

Chongzhou Fang

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Assistant Professor

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Higher Education

- **University of California, Davis** Davis, CA, USA
PhD in Computer Engineering Sep. 2020 - Jun. 2025
– Advised by Prof. Houman Homayoun
- **Southeast University** Nanjing, China
BSc in Information Science Aug. 2016 - Jun. 2020

Research Interest

- **System, System Security:** Cloud Security, Side-Channel Attacks, Serverless Computing
- **LLM for System Security**

Industrial Research Experience

- **Intel Corporation** PSG Graduate Intern
Project: Securing Intel's Heterogeneous Computing Platform. Jun. 2022 - Sep. 2022
– Develop new security features for Intel FPGAs.
– Develop a library that handles secure communication and attestation protocols between CPU and peripheral FPGAs.
- **University of California, Davis** Research Assistant
Mar. 2021 - Jun. 2025
– Conduct research related to computer security and AI for security.

Selected Publications

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| [UsenixSecurity'24a] | Large Language Models for Code Analysis: Do LLMs Really Do Their Job?
<i>Chongzhou Fang, Ning Miao, Shaurya Srivastav, Jialin Liu, Ruoyu Zhang, Ruijie Fang, Asmita Asmita, Ryan Tsang, Najmeh Nazari, Han Wang and Houman Homayoun.</i> |
| [UsenixSecurity'24b] | Forget and Rewire: Enhancing the Resilience of Transformer-based Models against Bit-Flip Attacks
<i>Najmeh Nazari, Hosein Mohammadi Makrani, Chongzhou Fang, Hossein Sayadi, Setareh Rafatirad, Khaled N. Khasawneh and Houman Homayoun.</i> |
| [UsenixSecurity'24c] | Fuzzing BusyBox: Leveraging LLM and Crash Reuse for Embedded Bug Unearthing
<i>Asmita Asmita, Yaroslav Oliinyk, Michael Scott, Ryan Tsang, Chongzhou Fang and Houman Homayoun.</i> |

- [DAC'24] **Architectural Whispers: Unveiling Machine Learning Models with Frequency Throttling Side-Channel Fingerprinting**
Najmeh Nazari, Chongzhou Fang, Hosein Mohammadi Makrani, Behnam Omid, Setareh Rafatirad, Avesta Sasan, Hossein Sayadi, Houman Homayoun and Khaled N. Khasawneh
- [ISQED'24] **LLM-FIN: Large Language Models Fingerprinting Attack on Edge Devices**
Najmeh Nazari, Furi Xiang, Chongzhou Fang, Hosein Mohammadi Makrani, Aditya Puri, Kartik Patwari, Hossein Sayadi, Setareh Rafatirad, Chen-Nee Chuah and Houman Homayoun.
- [ISCAS'24] **Securing On-Chip Learning: Navigating Vulnerabilities and Potential Safeguards in Spiking Neural Network Architectures**
Najmeh Nazari, Kevin Immanuel Gubbi, Banafsheh Saber Latibari, Muhtasim Alam Chowdhury, Chongzhou Fang, Avesta Sasan, Setareh Rafatirad, Houman Homayoun and Soheil Salehi.
- [DATE'24] **SpecScope: Automating Discovery of Exploitable Spectre Gadgets on Black-Box Microarchitectures**
Najmeh Nazari, Behnam Omid, Chongzhou Fang, Hosein Mohammadi Makrani, Setareh Rafatirad, Avesta Sasan, Houman Homayoun and Khaled N. Khasawneh.
- [BIBM'23] **Introducing an Open-Source Python Toolkit for Machine Learning Research in Physiological Signal based Affective Computing**
Ruijie Fang, Ruoyu Zhang, Elahe Hosseini, Chongzhou Fang, Setareh Rafatirad and Houman Homayoun.
- [CCS'23] **Gotcha! I Know What You are Doing on the FPGA Cloud: Fingerprinting Co-Located Cloud FPGA Accelerators via Measuring Communication Links**
- (CSAW'24 ARC Tech Impact Award Runner-Up) *Chongzhou Fang, Ning Miao, Han Wang, Jiacheng Zhou, Tyler Sheaves, John M Emmert, Avesta Sasan and Houman Homayoun.*
- [ICCAD'23] **Side Channel-Assisted Inference Attacks on Machine Learning-Based ECG Classification**
Jialin Liu, Houman Homayoun, Chongzhou Fang, Ning Miao and Han Wang.
- [UbiComp/ISWC'23 Adj.] **Privee: A Wearable for Real-Time Bladder Monitoring System**
Ruoyu Zhang, Ruijie Fang, Chongzhou Fang, Houman Homayoun and Gozde Goncu Berk.
- [CODES+ISSS'23] **Special Session: Mitigating Side-channel Attacks through Circuit to Application Layer Approaches**
Nima Kavand, Armin Darjani, Jens Trommer, Giulio Galderisi, Thomas Mikolajick, Nicolai Müller, Amir Moradi, Chongzhou Fang, Ning Miao, Han Wang, Sai Manoj Pudukotai Dinakarrao, Houman Homayoun, Benjamin Hettwer, Luca Parrini and Akash Kumar
- [DAC'23] **Don't Cross Me! Cross-Layer System Security**
Najmeh Nazari, Chongzhou Fang, Sai Manoj PD, Houman Homayoun.
- [IEEE Micro] **Adversarial Attacks Against Machine Learning-Based Resource Provisioning Systems**

Najmeh Nazari, Hosein Mohammadi Makrani, Chongzhou Fang, Behnam Omid, Setareh Rafatirad, Hossein Sayadi, Khaled N. Khasawneh and Houman Homayoun.

[NDSS'23]

HeteroScore: Evaluating and Mitigating Cloud Security Threats Brought by Heterogeneity

Chongzhou Fang, Najmeh Nazari, Behnam Omid, Han Wang, Aditya Puri, Manish Arora, Setareh Rafatirad, Houman Homayoun and Khaled N. Khasawneh.

[NDSS'22]

Repttack: Exploiting Cloud Schedulers to Guide Co-Location Attacks

Chongzhou Fang, Han Wang, Najmeh Nazari, Behnam Omid, Avesta Sasan, Khaled N. Khasawneh, Setareh Rafatirad and Houman Homayoun.

Teaching and Mentoring

- **ECS 152A: Computer Networks (~180 Students)** UC Davis
Teaching Assistant Winter 2022 & 2024
 - Deliver a 50-min lecture every week and host office hour Q&A sessions.
- **EEC 170: Computer Architecture (~80 Students)** UC Davis
Teaching Assistant Fall 2023 & 2024
 - Provide lab assignment benchmarks and host office hour Q&A sessions.
- **EEC 172: Embedded Systems (~90 Students)** UC Davis
Teaching Assistant Winter & Spring 2021
 - Teach lab sessions and hosting office hour Q&A sessions.
- **EEC 193B: Internet of Things Project (~20 Students)** UC Davis
Teaching Assistant Spring 2022
 - Design lab projects and teach lab sessions.
- **EEC 001: Introduction To Electrical And Computer Engineering (~280 Students)** UC Davis
Teaching Assistant Fall 2021
 - Teach lab sessions and host office hour Q&A sessions.
- **Graduate Student Mentor Under ECE Mentorship Program**
- **Research Mentorship:**
 - Wei Shao, PhD Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Ning Miao, PhD Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Jialin Liu, PhD Student at Temple University, with Prof. Han Wang
 - Farhad Alemi, MSc Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun and Prof. Setareh Rafatirad
 - Jiacheng Zhou, MSc Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Jiawei Liu, MSc Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Wenjun Tu, MSc Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Shaurya Srivastav, Undergraduate Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun
 - Jinsi Guo, Undergraduate Student at UC Davis, with Prof. Houman Homayoun

- Aditya Puri, High School Student at Foothill High School (Pleasanton, CA), with Prof. Houman Homayoun and Dr. Manish Arora

Presentations

- **Large Language Models for Code Analysis: Do LLMs Really Do Their Job?**
at Usenix Security Symposium, Philadelphia, PA, Aug. 14, 2024.
- **Gotcha! I Know What You are Doing on the FPGA Cloud: Fingerprinting Co-Located Cloud FPGA Accelerators via Measuring Communication Links**
at ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS), Copenhagen, Denmark, Nov. 28, 2023.
- **HeteroScore: Evaluating and Mitigating Cloud Security Threats Brought by Heterogeneity**
at Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS), San Diego, CA, Mar. 2, 2023.
- **Reptack: Exploiting Cloud Schedulers to Guide Co-Location Attacks**
at Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS), San Diego, CA, Apr. 26, 2022.

Awards

- CSAW Applied Research Competition Finalist (15 out of 194 submissions) & Technical Impact Award Runner-Up, 2024.
- ACM CCS Student Travel Grant, 2023.

Grant Writing Experience

- *Collaborative Research: Frameworks: Advancing Computer Hardware and Systems' Research Capability, Reproducibility, and Sustainability with the gem5 Simulator Ecosystem*, NSF, 2023.
 - Award Amount: \$2.6M
 - Contributed to proposing security support in gem5.
- Google Cloud Research Credits, 2023.
 - Award Amount: \$10,000
 - Composed a proposal in utilizing Google Cloud for cloud reserach.
- *Collaborative Research: SaTC: CORE: Medium: Targeted Microarchitectural Attacks and Defenses in Cloud Infrastructure*, NSF, 2022
 - Award Amount: \$1.2M
 - Contributed a section regarding cloud co-location attacks.
- *Fingerprinting FPGA Circuits Using Communication Interfaces*, NSF CHEST, 2022.
 - Award Amount: \$100,000
 - Composed a proposal in cloud FPGA fingerprinting attack.
- *Hardware Watermark for Edge IoT TinyML Model Protection*, NSF CHEST, 2025.
 - Award Amount: \$80,000
 - Composed a proposal in using physical side-channels as watermarks for edge TinyML model protection.