

AY2026

SCIS PHD RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD

The SCIS Research Excellence Award recognises self-financed SCIS PhD students for their research achievements.

LEGEND:  ACHIEVEMENTS IN AY2025-26



CAI Xuemeng

 TOSEM 2026

Stay curious to uncover puzzles, stay rigorous to guard conclusions.



CHEN Junkai

 ACL 2026

(1) Think it through before choosing a research direction; (2) Ask for help early, don't struggle alone; (3) Failure is a normal part of research, stay calm about it.



HUANG Huihui

 ICSE 2026 | ACL 2026 *0.5

Work hard, play harder. Stay curious, focus on meaningful problems, and keep improving through feedback and persistence. At the same time, make space to rest and enjoy life, because good research also needs energy, balance, and fresh ideas.



Ivana Clairine IRSAN

 TOSEM 2026

Look for real-world problem that need fixing. Grounding your ideas in actual challenges keeps your work exciting and meaningful.



LI Zhe

 ICLR 2026 | NDSS 2026

Stay curious and passionate about research. Great ideas emerge not only from high-level thinking, but also from the details of implementation, where valuable insights often lie.



LIANG Zhengyang

 ACM MM 2025 | CVPR 2025 *0.5

(1) Be proficient in using Claude Code and strive to explore the limits of the model's capabilities; (2) Have lunch and discuss ideas with the researchers around you as often as possible, they can offer you different perspectives and inspiration.



LYU Yunbo

 ASE 2025 | ACM MM 2025

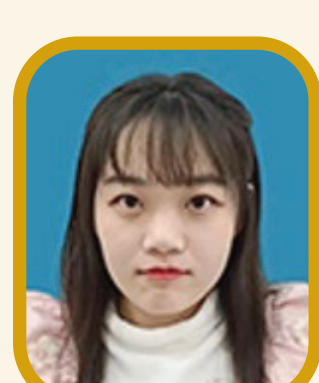
PhD research is a marathon, not a sprint. Read papers daily, move forward steadily, and treat rejection as an opportunity to learn. Rather than settling for incremental work, think more deeply and pursue meaningful questions. In collaboration and reviewing, always be KIND—and do not hesitate to ask about opportunities. A strong conference presentation can leave a lasting impression. Finally, protect your well-being through regular aerobic exercise and hobbies, whether badminton, playing Counter-Strike, or poker with labmates.



NGUYEN Huu Hung

 TOSEM 2026

Don't rush into experiments right away. Start with a deep literature review to identify real gaps and build strong motivation. Then define clear research questions. You can't write a good paper with a poor motivation.



SONG Shiwen

 TSE 2026

Choose problems that genuinely interest you, because curiosity is the best motivation for long-term research. Don't be afraid to spend time reproducing prior work and understanding its limitations. Careful experiments, critical thinking, and continuous refinement are more valuable than rushing to publish. Every failed attempt is an opportunity to improve the next idea.



SUN Zhensu

 ASE 2025 | ICSE 2026 *0.5

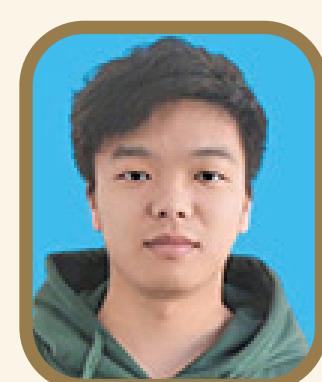
Before starting a project, clearly define an interesting research question to guide your work. More importantly, prioritize completion over perfection—finishing a first draft or prototype quickly allows for feedback and improvement, while chasing perfection early often leads to delays or unfinished work. Progress matters more than flawless beginnings.



WANG Chenyu

 ASE 2025

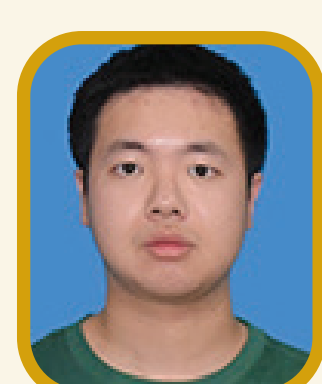
Research is rarely easy, but overthinking can make it feel even harder. Start before you feel ready, even if the first draft is far from perfect. Iteration beats hesitation. Every revision brings you closer to a stronger piece of work.



WANG Yuekun

 ASE 2025

I consider myself an ongoing learner in research. Build regular working habits and record all experiments honestly. Raise questions and communicate obstacles with supervisors promptly. Failed attempts are important references. Avoid rushing for outputs. Take time to refine ideas step by step, and keep consistent effort over time.



XIAO Xiangjie

 ICLR 2026

Act before overthinking. When an idea is uncertain, turn it into a small experiment or a simple baseline as soon as possible. Concrete results are more useful than prolonged speculation: they reveal what works, what fails, and what to improve next. Good research rarely begins with a perfect plan; it develops through testing, reflection, and continuous refinement.



ZHANG Zhihan

 ACM MM 2025 | ACL 2026

(1) Read broadly: Explore diverse disciplines to spark innovative ideas and uncover hidden connections; (2) Validate early. Run quick preliminary experiments to spot practical challenges and refine your direction; (3) Stay resilient. Approach setbacks with curiosity and adaptability to maintain long-term progress.