I am a well-organized, hard-working researcher with a passion for solving complex problems and a drive to achieve ambitious goals. I bring a unique blend of expertise in machine learning and systems security, with a particular focus on trustworthy Al. I am eager to apply my skills and contribute to the development of secure, reliable Al solutions for a safer digital future.

CONTACT INFORMATION Hegdambroek 2305, 6546 WH Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

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C Phone: +31 625440813

Google Scholar

♠ Personal Homepage

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Adversarial Machine Learning

Machine LearningDeep Learning

Trustworthy Al

Malware Detection Systems

Intrusion Detection Systems

Internet of Things

EDUCATION

Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Oct. 2020 - Oct. 2024

Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science.

Dissertation: Rethinking the Security of Machine Learning in Malware Detection (Supervisors: Prof.

Veelasha Moonsamy and Dr. Erik Poll)

Dissertation under review; awaiting defense.

Islamic Azad University (IAU), South Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran.

Sept. 2012 - Sept. 2015

M. Sc. in Computer Engineering (Software Engineering), GPA: 17.55/20.

 $\textit{Thesis}: \textbf{Intrusion Detection and Identification of Attacks on the Internet of Things (IoT) Using a a support of the property of the prop$

Combination of Machine Learning Methods (Supervisor: Prof. Mansour Sheikhan)

Master Seminar: Using Collaborative Filtering in Recommender Systems (Advisor: Prof. Ali Moeini)

Islamic Azad University (IAU), Shiraz Branch, Shiraz, Iran.

Sept. 2004 - Sept. 2008

B. Sc. in Computer Engineering (Software Engineering), GPA: 16.73/20, Major GPA: 18.53/20.

Project: "Developing E-Commerce Systems (a Case Study in a Mobile Phone Store)" (Supervisor: Dr. Mostafa Fakhrahmad)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Fully-Funded PhD Fellowship (Radboud University, Oct. 2020).
- Best Employee Award (NOET, Nov. 2019).
- Certificate of Appreciation (NOET, Feb. 2018).
- Research Funding (Iran National Science Foundation, Feb. 2018).
- Outstanding Researcher Award (IAU, South Tehran Branch, Dec. 2017).
- Best Master Thesis Award (the 5th Research, Scientific & Technological National Festival of IAU, May 2017).
- Certificate of Appreciation (IAU, South Tehran Branch, May 2017).
- Outstanding Paper Award (ICSPIS'2016).
- Selected Paper (IST'2016).

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCES

Ph.D. Candidate Oct. 2020–Oct. 2024

Digital Security Group, Institute for Computing and Information Sciences, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands.

Visiting Scholar
 Oct. 2023–March 2024

Cybersecurity Group, King's College University, London, UK.

Visiting Scholar
 Oct. 2023–March 2024

Systems Security Lab, University College London, London, UK.

Research Assistant
 Aug. 2017–Sept. 2020

Young Researchers and Elite Club of IAU, South Tehran Branch,

Tehran, Iran.

Research Assistant
 Aug. 2016–March 2017

Research Center of Modeling and Optimization in Science and Engineering, IAU, South Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran.

Page **1** of **4**

Sep. 2012- Sep. 2020

Full-Stack Developer

Strategic Analysis and Information Security Group, Department of New Communications, National Organization for Educational Testing (NOET), Tehran, Iran.

Software Expert

April-Aug. 2012

Software Systems Group, Department of Information and Communication Technology, Bank Hekmat Iranian, Tehran, Iran.

- TEACHING ASSISTANT
- Deep Learning, Radboud University, 2023.
- Networks & Security, Radboud University, 2022.

PUBLICATIONS

Bibliographic indicators (Google Scholar January 2025) Citations: 642, h-index: 6.

Pre-prints

- 1. **H. Bostani** and V. Moonsamy. "Coresets for Adversarially Robust Malware Detection: Opportunities and Challenges," under peer review (2025).
- 2. **H. Bostani**, J. Cortellazzi, D. Arp, F. Pierazzi, V. Moonsamy and L. Cavallaro. "On the Effectiveness of Adversarial Training on Malware Classifiers," under peer review (2024).

Journals

- H. Bostani, Z. Zhao, Z. Liu, and V. Moonsamy. "Level Up with ML Vulnerability Identification: Leveraging Domain Constraints in Feature Space for Robust Android Malware Detection," Accepted to ACM Transactions to Privacy and Security on December 2024 (Q1). DOI: 10.1145/3711899
- 4. **H. Bostani** and V. Moonsamy, "EvadeDroid: A practical evasion attack on machine learning for black-box android malware detection," *Computers & Security*, vol. 139 (2024). DOI: 10.1016/j.cose.2023.103676, Impact Factor (2024) = 5.6 (Q1)
- H. Bostani, M. Sheikhan, B. Mahboobi, "A Strong Coreset Algorithm to Accelerate OPF as a Graph-based Machine Learning in Large-Scale Problems," *Information Sciences*, vol. 555 (2021), pp. 424-441.
 DOI: 10.1016/j.ins.2020.10.009, Impact Factor (2020) = 5.9 (Q1)
- H. Bostani, M. Sheikhan, "Hybrid of Anomaly-Based and Specification-Based IDS for Internet of Things Using Unsupervised OPF based on Map-Reduce Approach," *Computer Communications*, Elsevier, vol. 98 (2017), pp. 52-71. DOI: 10.1016/j.comcom.2016.12.001, Impact Factor (2016) = 3.3 (Q1)
- 7. **H. Bostani**, M. Sheikhan, "Modifying Supervised Optimum-Path Forest in Intrusion Detection Systems Using Social Network Approaches and Unsupervised Learning," *Pattern Recognition*, Elsevier, vol. 62 (2017), pp. 56-72.DOI: 10.1016/j.patcog.2016.08.027, Impact Factor (2016) = 4.6 (Q1)
- 8. **H. Bostani**, M. Sheikhan, "Hybrid of Binary Gravitational Search Algorithm and Mutual Information for Feature Selection in Intrusion Detection Systems," *Soft Computing*, Springer, vol. 21 (2017), no. 9, pp. 2307-2324.DOI: 10.1007/s00500-015-1942-8, Impact Factor (2016) = 2.5 (Q2)
- M. Sheikhan, H. Bostani, "A Security Mechanism for Detecting Intrusions in Internet of Things Using Selected Features Based on MI-BGSA," *International Journal of Information & Communication* Technology Research, Iran Telecommunication Research Center (ITRC), vol. 9 (2017), no. 2, pp. 53-62. http://journal.itrc.ac.ir/article-1-42-en.html

Conferences & Workshops

- H. Bostani, Z. Zhao, and V. Moonsamy. "Improving Adversarial Robustness in Android Malware Detection by Reducing the Impact of Spurious Correlations," In Proceedings of the 29th European Symposium on Research in Computer Security Workshops (ESORICS 2024 Workshops).
- Z. Moti, A. Senol, H. Bostani, F.Z. Borgesius, V. Moonsamy, A. Mathur, G. Acar, "Targeted and Troublesome: Tracking and Advertising on Children's Websites," In Proceedings of the 45th IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE S&P 2024). DOI: 10.1109/SP54263.2024.00118

 H. Bostani, M. Sheikhan, B. Mahboobi, "Developing a Fast Supervised Optimum-path Forest Based on Coreset," In Proceedings of 19th International Symposium on Artificial Intelligence and Signal Processing (AISP'2017), pp. 172-177, 2017. DOI: 10.1109/AISP.2017.8324076

- H. Bostani, M. Sheikhan, "Modification of Optimum-Path Forest using Markov Cluster Process Algorithm," In Proceedings of 2nd of International Conference on Signal Processing and Intelligent Systems (ICSPIS'2016), pp. 1-5, 2016. (Winner of the Outstanding Paper Award) DOI: 10.1109/ICSPIS.2016.7869874
- M. Sheikhan, H. Bostani, "A Hybrid Intrusion Detection Architecture for Internet of Things," In Proceedings of 8th International Symposium on Telecommunication (IST'2016), pp. 601-606, 2016. (Selected as one of the Best Papers) DOI: 10.1109/ISTEL.2016.7881893

Book Chapters

- M. Sheikhan and H. Bostani, "Hybrid and modified OPFs for intrusion detection systems and large-scale problems," in Optimum-Path Forest (pp. 109-136). Elsevier (2022). https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-822688-9.00013-X
- M. Sheikhan, H. Bostani, "Binary Gravitational Search Algorithm (BGSA): Improved Efficiency," in Encyclopedia of Information Assurance, Taylor & Francis (2016). https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9781351235808

ORAL/POSTER PRESENTATIONS

2024

- Guest Talk: "Are We Truly Ready to Secure Malware Detection Against Adversarial Attacks?"
 Machine Learning and Security Group, TU Berlin, Germany, December 2024.
- Workshop Presentation: "Improving Adversarial Robustness in Android Malware Detection by Reducing the Impact of Spurious Correlations."
 ESORICS 2024 Workshop on Security and Artificial Intelligence, Bydgoszcz, Poland, 20 September 2024. Watch the talk
- Colloquium: "Rethinking Adversarial Machine Learning in the Context of Malware Detection,"
 Lunch Colloquium, Digital Security Group, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, June 2024
- Invited Talk: "Adversarial Robustness for Malware Classifiers."
 KCL Cybersecurity Workshop, London, UK, February 2024.

