

NEIL SHAH

Senior Research Scientist
Snap Inc.
Santa Monica, CA

Email: nshah[at]snap[dot]com
Last Update: May 18, 2020

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D:** Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, August 2013 - October 2017
Advisor: Prof. Christos Faloutsos.
- **M.S:** Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, August 2013 - May 2017
- **B.S:** Computer Science (Minor in Mathematics), North Carolina State University, August 2010 - May 2013
GPA: **4.0** (class rank 1), *Summa Cum Laude with Honors*

POSITIONS

- **Snap Inc.**, Senior Research Scientist.
My work spans the data mining, machine learning, and computational social science domains, specifically in the contexts of understanding and modeling user behavior and misbehavior on social platforms.
December 2017 - present
- **Carnegie Mellon University**, Graduate Researcher.
I worked in the Computer Science Department, on algorithms and applications for anomaly detection in large social graphs.
August 2013 - October 2017
- **Twitch**, Visiting Researcher.
I worked on anti-abuse technologies as a member of the Science team.
January 2016 - May 2016
- **Microsoft Research - Redmond**, Research Intern.
I worked on improving metrics and methods for measuring research impact for Microsoft Academic Search.
June 2015 - August 2015
- **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**, Research Intern.
I worked on developing algorithms to automatically identify patterns and anomalies in time-evolving graphs.
June 2014 - August 2014
- **IBM - Silicon Valley**, Software Intern.
I worked in the IBM BigInsights group, with a focus on indexing and analytics of system log data.
May 2012 - January 2013
- **North Carolina State University**, Undergraduate Researcher.
I worked in the Department of Computer Science on compressing and indexing large scientific datasets.
June 2009 - April 2013

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- ACM SIGCHI Best Research Paper Honorable Mention Award, 2019
- Symantec Graduate Research Fellowship Finalist, 2017
- ACM SIGKDD Best Research Paper Award, 2016
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2013
- North Carolina State University College of Engineering Senior Award for Scholarly Achievement, 2013
- North Carolina State University Department of Computer Science Senior Faculty Scholar, 2012
- National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Grant, 2011
- North Carolina State University College of Engineering Dean's Research Assistantship, 2011

- North Carolina State University Caldwell Fellowship, 2011
- Coca-Cola Scholarship, 2010
- Zinch Scholarship, 2010
- National Merit Scholarship, 2010
- CompTIA Information Technology Merit Award, 2010
- 2nd place, National Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, 2009
- 1st place, Regional Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Conference Publications

