2023 Annual Conference (UK) 2023
"Conceptualising user comfort in automated driving"

ACM Conference on Automotive UI (Germany) 2023
"Exploring user comfort in automated driving: A qualitative study with younger and older users using the Wizard-Of-Oz method"

ACM Conference on Automotive UI (Online) 2021
"Developing More Comfortable, Transparent and Acceptable AV-kinematic Cues for Drivers"

Measuring Behaviour (Online) 2020
"A comparison of two methodologies for subjective evaluation of comfort in automated vehicles"

Driving Assessment (Online) 2020
"A comparison of two methodologies for subjective evaluation of comfort in automated vehicles"

STUDENT EDUCATION

PhD supervision, School of Design and Creative Arts, Loughborough University 2025 -

Zexi Fang (co-supervision with *Prof Andrew Morries, Prof Ashleigh Filtness*)

Tianying Guo (co-supervision with *Prof Gary Burnett, Prof Andrew Morris*)

Peiwen Luo (Visiting student; Co-supervision with *Prof Andrew Morries*)

Teaching, School of Design and Creative Arts, Loughborough University 2026 -

Module Leader for DSP 114 *Inclusive Design for Product Design and Service*, in the Master programme *Human Factors & Ergonomics*

Teaching, School of Mechanical Engineering, University of Leeds 2024 - 2025

Lecture and practical session on *Human-centred Design* in the Module *Engineering Psychology and Human Factors* (Led by Prof Gustav Markkula).

Designed related assignments, marking scheme, and assessment.

Master dissertation supervision, Institute for Transport, University of Leeds 2023 - 2025

Rizka Amalia, Distracted road user behaviour (co-supervision with *Dr Ibrahim Ozturk*)

Aoqi Tan, Travel Behaviour, cognitions, and causal discovery (*co-supervision with Dr Zihao An*)

Jialiang Cao, Public attitudes towards robotaxi in China (*principal*).

Zhichen Ma, User comfort in current transport modes and expectations from automated driving (*co-supervision with Dr Ibrahim Ozturk*)

Jiale Chen, Understanding the effect of experiences with ADAS systems on user acceptance of automated driving in China (*co-supervision with Dr Ruth Madigan*)

Teaching assistant, School of Psychology, University of Leeds 2023

Practical sessions for the Module *Research Skills*

GRANT

Humans meet technology behind the wheel: Understanding drivers' feelings and behaviours around advanced driver assistance systems. British Academy. Small Grant (£9975). Co-I. Link 2025

AWARD

Micro Grant, Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA) 2024
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network (Early-Stage Researcher), EU 2020-2023
Amandus H. Lundqvist Scholarship Program Awards, TU Eindhoven 2017-2019
Holland Scholarship, TU Eindhoven & Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science 2017-2019
the special-class People's scholarship, UESTC 2015
the third-class People's scholarship, UESTC 2014 & 2013

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY

Conference and Workshop co-chair/co-organiser

18th International ACM Conference on Automotive User Interfaces (Automotive UI), Social Media Chair 2026

13th International ACM Conference on Automotive User Interfaces (Automotive UI), Accessibility Co-chair 2021

IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITSC) 2nd Workshop on Are you happy with AV? User experience in AV-Human Interaction, Co-organiser 2023

IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV21) Workshop on Trust Calibration, Co-organiser 2021

IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITSC) Workshop on Communication between AVs - HTPs, Co-organiser 2021

Journal & conference review

Human Factors	Journal
Applied Ergonomics	
Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour	
IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems (T-ITS)	
International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction (IJHCI)	
IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems (T-HMS)	
Human Factors and Ergonomics in Manufacturing	
Behaviour & Information Technology	
ACM on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications (AutoUI)	Conference
ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (IMWUT)	
Cognitive Science (CogSci)	
IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV)	