2023

- Webinar: "Adversarial Machine Learning: Challenges and Solutions in Malware Detection."
 Iranian Society of Cryptology, December 2023. Watch the talk
- Conference Presentation: "Improving Robustness of Machine Learning-based Android Malware Detection against Realizable Adversarial Examples."
 ICT.OPEN'23, Utrecht, The Netherlands, April 2023.

<u>2022</u>

 Colloquium: "Improving Robustness of Machine Learning-based Malware Detection against Realizable Android Adversarial Examples."
 Lunch Colloquium, Digital Security Group, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, June 2022.

<u>2020</u>

Colloquium: "Al for Intrusion Detection."
 Lunch Colloquium, Digital Security Group, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, October 2020.

2017

 Conference Presentation: "Developing a Fast Supervised Optimum-path Forest Based on Coreset." AISP'2017, Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran, 25-27 October 2017.

<u>2016</u>

 Conference Presentation: "Modification of Optimum-Path Forest using Markov Cluster Process Algorithm."
 ICSPIS'2016, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran, 14-15 December 2016.

 Conference Presentation: "A Hybrid Intrusion Detection Architecture for Internet of Things" IST'2016, Iranian Research Institute for Information Science and Technology, Tehran, Iran, 27-28 September 2016.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Program Committees

•	7 th ACM Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Security	2024
<u>Sub-Reviewing</u>		
•	NDSS, IEEE Euro S&P	2024
•	USENIX Security	2023
•	USENIX Security, IEEE Euro S&P, ACM Asia CCS	2022
•	CANS	2021

TRAINING AND SKILLS

Training Courses

- Education in a Nutshell, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2023).
- Presentation Skills, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2023).
- Summer School on Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning, ITU Copenhagen and Aarhus University, Copenhagen, Denmark, (1-4 August 2022).
- Advanced Conversation, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands (2021).
- SQL Server Query Tuning and Optimization, Faratar As Danesh Institute, Tehran, Iran (2018).
- SQL Server 2016 Design & Implementation, Faratar As Danesh Institute, Tehran, Iran (2018).
- Professional SCRUM Master, Faratar As Danesh Institute, Tehran, Iran (2016).
- MCSD Web Pack 2012, Kahkeshane Noor Institute, Tehran, Iran (2016).
- ETL (SSIS) and Data Mining (SSAS) 2012, Faratar As Danesh Institute, Tehran, Iran (2014).
- Data Warehousing & OLAP using SSAS 2012, Faratar As Danesh Institute, Tehran, Iran (2014).
- Win Application (C# & intro ADO.NET), South Industrial Management Institute, Shiraz, Iran (2008).

Computer Knowledge

- Programming and Scripting: Python, C/C++, C#, SQL, Java, JavaScript, HTLM & CSS, MATLAB.
- Frameworks and Tools: PyTorch, Scikit-Learn, Hugging Face Transformers, MATLAB Optimization, Fuzzy, and Neural Net Tools, Microsoft Visual Studio, SQL Server Management Studio, Visual Paradigm, Microsoft Office, Azure Boards.
- Software Development Technologies: C#.Net Windows Form, ASP.Net Web Form, APS.Net MVC, WCF Service, jQuery & AngularJS, ADO.NET Entity Framework, Java 2 Platform Micro Edition (J2ME), Microsoft BI Technologies (Data Quality, Integrated, Analysis, and Reporting Services).
- Databases and Dataflow Systems: SQL Server (programming).
- Software Development Methodologies: RUP, EUP, SCRUM.
- OS: Windows

Language Skills

- Persian (Farsi): Native language
- English: Fluent, TOEFL (Dec 2019) Internet-Based Test: 84/120 (Reading: 21/30, Listening: 22/30, Speaking: 21/30, Writing: 20/30)