28. Xianfeng Tang, Yozen Liu, **Neil Shah**, Xiaolin Shi, Prasenjit Mitra, Suhan Wang. *Knowing your FATE: Friendship, Action and Temporal Explanations for User Engagement Prediction on Social Apps*, KDD 2020.
27. **Neil Shah**. *FARE: Schema-Agnostic Anomaly Detection in Social Event Logs*, DSAA 2019.
26. Hamed Nilforoshan, **Neil Shah**. *SliceNDice: Mining Suspicious Multi-attribute Entity Groups with Multi-view Graphs*, DSAA 2019.
25. Hemank Lamba, **Neil Shah**. *Modeling Dwell Time Engagement on Visual Multimedia*, KDD 2019.
24. Hana Habib, **Neil Shah**, Rajan Vaish. *Impact of Contextual Factors on Public Snapchat Sharing*, CHI 2019. **Best Paper Honorable Mention Award**.
23. Shreya Jain, Dipankar Niranjan, Hemank Lamba, **Neil Shah**, Ponnuram Kumaraguru. *Characterizing and Detecting Livestreaming Chatbots*, ASONAM 2019.
22. Gisel Batista Guacho, Sara Abdali, **Neil Shah**, Evangelos Papalexakis. *Semi-Supervised Content-based Detection of Misinformation via Tensor Embeddings*, ASONAM 2018.
21. Nikhil Gupta, Dhivyaa Eswaran, **Neil Shah**, Leman Akoglu, Christos Faloutsos. *Beyond Outlier Detection: Look-Out for Pictorial Explanation*, ECML-PKDD 2018.
20. Rohan Kumar, Mohit Kumar, **Neil Shah**, Christos Faloutsos. *Did We Get It Right? Predicting Query Performance in E-commerce Search*, SIGIR eCom 2018.
19. **Neil Shah**, Hemank Lamba, Alex Beutel and Christos Faloutsos. *The Many Faces of Link Fraud*, ICDM 2017.
18. Da-Cheng Juan, **Neil Shah**, Mingyu Tang, Zhiliang Qian, Diana Marculescu, Christos Faloutsos. *M3A: Model, MetaModel, and Anomaly Detection in Web Searches*, DSAA 2017.
17. **Neil Shah**. *FLOCK: Combating Astroturfing on Livestreaming Platforms*, WWW 2017.
16. **Neil Shah**, Alex Beutel, Bryan Hooi, Leman Akoglu, Stephan Gunnemann, Disha Makhija, Mohit Kumar, Christos Faloutsos. *EdgeCentric: Anomaly Detection in Edge-Attributed Networks*, ICDM DMCS 2016.
15. Bryan Hooi, Hyun Ah Song, Alex Beutel, **Neil Shah**, Kijung Shin, Christos Faloutsos. *FRAUDAR: Bounding Graph Fraud in the Face of Camouflage*, KDD 2016. **Best Paper Award**.
14. Yike Liu, Tara Safavi, **Neil Shah**, Danai Koutra. *Reducing Million-Node Graphs to a Few Structural Patterns: A Unified Approach*, KDD MLG 2016.
13. Yike Liu, **Neil Shah**, Danai Koutra. *An Empirical Comparison of the Summarization Power of Graph Clustering Methods*, NIPS NSIS 2015.
12. Bryan Hooi, **Neil Shah**, Alex Beutel, Stephan Gunnemann, Leman Akoglu, Mohit Kumar, Disha Makhija, Christos Faloutsos. *BIRDNEST: Bayesian Inference for Ratings-Fraud Detection*, SDM 2016.
11. **Neil Shah**, Danai Koutra, Tianmin Zou, Brian Gallagher, Christos Faloutsos. *TimeCrunch: Interpretable Dynamic Graph Summarization*, KDD 2015.
10. Maria Giatsoglou, Despoina Chatzakou, **Neil Shah**, Alex Beutel, Stephan Guenneman, Christos Faloutsos, Athena Vakali. *ND-Sync: Detecting Synchronized Fraud Activities*, PAKDD 2015.
9. Maria Giatsoglou, Despoina Chatzakou, **Neil Shah**, Christos Faloutsos, Athena Vakali. *Retweeting Activity on Twitter: Signs of Fraud*, PAKDD 2015.
8. **Neil Shah**, Alex Beutel, Brian Gallagher, Christos Faloutsos. *Spotting Suspicious Link Behavior with fBox: An Adversarial Perspective*, ICDM 2014.

7. **Neil Shah**, Eric Schendel, Saurabh Pendse, Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, Terry Rogers, Nagiza Samatova. *Improving I/O Throughput with PRIMACY: Preconditioning ID-Mapper for Compressing Incompressibility*, CLUSTER 2012.
6. Eric Schendel, Ye Jin, **Neil Shah**, Jackie Chen, Choong-Seock Chang, Seung-Hoe Ku, Stephane Ethier, Scott Klasky, Robert Latham, Robert Ross, Nagiza Samatova. *ISOBAR Preconditioner for Effective and High-throughput Lossless Data Compression*, ICDE 2012.
5. Isha Arkatkar, John Jenkins, Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, **Neil Shah**, Eric Schendel, Stephane Ethier, Choong-Seock Chang, Jackie Chen, Hemant Kolla, Scott Klasky, Robert Ross, Nagiza Samatova. *Analytics-driven Lossless Data Compression for Rapid In-situ Indexing, Storing and Querying*, DEXA 2012.
4. Ye Jin, Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, **Neil Shah**, Zhenhuan Gong, Choong-Seock Chang, Jackie Chen, Stephane Ethier, Hemant Kolla, Seung-Hoe Ku, Scott Klasky, Robert Latham, Robert Ross, Karen Schuchardt, Nagiza Samatova. *S-preconditioner for Multi-fold Data Reduction with Guaranteed User-controlled Accuracy*, ICDM 2011.
3. Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, **Neil Shah**, Stephane Ethier, Scott Klasky, Robert Latham, Robert Ross, Nagiza Samatova. *Compressing the Incompressible with ISABELA: In-situ Reduction of Spatio-Temporal Data*, EuroPar 2011.
2. **Neil Shah**, Yekaterina Shpanskaya, Choong-Seock Chang, Seung-Hoe Ku, Anatoli Melechko, Nagiza Samatova. *Automatic and Statistically Robust Spatio-temporal Detection and Tracking of Fusion Plasma Fronts*, SciDAC 2010.
1. Paul Breimyer, Guruprasad Kora, William Hendrix, **Neil Shah**, Nagiza Samatova. *pR: Automatic Parallelization of Data-parallel Statistical Computing Codes for R in Hybrid Multi-node and Multi-core Environments*, IADIS 2009.

