

# Yash Vekaria

## Research Interests

Web Security; Privacy; Applied Machine Learning; Online Tracking; Web Measurements.

## Employment

- 2021–Present **University of California, Davis**, *Research Assistant*  
Advisor: Prof. Zubair Shafiq
- 2020–21 **Innovaccer**, *Data Analyst*
- 2019 **Innovaccer**, *Decision Science Intern*
- 2017–19 **Computer Science Department, The LNMIIT, India**, *Teaching Assistant*
- 2017 **National Ilan University, Taiwan**, *Student Exchange AI Intern*

## Education

- 2021–Present **Ph.D. in Computer Science**  
University of California, Davis
- 2016–20 **B.Tech. in Computer Science**, *9.04/10*  
The LNM Institute of Information Technology (LNMIIT), India.

## Honors & Awards

- 2016–2018 **Merit Scholarships**, *The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India*  
Awarded to Top 5% students with GPA greater than 9.
- 2019 **Spot Award**, *Innovaccer, India*  
Quarterly Award for optimization of data model from 10 hrs to 3 hrs.

## Publications

- WebSci **Differential Tracking Across Topical Webpages of Indian News Media**  
2021 **Yash Vekaria**, Vibhor Agarwal, Pushkal Agarwal, Sangeeta Mahapatra, Sakthi Balan Muthiah, Nishanth Sastry, Nicolas Kourtellis  
*13th ACM Web Science Conference, 2021*
- ICWSM **Under the Spotlight: Web Tracking in Indian Partisan News Websites**  
2021 Vibhor Agarwal, **Yash Vekaria**, Pushkal Agarwal, Sangeeta Mahapatra, Sakthi Balan Muthiah, Nishanth Sastry, Nicolas Kourtellis  
*15th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM), 2021*
- RCIS **A Metadata-based Event Detection Method using Temporal Herding Factor and Social Synchrony on Twitter Data**  
2021 Nirmal Kumar Sivaraman, Vibhor Agarwal, **Yash Vekaria**, Balan Sakthi Muthiah  
*15th International Conference on Research Challenges in Information Science (RCIS), 2021*
- SocInfo **Poster Acceptance Invitation: Event Detection in Twitter**  
2019 Nirmal Kumar Sivaraman, Vibhor Agarwal, **Yash Vekaria**, Balan Sakthi Muthiah  
*11th International Conference on Social Informatics (SocInfo), 2019*

## Travel Grants

- 2021 **42nd IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P)**
- 2021 **34th IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium (CSF)**

## Teaching

- 2019 **Data Structures & Algorithms**, *Teaching Assistant*  
The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India
- 2018 **Computer Organization & Architecture**, *Teaching Assistant*  
The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India
- 2017 **Computer Programming**, *Teaching Assistant*  
The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India

## Invited Talks

- 2021 **Differential Tracking Across Topical Webpages of Indian News Media**  
The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India

## Selected Media Coverage

- Mar 2021 **Tracking the Trackers (Open The Magazine)**, *Ullek NP*, [\[Link\]](#)

## References

### **Prof. Zubair Shafiq**

Associate Professor, University of California, Davis

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**Webpage:** <https://web.cs.ucdavis.edu/~zubair/>

### **Prof. Sakthi Balan Muthiah**

Associate Professor, The LNM Institute of Information Technology, India

**Email:** sakthi.balan@lnmiit.ac.in

**Webpage:** <http://sakthibalan.in/>

### **Dr. Nicolas Kourtellis**

Research Scientist, Telefonica Research Labs, Spain

**Email:** nicolas.kourtellis@telefonica.com

**Webpage:** <https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/nicolas-kourtellis/>

### **Prof. Nishanth Sastry**

Professor, University of Surrey, England

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**Webpage:** <https://www.surrey.ac.uk/people/nishanth-sastry>