Wentao Guo

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EDUCATION

PhD in *Computer Science* University of Maryland

August 2021 – May 2026 (expected)
College Park, MD

Advised by Michelle Mazurek, focusing on human-centered security and privacy

B.A. in *Computer Science* and *Science, Technology, and Society* Pomona College

May 2019

Claremont, CA

• Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

* indicates mentored undergraduate student

Wentao Guo, Alexander Yang,* Nathan Malkin, Michelle L. Mazurek. How experts personalize privacy & security advice for at-risk users. PETS '26 (Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium).

Yunze Zhao, **Wentao Guo**, Harrison Goldstein, Daniel Votipka, Kelsey Fulton, Michelle L. Mazurek. A qualitative analysis of fuzzing tool usability and challenges. CCS '25 (ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security).

Wentao Guo, Paige Pepitone, Adam J. Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. How researchers de-identify data in practice. USENIX '25 (USENIX Security Symposium).

Wentao Guo, Aditya Kishore,* Adam J. Aviv, Michelle L. Mazurek. A qualitative analysis of practical deidentification guides. CCS '24 (ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security).

Michael Coblenz, **Wentao Guo**, Kamatchi Voozhian, Jeffrey S. Foster. A qualitative study of REST API design and specification practices. VL/HCC '23 (IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing).

Wentao Guo, Jason Walter,* and Michelle L. Mazurek. The role of professional product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. USENIX '23 (USENIX Security Symposium).

WORKSHOP PAPERS

Wentao Guo, Jay Rodolitz, and Eleanor Birrell. Poli-see: An interactive tool for visualizing privacy policies. WPES '20 (ACM CCS Workshop on Privacy in the Electronic Society).

Zaina Aljallad, **Wentao Guo**, Chhaya Chouhan, Christy LaPerriere, Jess Kropczynski, Pamela Wisnewski, and Heather Lipford. Designing a mobile application to support social processes for privacy decisions. USEC '19 (NDSS Workshop on Usable Security).

WORKSHOP PROPOSALS

Richard Roberts, **Wentao Guo**, Omer Akgul, Michelle L. Mazurek, and Dave Levin. This proposal was brought to you by content creators' mental models of security & privacy products. ConPro '23 (IEEE S&P Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection).

Wentao Guo, Jason Walter, and Michelle L. Mazurek. The role of product reviewers in evaluating security and privacy. ConPro '22 (IEEE S&P Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection).

INVITED TALKS

Incentives, expertise, and capacity: Unlocking the power of professionals to protect users' security and privacy. Virginia Polytechnic University. May 2024.

Understanding de-identification guidance and practices for researchers. NSF Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyber Infrastructure (CICI) PI meeting. March 2024.

SELECTED AWARDS

MC2 Seed Grant University of Maryland, Fall 2023

Awarded \$1,890 to fund a research proposal on perceptions of tracking and inference in VR

Paul B. Yale Computer Science Prize

Pomona College, Spring 2019

Awarded to three outstanding seniors majoring in Computer Science

Science, Technology, and Society Prize

Pomona College, Spring 2019

Awarded to one outstanding senior majoring in Science, Technology, and Society

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

IoT Design FellowConsumer Reports
June 2023 – September 2023
New York, NY

- Designed, conducted, and analyzed four studies (surveys, focus groups, and user studies) on consumer perspectives on IoT security and privacy labels, in collaboration with two other fellows
- Interviewed IoT manufacturers about challenges with product security and privacy reporting

Software developer

September 2019 – June 2021

Epic Systems

Verona, WI

 Worked on backend infrastructure and data ingestion for Cosmos, a HIPAA-regulated dataset of >100 million patients' electronic health records used for research and data-driven healthcare

Research programmer

June 2019 – August 2019

Ecosystem Dynamics and Forecasting Lab

Virginia Tech

- Contributed bug fixes to the open-source General Lake Model project: https://github.com/AquaticEcoDynamics/GLM/pull/16
- Created an intake script to format and validate data from field sensors

SELECTED TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Introduction to Privacy (Spring 2025)

Human Factors in Security and Privacy (Fall 2024)

Computer Systems (Spring 2019)

Computability and Logic (Spring 2018)

Computer Science (UMD)

Computer Science (Pomona College)

Computer Science (Pomona College)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Chair of Community Building

December 2023 - Present

Peer mentor

September 2023 – Present

Organizer

October 2021 - Present

Computer Science Graduate Student Committee

University of Maryland

 Managing the department's peer mentoring program, as well as biweekly student-organized community-building events including practical workshops and socials

Project mentor October 2023, 2024

Tech + Research
 Designed hackathon-style research projects in human-centered security and privacy, and

 Designed hackathon-style research projects in human-centered security and privacy, and mentored women undergraduates as they completed them over the course of a weekend

Lead organizerSeptember 2021 – PresentSecurity Reading GroupUniversity of Maryland

• Planning weekly research paper discussions, practice talks, invited talks, and workshops

Peer reviewing (including reviews and sub-reviews)

 CHI '24/'25 (2 papers), CSCW '24 (2 papers), SOUPS '24/'25 (2 papers), ESORICS '25 (1 paper), International Journal of Human-Computer Studies '23 (1 paper), IEEE S&P '23 (1 paper)

SELECTED GUEST LECTURES

Privacy for at-risk individuals
Introduction to Privacy
Spring 2025
Computer Science (UMD)

Modern privacy enforcement Spring 2025

Introduction to Privacy Computer Science (UMD)

Qualitative research methods Fall 2024

Human Factors in Security and Privacy

Computer Science (UMD)

Intro to security Spring 2024

Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data Information Studies (UMD)

Al and algorithms Spring 2023

Privacy, Security, and Ethics for Big Data Information Studies (UMD)

Buffer overflow attacks Spring 2022

Computer and Network Security Computer Science (UMD)

Deepfakes Spring 2019

Philosophy of Technology Philosophy (Pomona College)