Anna Ablove

PhD Candidate, *University of Michigan*

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ablove.dev

Research Overview

My research centers on network security and Internet freedom, particularly at the intersection of computer science, policy, and human rights. I focus on topics including network measurement, censorship and geoblocking, and the integration of user perspectives. More recently, I've been interested in how big tech can aid Internet accessibility and transparency.

Education

– Ph.D in Computer Science, University of Michigan, 2023 - *Present*
Advisor: Prof. Roya Ensafi

– M.S.E in Computer Science, University of Michigan, 2022 - 2024
GPA: 4.0

– B.S.E in Computer Science, University of Michigan, Spring 2022
Minor in Physics, GPA: 3.7, *magna cum laude*

Conference Publications

[1] **BlockAlert: Amplifying User Voices to Rally Censorship Measurement**
A. Ortwein, ***Anna Ablove***, H. Le, V. Fortuna, A. Huremagic, B. Daudlin, and R. Ensafi
Under Submission

[2] **Digital Discrimination of Users in Sanctioned States: The Case of the Cuba Embargo**
Anna Ablove, S. Chandrashekaran, H. Le, R. Sundara Raman, R. Ramesh, H. Oppenheimer, and R. Ensafi
In: USENIX Security Symposium 2024, (USENIX '24).

[3] **Bridging Barriers: A Survey of Challenges and Priorities in the Censorship Circumvention Landscape**
D. Xue*, ***Anna Ablove****, R. Ramesh, G. Kwak-Danciu, and R. Ensafi
In: USENIX Security Symposium 2024, (USENIX '24).

[4] **TSPU: Russia's Decentralized Censorship System**
D. Xue, B.Mixon-Baca, ValdikSS, ***Anna Ablove***, B. Kujath, J. Crandall, and R. Ensafi
In: Internet Measurement Conference 2022, (IMC '22).

Reports

– **How Geoblocking Limits Digital Access in Sanctioned States**
The Lawfare Institute, November, 18, 2024

Experience

– **Research Assistant, University of Michigan** (2022 - *Present*)
I work as a research assistant under my advisor Prof. Roya Ensafi. My work focuses on problems in the internet freedom, anti-censorship space.

Speaking

– **Digital Discrimination of Users in Sanctioned States: The Case of the Cuba Embargo**
USENIX Security Symposium 2024, Philadelphia, PA, August, 15, 2024.

Research Honors

– **USENIX 24 Distinguished Paper Award** (*August, 2024*)
Our paper: *"Digital Discrimination of Users in Sanctioned States: The Case of the Cuba Embargo"* won the USENIX 24 Distinguished Paper Award

Student Grants and Travel Awards

– **PETS Travel Stipend** (*July 2023*)
Granted to attend FOCI 23 and the PET Symposium 2023 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

– **USENIX GREPSEC Workshop Travel Grant** (*August 2023)*
Granted to attend GREPSEC VI workshop and USENIX 23 in Anaheim, California.