

Bhupendra Acharya

Curriculum Vitae

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Research Interests

Web and Network Security; Large Scale Internet Measurement; Phishing; Abuse; Scams; Cybercrime.

Education

- Jan 2018 – **Doctoral in Engineering and Applied Sciences**
Dec 2023 Department of Computer Science, University of New Orleans
Thesis: Analyzing the Robustness of Social Engineering Attacks on Defense Systems
- Jan 2018 – **MS in Computer Science (Cyber Security)**
Dec 2020 Department of Computer Science, University of New Orleans
Thesis: PhishPrint: A Novel Framework for Scalable Evaluation of Web Security Crawlers and Mining of Unknown Cloaking Vectors
- Jan 2007 – **BS in Computer Science**
Dec 2010 Department of Computer Science, Cameron University

Academic Experience

- Mar 2023 – **Postdoctoral Researcher.** CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security, Germany.
Present Advisor: Dr. Thorsten Holz
- Jan 2018 – **Teaching / Research Assistant (PhD Student),** University of New Orleans, LA, US.
Dec 2022 Advisor: Dr. Phani Vadrevu

Industrial Experience

- 2021 - 2022 – **SDE/T Payments and Devices.** [Amazon Inc.](#)
2013 - 2018 Seattle, WA and Sunnyvale, CA, US.
- 2012 - 2013 – **SDE/T Web and DB.** [Raima Inc.](#)
Seattle, WA, US.
- 2011 - 2012 – **SDE/T Payments CRM Dynamics.** [Microsoft Inc](#) (Contracting via [PeopleTech Group](#)).
Redmond, WA, US.

Honors and Awards

- 2022 **Innovative and Think Big,** HackaFire Amazon Fire TV and Devices Awards
2021 **Offensive Attack,** Google Vulnerability Rewards (Twice)
2021-2022 **Conference Grants,** USENIX Registration (2021), DIMVA Travel (2022)
2007-2010 **List of Honors,** Cameron University Dean's List

Publications (peer-reviewed)

[5] [Bhupendra Acharya](#), Dario Lazzaro, Efen Lopez Morales, Adam Oest, Muhammad Saad, Antonio Emanuele Cinà, Lea Schönherr, Thorsten Holz. **The Imitation Game: Exploring Brand Impersonation Attacks on Social Media Platforms**. In *Proceedings of the 33rd USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security)*, 2024.

[4] [Bhupendra Acharya](#), Muhammad Saad, Antonio Emanuele Cinà, Lea Schönherr, Hoang Dai Nguyen, Adam Oest, Phani Vadrevu, Thorsten Holz. **Conning the Crypto Conman: End-to-End Analysis of Cryptocurrency Technical Support Scams**. In *Proceedings of the 45th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE S&P)*, 2024.
Acceptance Rate: 100/582 (17.18%)

[3] Hoang Dai Nguyen, Karthika Subramani, [Bhupendra Acharya](#), Roberto Perdisci, Phani Vadrevu. **C-FRAME: Characterizing and Measuring in-the-wild CAPTCHA Attacks**. In *Proceedings of the 45th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE S&P)*, 2024.
Acceptance Rate: 70/601 (11.64%)

[2] [Bhupendra Acharya](#), Phani Vadrevu. **A Human in Every APE: Delineating and Evaluating the Human Analysis Systems of Anti-Phishing Entities**. In *Proceedings of the 19th Conference on Detection of Intrusions and Malware & Vulnerability Assessment (DIMVA)*, 2022.
Acceptance Rate: 11/39 (28.2%)

[1] [Bhupendra Acharya](#), Phani Vadrevu. **PhishPrint: Evading Phishing Detection Crawlers by Prior Profiling**. In *Proceedings of the 30th USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security)*, 2021.
Acceptance Rate: 246/1316 (18.7%)

Research (under review at conferences)

[6] ScamChatBot: An End-to-End Analysis of Fake Account Recovery on Social Media via Chatbots [Round 2 at USENIX Security]

