

Curriculum Vitae: Sarah Ann Scheffler

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POSITIONS HELD

Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton University Center for Information Technology Policy
September 2021 - Present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Computer Science, Boston University

Advisor: Prof. Mayank Varia
Thesis: Decrypting Legal Dilemmas
Computer Science Research Excellence Award
September 2016 - June 2021

B.S. joint in Computer Science and Mathematics, Harvey Mudd College

Departmental Honors in Computer Science
Graduated with Distinction
September 2011 - May 2015

REFEREED CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

- [1] A. