

# Dr.-Ing. Aurore Fass

Visiting Assistant Professor at Stanford  
Research Group Leader at CISPA

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<https://aurore54f.github.io>



## Bio

Aurore Fass is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University. Her research broadly focusses on **Web security and privacy**, **Web measurements**, and **machine learning**. Specifically, she is interested in detecting malware & vulnerabilities on the Web and collecting data to better understand and improve user security and privacy.

## Scientific Career

- 2021–2023 **Visiting Assistant Professor**, *Stanford University*, U.S.
- 2021–2023 **Research Group Leader**, *CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security*, Germany.
- 2020–2021 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security*, Germany.
- 2017–2020 **Ph.D. Student**, *Saarland University & CISPA Helmholtz Center for Information Security*, Germany.
  - Ph.D. thesis: *Studying JavaScript Security Through Static Analysis*
  - Advisors: Michael Backes and Ben Stock

## Education

- 2014–2017 **Grande École** (similar to a Master Degree), *TELECOM Nancy*, France, valedictorian.  
Major: Telecommunication, Network, and Security
  - Master thesis: German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI), Germany  
Automated clustering of JS samples for the detection of malware contained in obfuscated code
  - Industrial project: French Ministry of Defense, France  
Implemented an Xposed module to monitor Android devices; group of 4 persons (6 months)
  - Internship: Fraunhofer IOSB, Germany  
Implemented a passive asset detection system (8 weeks)
- 2012–2014 **Preparation for the highly competitive nationwide entrance examination to the French Grandes Écoles**, France.  
Major: Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science
- 2012 **High School Graduation**, France, graduated with distinction (mention très bien), European section.  
Major: Mathematics, Physics & Chemistry, Biology, and German

## Awards and Honors

- 2021 **Inspiring Career**, *French Grande École TELECOM Nancy*, Remote.
- 2019–2022 **Saarland University Program of Excellence**, Germany.
- 2017 **Valedictorian**, *French Grande École TELECOM Nancy*, France.

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## Publications

**Aurore Fass**, Dolière Francis Somé, Michael Backes, and Ben Stock. **DOUBLEX**: Statically Detecting Vulnerable Data Flows in Browser Extensions at Scale. In *ACM CCS*, 2021.

Marvin Moog, Markus Demmel, Michael Backes, and **Aurore Fass**. Statically Detecting JavaScript Obfuscation and Minification Techniques in the Wild. In *Dependable Systems and Networks (DSN)*, 2021.

**Aurore Fass**, Michael Backes, and Ben Stock. **HIDENOSEEK**: Camouflaging Malicious JavaScript in Benign ASTs. In *ACM CCS*, 2019.

**Aurore Fass**, Michael Backes, and Ben Stock. **JSTAP**: A Static Pre-Filter for Malicious JavaScript Detection. In *ACSAC*, 2019.

**Aurore Fass**, Robert P. Krawczyk, Michael Backes, and Ben Stock. **JAST**: Fully Syntactic Detection of Malicious (Obfuscated) JavaScript. In *DIMVA*, 2018.

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## Community Services

**PC Member** ACM CCS 2022, TheWebConf 2022, SecWeb 2022, ACM CCS 2021, SecWeb 2021

**Artifact Committee** USENIX Security 2021, ACSAC 2018

**External Reviewer** NDSS 2022, USENIX Security 2022, USENIX Security 2021, NDSS 2021, USENIX Security 2020, NDSS 2020, ACSAC 2019, Euro S&P 2019, ACSAC 2018, ACM CCS 2018

**Hiring Committee** CISPA faculty hiring committee 2020

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## Selected Talks

[DoubleX: Statically Analyzing Browser Extensions at Scale](#)  
Nov 2021 Stanford Security Lunch. Stanford, CA, U.S.

[Studying JavaScript Security Through Static Analysis](#)  
Jun 2021 Spirals Webinar at Inria Lille (France). Remote.

[Statically Analyzing Malicious JavaScript in the Wild](#)  
Mar 2021 Webinar at LORIA (France). Remote.  
Dec 2020 BINSEC Webinar at CEA (France). Remote.

[HideNoSeek: Camouflaging Malicious JavaScript in Benign ASTs](#)  
May 2020 RuhrSec. Remote.  
Mar 2019 Grande Region Security and Reliability Day (GRSRD). Nancy, France.  
Feb 2019 MADWeb. San Diego, CA, U.S.

[JaSt: Fully Syntactic Detection of Malicious \(Obfuscated\) JavaScript](#)  
Nov 2018 Blackhoodie. Berlin, Germany.  
Jun 2018 Malware Meeting at LORIA. Nancy, France.  
Mar 2018 Grande Region Security and Reliability Day (GRSRD). Saarbrücken, Germany.

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## Publicly Available Software

- DoubleX [Static browser extension analyzer: detection of suspicious external data flows](#)
- HideNoSeek [Static analyzer to detect syntactic clones in JavaScript inputs](#)
- JStap [Static and modular malicious JavaScript detector](#)
- JaSt [Static malicious JavaScript detector](#)

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## Teaching

### Courses

- 2021 **Temporary Lecturer at TELECOM Nancy** (Université de Lorraine, France)
- Browser Extensions: Architecture and Security Consideration (lectures and practicals for master students)
- WS 2019–2020 **Seminar: Joint Advances in Web Security**
- Browser Extensions: Security and Vulnerabilities
  - Overview of Malicious JavaScript Detection Techniques and Attacks
- WS 2018–2019 **Seminar: Joint Advances in Web Security**
- Overview of Malicious JavaScript Detection Techniques
  - Cryptojacking: Definition, Detection, and Dimensions

### Student Supervision

- WS 2021–today **Ph.D. Student Mentoring & Co-Supervision**
- Ongoing (4 Ph.D. students)
- WS 2021–today **Student Projects**
- Ongoing (2 bachelor students and 1 master student)
- Spring 2021 **Bachelor Thesis Co-Supervision**
- A Study of State-of-the-Art Call Graph Creation Approaches for JavaScript
- SS 2020 **Research Assistant Supervision**
- Browser Extensions: Security and Vulnerabilities (2 bachelor students, co-supervised)
  - Overview and Analysis of JavaScript Obfuscation Techniques (2 bachelor students)
- WS 2019–2020 **CySec Projects**
- Overview and Analysis of JavaScript Obfuscation Techniques (2 bachelor students)
  - Intelligent Fuzzing System for JavaScript (2 bachelor students)
- 2018 **Research Assistant Supervision**
- In-Depth Analysis of JavaScript Obfuscation Techniques and Deobfuscation (1 bachelor student)
  - Lexical Malicious JavaScript Detection System (1 bachelor student)

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## Additional Skills – Languages

- French Mother tongue
- English Trilingual proficiency *TOEIC score: 910 (2014); living in the U.S. since 2021*
- German Trilingual proficiency *C1 Certificate (2016); lived in Germany 2017–2021*