

# Lisa Oakley

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<https://lisaoakley.github.io/>  
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## 1 Education

Ph.D. Student/Research Assistant in Computer Science (expected 2025)  
Advised by Professors Alina Oprea and Stavros Tripakis  
Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science (December 2018)  
Northeastern University, Boston, MA  
*summa cum laude*

## 2 Research Projects

**Formal verification for adversarial robustness in machine learning systems** (January 2020 - present)  
*with Prof. Alina Oprea and Prof. Stavros Tripakis*

Using optimization techniques and the PRISM model checker to verify robustness properties of machine learning agents acting in uncertain environments.

**Outcomes:**

- Workshop talk (FCS) see section 3

**Adversarial attacks against active search algorithms on networks** (July 2019 - December 2019)  
*with Prof. Alina Oprea and Prof. Tina Eliassi-Rad*

Developing poisoning attacks and defenses on active search algorithms in network science applications.

**Outcomes:**

- Some initial results of attack effectiveness.

**Adaptive reinforcement learning strategies for the FlipIt security game** (Sept. 2018 - Dec. 2019)  
*with Prof. Alina Oprea*

Used reinforcement learning techniques to develop a strategy for the FlipIt game theory model of Advanced Persistent Threats.

**Outcomes:**

- Conference paper (GameSec) see section 3
- **Outstanding Student Paper Award** (GameSec)

## 3 Publications

[workshop paper] **Adversarial Robustness of AI Agents Acting in Probabilistic Environments**

Lisa Oakley, Alina Oprea, and Stavros Tripakis

*Workshop on Foundations of Computer Security* (Affiliated with *Computer Security Foundations Symposium*), Virtual Conference, 2020.

[conf. paper] **QFlip: An Adaptive Reinforcement Learning Strategy for the FlipIt Security Game**

Lisa Oakley and Alina Oprea

In *Proceedings of the Conference on Decision and Game Theory for Security* (GameSec), Stockholm, Sweden, 2019. **Outstanding Student Paper Award**

[poster] **Reinforcement Learning Techniques to Increase Intrusion Resilience in Game Theoretical APT Models**

Lisa Oakley and Alina Oprea (presented by Alina Oprea)

*NSF Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace PI Meeting*, October 2019.

[technical blog post] **Concourse as a Service and Multi-CPI**

Trevor Yacovone, Lisa Oakley, Jason Vigil, and Kristofer Macoskey

*Pivotal Engineering Journal*, 2018.

## 4 Awards and Honors

- Outstanding Student Paper Award (GameSec) (2020)
- Graduated *summa cum laude* (2018)
- Dean's List (Northeastern University) (2015-2018)
- Dean's List, President's List (Cal Poly, SLO) (2013-2015)
- Northeastern Merit Scholarship (2015-2018)
- Italian Catholic Federation Scholarship (2013-2015)
- California Scholarship Federation Lifetime Member (2013)
- Kiwanis Scholarship (2013)
- Sons of Italy Scholarship (2013)

## 5 Talks and Panels

**Game Theoretical Modeling and Reinforcement Learning Techniques for Cybersecurity**

Northeastern University *Math Club*

October 24, 2019

**Diversity in Tech Panel**

Northeastern Univ. *Women in Technology* and *Multi-Diverse Unified Leaders in the Technology Industry*

October 22, 2019

## 6 Course Assistant Experience

**CS 3000 (formerly 4800) Algorithms and Data Structures**

Professor Jon Ullman

Fall 2018

**CS 3000 (formerly 4800) Algorithms and Data Structures**

Professor Huy Nguyen

Spring 2018

**CS 2800 Logic and Computation**

Professors Pete Manolios, Thomas Wahl, David Sprague

Fall 2017

## 7 Industry Experience

### **Software Engineering Internship**

June 2018-August 2018

VMWare Tanzu Greenplum (Distributed Postgres Database)

### **Software Engineering Co-op**

July 2017-December 2017

VMWare Tanzu (Cloud Platforms Software)

### **Quality Assurance Engineering Co-op**

July 2016-December 2016

Asics Digital (Runkeeper Mobile App)

## 8 Groups

### **NDS2**

Advisors Alina Oprea and Cristina Nita-Rotaru

*Cybersecurity and Privacy Institute*

## 9 Other Activities

### **Volunteer**

Y2Y Youth Shelter and Rosie's Place Womens' Shelter

### **Cast Member**

ImprovBoston's All Access Improv Comedy Cast

### **Undergraduate Club Member** (membership prior to graduation)

NU Women in Tech, NU Math Club (Vice President Spring 2017), NU & Improv'd (improv comedy troupe)