

# SASWAT DAS

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Responsible AI, (Differential) Privacy, Fairness, Security

## Education

### University of Virginia (UVA)

*Ph.D. in Computer Science*

**Aug. 2023 – Present**

*Charlottesville, Virginia*

### National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER)

*Integrated M.Sc. (BS + MS) in Mathematics (Minor in Computer Science)*

**Jul. 2018 – May 2023**

*Bhubaneswar, India*

## Experience

### Department of Computer Science, University of Virginia

*Graduate Research Assistant (PhD)*

**Aug 2023 – Present**

*Charlottesville, VA*

- Mentor: Dr. Ferdinando Fioretto
- Focus Areas: Differential Privacy, Fairness, Responsible AI

### EECS, Syracuse University

*Visiting Research Scholar/Collaborator*

**June 2022 – July 2023**

*Syracuse, NY (Online after Aug 2022)*

- Mentor: Dr. Ferdinando Fioretto (now at UVA)
- Focus Areas: Differential Privacy, Fairness, Responsible AI

### School of Computer Sciences, NISER

*MS Research Scholar*

**Aug. 2021 – May 2023**

*Bhubaneswar, India*

- Mentor: Dr. Subhankar Mishra
- Focus Areas: Differential Privacy, Security, Responsible AI

### School of Computer Sciences, NISER

*BS Winter Research Intern*

**Dec. 2019 – Jan. 2020**

*Bhubaneswar, India*

- Mentor: Dr. Rishiraj Bhattacharyya (Now at the University of Birmingham)
- Focus Areas: Blockchain, P2P Networks, Cryptography, Zero-Knowledge Proofs

### School of Computer Sciences, NISER

*BS Summer Research Intern*

**May 2019 – July 2019**

*Bhubaneswar, India*

- Mentor: Dr. Rishiraj Bhattacharyya (Now at the University of Birmingham)
- Focus Areas: Blockchain, P2P Networks, Cryptography

## Publications

### Conference Publications

#### Disparate Impact on Group Accuracy of Linearization for Private Inference

**2024**

*Saswat Das*, Marco Romanelli, Ferdinando Fioretto

Accepted at **ICML-24**; arXiv:2402.03629

#### Finding $\epsilon$ and $\delta$ of Traditional Disclosure Control Systems

**2024**

*Saswat Das*, Keyu Zhu, Pascal van Hentenryck, Christine Task, Ferdinando Fioretto

Accepted at **AAAI-24**

### Workshop Publications

#### Examining Deidentified Data Quality using NIST Datasets and Tools

**2023**

*Saswat Das*, Razane Tajeddine, Ferdinando Fioretto

Accepted at *NIST CRC 2023*

#### Fair Context-Aware Privacy Threat Modelling

**2023**

*Saswat Das*, Rakshit Naidu

Accepted at *WPTM at USENIX SOUPS 2022*

### Book Chapters

#### Advances in Differential Privacy and Differentially Private Machine Learning: A Survey

**2023**

*Saswat Das*, Subhankar Mishra

*Information Technology Security (Springer Nature)*

## Preprints

### Low-rank finetuning for LLMs: A fairness perspective

2024

**Saswat Das**, Marco Romanelli, Cuong Tran, Zarreen Reza, Bhavya Kailkhura, Ferdinando Fioretto

*ArXiv:2405.18572*

### Fairness Issues and Mitigations in (Differentially Private) Socio-demographic Data Processes

2024

Joonhyuk Ko, Juba Ziani, **Saswat Das**, Matt Williams, Ferdinando Fioretto

*ArXiv:2408.08471*

## Selected Honours/Achievements

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- **UVA Computer Science Scholarship (2023-24)**
- Selected for the **ELLIS Europe PhD Programme (2023)**
- **DISHA Fellowship, Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India (2018-2023)**: Received a scholarship for attending college which includes a monthly stipend for food and lodging and an annual contingency grant for research endeavours.
- Selected for the **Winter School on Theoretical Computer Science at IIT Delhi (2022)**
- Selected for **TIFR – Visiting Students’ Research Programme (VSRP), 2022 in Technology & Computer Science**
- **National Talent Search (NTS) Scholarship, NCERT, India (2016)**

## Students Advised

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- Joonhyuk Ko - BS, University of Virginia
- Eric Nguyen - BA, University of Virginia

## Teaching

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- CS 4710 - Artificial Intelligence (UVA, Fall 2024)

## Service/Reviewing

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- **Workshop Workflow Co-Chair - AAAI-PPAI 2025**
- **Reviewer - NeurIPS 2024**
- **Program Committee Member - AAAI 2024, AAAI-PPAI 2024, AAAI 2025**
- **Emergency Reviewer - AAMAS 2023**
- **External Reviewer - National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) (2023)**

## Volunteering/Organising

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### Reading Group on Responsible Generative AI, University of Virginia

Oct. 2023 - Present

*Organiser*

*at UVA*

- Organising the reading group on responsible generative AI at the University of Virginia where members of various research groups that work on responsible AI/generative AI come together to discuss recent advancements and future directions of work.

