

Alexander Huang

email: halex@stanford.edu

portfolio: <http://showcase.spondeux.com>

EDUCATION

B.A. (2023) and M.A. (2024), Literature, Stanford University

Undergraduate concentrations in **media studies**, **physics**, and **computer science**

Graduate courses in **machine learning/computer science**, **art history**, **German studies**

My design primer, “**Making Paperweights: A Primer for Designing Textual Thinking**”, recently won the Italian department’s highest honor.

EXPERIENCE

Design and Software Engineering Fellow, Tarjimly (2019-20)

Y Combinator-funded startup in the Bay Area, working on software to reduce **language barriers** for displaced populations (refugees, IDPs). I designed and managed a **strategic collaboration with the United States Census Bureau in preparation for serving as a partner** in the 2020 US Census to interpret in legally sensitive settings. I also executed interfaces and backend architecture for the iOS application and servers, wrote documentation for services, and formulated a comprehensive advertising strategy for countries in the Global South.

Language Design Researcher, Stanford Law School (joint with d.School) (2018-20)

I conducted research on the ground for a project commissioned by the California Judicial Council to revamp assistance for low-English proficiency (LEP) users in the court system of the State of California as part of a team assembled through the **Stanford d.school (the Stanford Design program)** and the Stanford Law School (SLS). Presented findings in a report at the California Supreme Court. Project has now been developed by other team members into a stealth startup company.

Creator, ProjectChainsaw.org, National Taiwan University, Department of Linguistics (2017-19)

As a researcher at the National Taiwan University, I developed a strategy for and built a public-facing platform that makes linguistic research accessible to the public by visualizing contemporary conversations about bias, gender, and identity through computational linguistics methods (i.e. then-current early distributional semantics).

Co-Founder and Team Lead, Aquaforces (2015-2017)

Aquaforces was an edtech startup that sought to replace classroom review with a canoe adventure. I was a co-founder and team lead, managing a team of six and product entry into the North American market.

Freelance Designer and Software Engineer (2014-present)

I work on various commissioned projects as a product designer, strategist, and engineer for companies and organizations in Taiwan and North America, particularly in the healthcare and higher education sectors. I develop multilingual experiences catered to consumer and educational environments that are born digital and global. Clients have included the Linguistic Society of Taiwan, National Taiwan University, and others.

HONORS

While at Stanford, I was honored with prizes by four different literature departments in the Division, each of which is usually awarded to one student per year.

- Herbert Lindenberger Prize for **Comparative Literature**
- **Iberian and Latin American Cultures** Department Prize
- Ralph M. Hester Prize and Laurence C. Franklin Prize for **French Literature**
- Paul Roberts and Nina Marton Prize for **Italian Literature**

OTHER

Languages English, Chinese (native), German, Taiwanese (fluent), Spanish (professional), French, Italian

Technologies

Python, Ruby (Rails), Javascript (React, TypeScript), Java, TensorFlow, C++, and others
Figma, HTML+CSS, Sketch, physical notebooks

Locations San Francisco Bay Area, Taipei, Berlin
Citizen of the United States