

# Mohammad Tahaei

Research Associate, University of Bristol

## Education

- 2021 **Ph.D. in Informatics**, *University of Edinburgh*, UK  
The Developer Factor in Software Privacy ☞  
Supervisors: Dr Kami Vaniea & Dr Markulf Kohlweiss  
Spent three months at *University of British Columbia* working with Prof Kosta Beznosov
- 2017 **M.Sc. in Computer Science**, *University of Bonn*, Germany, GPA: 1.1/6 (1 is highest possible)  
Analyzing Banking Technology Usage & Security Perceptions in a Cross-Cultural Context ☞  
Supervisor: Prof Matthew Smith
- 2013 **M.Sc. in Information Technology**, *University of Tehran*, Iran, GPA: 17.26/20  
Hepatitis B Risk Detection in Iran Using Machine Learning ☞  
Supervisors: Dr Saman Haratizadeh & Dr Rohallah Rahmani
- 2011 **B.Sc. in Computer Engineering**, *University of Science and Culture*, Iran, GPA: 14.50/20

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

- 2021 M. Tahaei, A. Frik, and K. Vaniea. Deciding on Personalized Ads: Nudging Developers About User Privacy. *To appear in SOUPS '21*  
M. Tahaei, A. Frik, and K. Vaniea. Privacy Champions in Software Teams: Understanding Their Motivations, Strategies, and Challenges. *In CHI '21* ☞  
M. Tahaei, K. Vaniea, K. Beznosov, and M. Wolters. Security Notifications in Static Analysis Tools: Developers' Attitudes, Comprehension, and Ability to Act on Them. *In CHI '21* ☞  
M. Tahaei and K. Vaniea. "Developers Are Responsible": What Ad Networks Tell Developers About Privacy. *In CHI Extended Abstracts '21* ☞
- 2020 K. Busse, M. Tahaei, K. Krombholz, E. von Zezschwitz, M. Smith, J. Tian, and W. Xu. Cash, Cards or Cryptocurrencies? A Study of Payment Culture in Four Countries. *In: EuroS&PW '20* ☞  
M. Tahaei, K. Vaniea, and N. Saphra. Understanding Privacy-Related Questions on Stack Overflow. *In: CHI '20* ☞
- 2019 M. Tahaei, A. Jenkins, K. Vaniea, and M. Wolters. "I Don't Know Too Much About It": On the Security Mindsets of Computer Science Students. *In: STAST '19* ☞  
M. Tahaei and K. Vaniea. A Survey on Developer-Centered Security. *In: EuroS&PW '19* ☞

## Awards

- 2018–2020 Received £6,000 from multiple organizations to attend events, conferences, and do a research visit
- 2018 Ph.D. scholarship from *Microsoft Research* and *University of Edinburgh*
- 2011 Among top 0.2% of applicants in the national exam for graduate studies in information technology track. Received M.Sc. scholarship from *Iran Ministry of Research and Technology*

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## Work Experience

- 2018–2021 **Teaching Services**, *University of Edinburgh, UK*  
Worked over 800 hours as a tutor, a teaching assistant, and a marker for HCI (3 yrs), usable security and privacy (2 yrs), the human factor (1 yr), case studies in design informatics (2 yrs), informatics research review (3 yrs), informatics project proposal (3 yrs), professional issues (2 yrs), and research in security and privacy (1 yr)
- 2017–2018 **Research Assistant**, *University of Bonn, Germany*
  - Usable security and banking technologies, Usable Security and Privacy Group (part-time)
  - Linked Open Data, OpenAIRE project, Enterprise Information Systems Group (part-time)
- 2013–2015 **Software Engineer**, *Teasa, Iran*  
Startup, co-founded with former colleagues
  - Developed Melkade ☞, an iOS app for real estate
  - Developed chat section of Kori ☞, an iOS social network app
  - Team member of Classmate ☞, a Java based class management tool
  - Helped with web server administration, documentation, pitch preparation and proposal writing
  - Learned Java network programming, Objective-C, and team management
- 2014 **University Teacher**, *Azad University, Iran*  
Data structures & computer graphics (part-time)
- 2011–2013 **Software Developer**, *Hyperoffice, Iran*  
Front-end web developer
  - Hyperoffice portal, maintenance and developing new features
  - Learned JavaScript (Backbone.js, jQuery, Ext JS, and Sencha Touch), HTML, CSS, version control systems (SVN, Git), databases (MySQL, Microsoft SQL Server), and issue tracking (JIRA)
- 2009–2010 **Research Assistant**, *Academic Center for Education, Culture and Research, Iran*  
B.Sc. thesis: analytical CRM and data mining tools (part-time)
- 2008 **Summer Internship**, *Toorin Soft, Iran*
  - Designed and implemented a customised SoundEx algorithm for Persian language, C#
  - Researched open-source web portals and translated Apache JetSpeed

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## Skills

Qualitative and quantitative research from scoping and design to final publication  
Computer programming and data analysis

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## Extra Curricula Activities

- 2019–2021 **Academic Services**
  - PC member: CHI LBW '21, WSIW '20
  - Reviewer: CHI '21, CHI '20, PETS '21, PETS '20
- 2016–2019 **Summer Schools**  
Attended multiple security, privacy, and engineering summer schools in Germany (*RWTH Aachen, University of Bochum, TU Berlin*) and the UK (*University of Dundee*) with scholarships from the organizing institutes
- 2017 **Iranian Students' Association**, *University of Bonn, Co-Founder, Germany*
- 2015–2016 **Event Organizer**, *Hack and Change, Iran*
  - Hack and Change hackathon, +70 participants
  - First 24h hackathon in Iran (as AngelHack's ambassador), +80 participants
- 2015 **Winners of Trivago Hackathon**, *Trivago, Germany*  
How to make the world a better place to travel?
- 2015 **Winners of innovate.healthcare Hackathon**, *innovate.healthcare, Germany*  
Data donation in a medical setting

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## Languages

Persian (native), English (full professional proficiency, TOEFL iBT: 108/120–2018)