[7] Protected Designation of Origin – An Analysis of Efficacy in Regional Filter Lists [Rebuttal Phase at PETS]

[8] Analysis of Abusing Donation Solicitation in Social Media [Round 1 at WWW]

Research (in the pipeline to submissions)

[9] Abuse Study on Pig-butcherer [Target Nov 2024, IEEE S&P]

[10] Buy and Sale of Social Media Profiles [Target Nov, IMC]

[11] Abuse Study by Expired Domains [Target USENIX Sec, Jan 2025]

[12] Abuse Study on Forms [Target USENIX Sec, Jan 2025]

[13] HoneySat: A Framework for Satellite Honeypot Media [Rejected from CCS/NDSS, Target TBD]

[14] Measurement Study on Long Tail of Phishing Target via Wiki-Centric Corpuses. [Data Collection, Target TBD]

Academic Service

2024

Artifact Evaluation Committee, USENIX Security
Program Committee, USENIX Security
Program Session Chair, ACM CCS

2023

Artifact Evaluation Committee, ACM CCS
Artifact Evaluation Committee, USENIX Security

Teaching

CS 2467 Systems Programming and Concept, Instructor

2021: Spring and Summer Semesters

2020: Spring, Summer, and Fall Semesters

University of New Orleans, LA, US

CS 2450 Machine Language and Assembly, Instructor

2021: Fall Semester

University of New Orleans, LA, US

Supervising Students (Thesis/Cybersecurity Projects)

Graduate

2024 – Present **Abdullah Alfurjani**, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 – Present **Amala Augustine**, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 - Present **Mario Beluri**, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 - Present **Lie Sue Chung**, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 - Present **Sagar Kishore**, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2023 - 2024 **Dominik Sautter****, Saarland University, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

Undergraduate

2024 – Present **Andreas Brix**, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [CyberSecurity Projects](#)

2024 – Present **Daniel Kiefer**, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [CyberSecurity Projects](#)

2024 – Present **Jens Vogel**, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [CyberSecurity Projects](#)

2024 – Present **Ady Elouej**, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 – Present **Louai Alkhatib**, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2024 – Present **Christoph Petersen**, Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

2023 – 2024 **Laura Thineta Maulia****, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany, [Thesis Research](#)

** Alumni student who completed thesis or research project

Invited Research Talks

Dec 2024 **Title: Protecting Users and Brands Against Social Engineering Attacks**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan (CAMS), MA

Sep 2024 **Title: Empirical Study of Scams and Abuses in Social Media Platforms**

Boston University, Boston, MA

Sep 2024 **Title: Identifying Emerging Scams and Phishing Attacks via AI-Powered Automated Engagement**

Symposium on Electronic Crime Research (eCrime 2024), Boston, MA

April 2024 **Title: Empirical Study on Web Attacks and Abuses**

Texas A&M, Kingsville, Texas

- Feb 2024** **Title: Cloak and Scam: Creating Honeypots to Measure Present-Day Internet Defense Mechanisms**
University of New Mexico, New Mexico, NM
- Nov 2023** **Title: How Safe Is the Web? Analyzing the Robustness of Prevalent Social Engineering Defenses**
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
- Jan 2023** **Title: Analyzing the Robustness of Prevalent Social Engineering Defense Mechanisms**
California State LA, Los Angeles, CA

Writing

- Grant Proposal** **Title: Enhancing Web Measurement Robustness In the Cases of Social Media Abuses and Web Tracking**
Grant Family: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft: DFG, German Research Fund
PI: Tobias Urban (Westphalian University of Applied Sciences, Germany) and
 Bhupendra Acharya (CISPA, Germany)
Amount Requested: 950,000 Euro
(Under Review, Submitted Sep 02, 2024)
- Book Write** I am currently in the early phase of writing a book - **“Advanced Web Security”**
(In progress, target completion, August 2026)

Last Updated

Oct 2024

Note: Please see my website www.bhupendraacharya.com for the most updated information.
