

Abraham Mhaidli

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

- Exp. 2022 **PhD in Information Sciences**, *University of Michigan, School of Information.*
2017 **Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science w/Minor in Neuroscience**, *Grinnell College.*

Research Statement

I am a mixed methods researcher whose research interests lie in the intersection of technology, society, and ethics. I am particularly interested in studying advertising in mixed reality contexts, to understand the potential harms that MR advertising could cause to consumers, as well as designing interventions to mitigate these harms..

Skills

- Methods Interviews, Focus Groups, User Studies, Experiments, Survey
Programming Python, Java, C, C++, Scheme, R, HTML, Hammer Editor
Software \LaTeX , GitHub, Linux Command Line, MS Word, MS Excel, MS Powerpoint, Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets, nVivo
Languages English (native), Spanish (native), French (High School level)

Publications

- 2020 Privacy Impact Assessments for Digital Repositories (**Abraham Mhaidli**, Jordan Cundiff, Libby Hemphill, Florian Schaub, Andrea Thomer) *International Digital Curation Conference (IDCC 2020)* (Accepted, awaiting to be published)
- 2020 Listen Only When Spoken To: Interpersonal Communication Cues as Smart Speaker Privacy Controls (**Abraham Mhaidli**, Manikandan Kandadai Venkatesh, Yixin Zou, Florian Schaub) *Proceedings on Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PoPETS) 2020 Issue 2*
- 2019 'We can't live without them!': App Developers' Adoption of Ad Networks and Their Considerations of Consumer Risks (**Abraham Mhaidli**, Yixin Zou, Florian Schaub) *Fifteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS)*
- 2019 It's My Data! Tensions Among Stakeholders of a Learning Analytics Dashboard (Kaiwen Sun, **Abraham Mhaidli**, Sonakshi Watel, Christopher A Brooks, Florian Schaub) *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*
- 2018 "I've Got Nothing to Lose": Consumers' Risk Perceptions and Protective Actions after the Equifax Data Breach (Yixin Zou, **Abraham Mhaidli**, Austin McCall, Florian Schaub) *Fourteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS)*
- 2018 Keeping a Low Profile? Technology, Risk and Privacy among Undocumented Immigrants (Tamy Guberek, Allison McDonald, Sylvia Simioni, **Abraham Mhaidli**, Kentaro Toyama, Florian Schaub) *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*

- 2016 Energy profiling with Alpaca (Logan Goldberg, Joel Katticaran, **Abraham Mhaidli**) *In Companion Proceedings of the 2016 ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Systems, Programming, Languages and Applications: Software for Humanity* (SPLASH)

Awards

- 2018 **Distinguished Paper Award** for “I’ve Got Nothing to Lose”: Consumers’ Risk Perceptions and Protective Actions after the Equifax Data Breach (Yixin Zou, **Abraham Mhaidli**, Austin McCall, Florian Schaub) *Fourteenth Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security* (SOUPS)
- 2018 **Best Paper** for Keeping a Low Profile? Technology, Risk and Privacy among Undocumented Immigrants (Tamy Guberek, Allison McDonald, Sylvia Simioni, **Abraham Mhaidli**, Kentaro Toyama, Florian Schaub) *Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI)

Work Experience

- Summer 2019 **UX Research Intern**, Facebook, Menlo Park.
UX Summer Research intern at the Ads Business Integrity team for Facebook.
- Planned, organized, and ran a 12-week qualitative study to investigate user interactions with post-purchase feedback surveys. Project was completed successfully and many useful insights were delivered to relevant product teams.
 - Quickly learned to acclimatize to novel corporate environment
 - Interacted with various stakeholders to conduct an optimal study that met all of their needs.
- Fall 2018; **Graduate Student Instructor**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- Fall 2019; Teaching instructor for a beginning and intermediate undergraduate level programming courses.
- Winter 2020
- Courses were undergraduate programming courses taught in Python; SI 206: Data-Oriented Programming (taught Fall 2018) and SI 106: Programs, Information and People (taught Fall 2019)
 - Held 2 weekly discussion sections (with 25 students each) to conduct practice problems and explain course concepts.
 - Held weekly office hours to further explain concepts to students.
 - Provided feedback on course syllabus, homeworks, problems, and other course materials.
 - Graded homework problems and exams for students.
- 2017–2019 **Graduate Student Research Assistant**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
Graduate student research assistant aiding in numerous research projects for faculty at University of Michigan.
- Worked on many different projects as a research assistant for various faculty at University of Michigan. Products included a qualitative study examining how latinx immigrants navigated technology in their daily lives; building and evaluating novel smart speaker privacy controls; studying consumer’s attitudes and actions following the Equifax data breach; examining stakeholder attitudes and perceptions of new learning analytics software; and conducting a privacy impact assessment (PIA) on a proposed research credentialing system.
 - Tasks included planning and leading research projects; conducting experiments; conducting user studies; planning and leading privacy and security trainings for latino communities; conducting qualitative interviews; aiding in qualitative analysis; conducting privacy impact assessments; and paper writing.
- Summer 2016 **Summer Research Assistant**, Grinnell College, Grinnell.
- Worked alongside Dr Charlie Curtsinger and other research assistants on developing a new type of energy profiler.
 - Developed ‘ALPACA’, a prototype energy profiler that energy audits programs utilizing linear regression models along with regularly spaced power intervals, using PAPI Tools and the intel RAPL framework.

2015; 2017 **Computer Science Mentor**, *Grinnell College*, Grinnell.

UX Summer Research intern at the Ads Business Integrity team for Facebook.

- Helped students understand concepts, solve problems, and deal with difficulties in computer science courses.
- Organized student mentor sessions to further explain concepts to students.

Extracurriculars

2019–Present **Doctoral Executive Committee**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.

Member of the student Doctoral Executive Committee (DEC)

- DEC is the representative voice of all PhD students at University of Michigan's School of Information for departmental affairs.
- In charge of organizing social events and creating committees to address departmental issues; independently created a reading group to discuss and reduce stigma around mental health issues in higher education; represented students voices at various departmental meetings

2017–Present **SPI Lab Member**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor.

Member of the Security Privacy Interaction (SPI) lab at University of Michigan

- SPI Lab is a lab dedicated to promoting and improving privacy research and awareness.
- Activities in this lab included providing feedback on research projects; assisting members with research projects; helping with logistical aspects of meetings; and helping organize privacy related events (such as Privacy Day).