Refereed Journal Publications

4. Yike Liu, Tara Safavi, **Neil Shah**, Danai Koutra. *Reducing Large Graphs to Small Supergraphs: A Unified Approach*, Social Network Analysis and Mining 2018.
3. **Neil Shah**, Danai Koutra, Lisa Jin, Tianmin Zou, Brian Gallagher, Christos Faloutsos. *On Summarizing Large-Scale Dynamic Graphs*, Data Engineering Bulletin 2017.
2. Danai Koutra, **Neil Shah**, Joshua T. Vogelstein, Brian Gallagher, Christos Faloutsos. *DeltaCon: A Principled Massive-Graph Similarity Function with Attribution*, Transactions on Knowledge and Data Discovery 2015.
1. Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, **Neil Shah**, Stephane Ethier, Scott Klasky, Robert Latham, Robert Ross, Nagiza Samatova. *ISABELA for Effective In-situ Compression of Scientific Data*, Concurrency and Computation: Practice and Experience 2011.

Book Chapters

3. Srijan Kumar, **Neil Shah**. *False Information on the Web and Social Media: A Survey*, Social Media Analytics: Advances and Applications.
2. **Neil Shah**. *Introduction to R, Practical Graph Mining with R*.
1. Kanchana Padmanabhan, Sriram Lakshminarasimhan, Zhenhuan Gong, John Jenkins, **Neil Shah**, Eric Schendel, Isha Arkatkar, Robert Ross, Scott Klasky, Nagiza Samatova. *In-situ Analysis in Support of Exploratory Scientific Discovery in Data-Intensive Science*, Data-Intensive Science.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Service

- PC Chair for WSDM Cup (2020)
- PC Chair for ASONAM Industrial Track (2019)
- PC Chair for WWW Cybersafety Workshop (2019)
- Invited Keynote Speaker for SDM Minisymposium on Dynamic Networks (2020)
- Invited Keynote Speaker for ICDM Doctoral Consortium (2019)

- Invited Keynote Speaker for WWW Cybersafety Workshop (2018)
- Invited Keynote Speaker for KDD Outlier Detection De-constructed Workshop (2018)
- Invited Keynote Speaker for ECML-PKDD PhD Forum (2018)
- Session Chair for WWW “Security and Privacy” track (2018)
- Session Chair for ICDM “Social” track (2016)
- Program Committee for WSDM (2019)
- Program Committee for KDD (2019)
- Program Committee for WWW (2015, 2018)
- Program Committee for SDM (2018)
- Program Committee for CIKM (2017)
- Program Committee for ICML LXAI Workshop (2020)
- Program Committee for ICDM Demo Session (2019)
- Program Committee for WSDM “Misinformation and Misbehavior Mining on the Web” Workshop (2018)
- Program Committee for ICDM Demo Session (2018)
- Program Committee for KDD “Mining and Learning with Graphs” Workshop (2017, 2018, 2019)
- Program Committee for WSDM “Heterogeneous Networks Analysis and Mining” Workshop (2017, 2018)
- Program Committee for ICDM PhD Forum (2017)
- Reviewer for ACM “Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data” Journal (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Reviewer for Springer “Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery” Journal (2018, 2019)
- Reviewer for ACM “Transactions on Social Computing” Journal (2018, 2019)
- Reviewer for ACM “Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering” Journal (2016, 2017)
- Reviewer for CSCW (2019)
- Reviewer for CHI (2019)
- Reviewer for WISE (2014)
- Reviewer for IPDPS (2011)