### CodeInPlace, Stanford University

Apr. 2021 - May 2021

*Section Leader/Teaching Assistant*

*Online; Organised by Stanford University*

- Taught coding to a section of students from a global pool of applicants using material from the first half of Stanford University’s popular course, CS106A.

### School of Mathematical Sciences, NISER

Feb. 2021 - May 2021

*Department Mathematics Tutor*

*At NISER*

- Served as a mathematics tutor to freshmen in the spring of 2021 as part of an initiative by mathematics majors at the School of Mathematical Sciences, NISER.

### Aveti Learning

Apr. 2020 - Sep 2022

*Volunteer/Tutor/Mentor*

*Online*

- Served as an online mathematics tutor and mentor to high school students in rural Eastern India to make quality education and college advice more accessible.

## Avanti Fellows

Sep. 2018 - Aug. 2019

*Section Leader/Teaching Assistant*

*Dhenkanal, India*

- Served as a mentor and mathematics tutor to high school students at JNV Dhenkanal as part of the acclaimed Avanti Fellows programme.

## Workshops and Summer/Winter Schools

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### AI-SCORE: The AI School for CS and OR Education

May-Jun 2024

*Attendee; organised on the UMD College Park campus.*

*INFORMS/ACM SIGAI*

### Technion: Summer School on Computer & Cyber Security

September 2020

*Attendee*

*Organised by Technion, Israel*

### IIT-D: Winter School on Theoretical Computer Science

December 2022

*Accepted Attendee*

*Organised by IIT-Delhi*

- Did not attend due to academic schedule conflicts.

### USENIX SOUPS '23: Workshop on Privacy Threat Modeling

August 2022

*Presenter/Attendee*

*Organised by MITRE at USENIX SOUPS 2023*

- Presented a short paper on context-aware fair privacy threat modeling.

## Leadership / Extracurricular

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### Undergraduate Committee of the School

Dec. 2020 - Dec. 2022

*Student Representative*

*School of Mathematical Sciences, NISER*

- Served as one of two student representatives to the Undergraduate Committee of the School (UGCS) of Mathematical Sciences, NISER, an honour bestowed upon well-performing students by the school.
- Helped professors design and develop the academic course structure, pedagogy, and evaluation schemes of the undergraduate programme.

### Inventa Magazine

July 2021 - Dec. 2021

*Editor*

*IISERs, NISER, CeBS, and IISc (India)*

- Worked on the editorial board for Inventa, an annual national science outreach magazine published jointly by the premier public research institutes of India: NISER, CeBS, IISc, and the IISERs.

### Quizone (Campus Quiz Club), NISER

May. 2019 - Nov. 2021

*President*

*NISER*

- Served as the president of Quizone, the quiz club of NISER, HBNI, for two consecutive terms.
- Organised and hosted quizzes (online and offline), which involved planning and running logistics, making questions, maintaining a social media presence for the club, engaging with partners and sponsors etc.
- Helped codify club rules and regulations by drafting a club constitution.

### Cultural Committee, NISER

Aug. 2019 - Nov. 2021

*Editor*

*NISER*

- Served as a member of the cultural committee of NISER, which is responsible for planning and organising cultural events in the college.

### Delhi Public School Kalinga

Sep. 2016 - July 2018

*Head Boy (Students' Council President)*

*Odisha, India*

- Served as the Head Boy (2017-18) and Vice Head Boy (2016-17) of Delhi Public School Kalinga, in a role which involved representing the school on an interschool level, presiding over the students' council, organising events, and looking after the welfare and interests of the students of the school.

## Skills (Not Exhaustive)

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**Programming/Scripting Languages:** Python, R, C++, HTML/CSS, SQL,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

**Developer Tools:** VS Code, SLURM, AWS Cloud, R Studio, etc.

**Selected Libraries:** Opacus, OpenDP/SmartNoise, PyTorch, HuggingFace Transformers, Captum, sdcMicro + other common libraries

**Languages:** English, Hindi, Odia, (familiarity with) French