Mentorship

- Mr. Yozen Liu (RA at Snap Research, 2020)
- Ms. Qi Yang (intern at Snap Research, 2020)
- Mr. Satyaki Sikdar (intern at Snap Research, 2020)
- Mr. Nick Vincent (intern at Snap Research, 2020)
- Mr. Yao Ma (intern at Snap Research, 2020)
- Mr. Aravind Sankar (intern at Snap Research, 2020)
- Mr. Shiyang Yan (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Mr. Xianfeng Tang (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Ms. Parisa Kaghzadaran (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Mr. Himel Dev (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Mr. Anis Zaman (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Mr. Can Liu (intern at Snap Research, 2019)
- Mr. Dipankar Niranjana (BS student at IIIT Delhi, 2018)
- Ms. Shreya Jain (BS student at IIIT Delhi, 2018)
- Mr. Hamed Nilforoshan (intern at Snap Research, 2018)
- Ms. Hana Habib (intern at Snap Research, 2018)
- Mr. Hemank Lamba (intern at Snap Research, 2018)
- Mr. Rohan Kumar (visiting CS student at CMU, 2017)
- Ms. Qicheng Huang (EE PhD student at CMU, 2017)
- Ms. Chenlei Fang (EE PhD student at CMU, 2017)
- Mr. Tianmin Zou (CS MS student at CMU, 2017)

Funding

- Contributed towards Flipkart faculty grant (with CMU: Bryan Hooi, Dhivya Eswaran, Christos Faloutsos)

- Contributed towards Wharton Customer Analytics Initiative proposal “Fraud Detection through Mining Dynamic Behavior for Group Anomalies” (with CMU: Alex Beutel and Christos Faloutsos)
- Contributed towards PNC Center for Financial Services proposal PF15003: “Fraud Detection in Financial Data” (with CMU: Alex Beutel and Christos Faloutsos)
- Contributed towards proposal DOE-NNSA-30788.1.1990222 “Quantifying Network Changes” (with CMU: Danai Koutra and Christos Faloutsos)
- Contributed towards proposal NSF IIS-1028746 “Collaborative Research: Understanding Climate Change: A Data Driven Approach” (with NCSU: Nagiza Samatova and Fredrick Semazzi)

Teaching

- Guest Lecture “A Foray into Graph Mining” for USC CSCI-699 Introduction to Information Extraction, by Prof. Xiang Ren
- Guest Lecture “Graph Mining for Fraud Detection” for CMU 15-300 Research and Innovation in Computer Science, by Prof. Todd Mowry
- Teaching Assistant for CMU 15-300 Research and Innovation in Computer Science, by Prof. Todd Mowry
- Teaching Assistant for CMU 15-826 Multimedia Databases and Data Mining, by Prof. Christos Faloutsos

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Cloud Platforms: GCP, AWS
- Programming Languages/Tools: Python, Java, C, C++, x86 Assembly
- Web Languages/Tools: SQL, HTML, PHP, JavaScript, CSS, WordPress
- Engineering Tools: Matlab, R
- Typesetting Tools: L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office, LibreOffice
- Source Code Management Tools: Git, Subversion
- Operating Systems: Mac OSX, Ubuntu Linux, Microsoft Windows

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Carnegie Mellon University

- *Advanced and Distributed Operating Systems* with Prof. Dave Andersen,
- *Multimedia Databases and Data Mining* with Prof. Christos Faloutsos
- *Graduate Algorithms* with Prof. Manuel Blum
- *Machine Learning* with Profs. Eric Xing and Aarti Singh
- *Randomized Algorithms* with Prof. Bernhard Haeupler
- *Programming Language Semantics* with Prof. André Platzter

North Carolina State University

- *Automated Learning & Data Analysis* with Prof. Nagiza Samatova,
- *Software Engineering* with Prof. Tao Xie,
- *Database Management Concepts & Systems* with Prof. Ting Yu

REFERENCES

Available upon request.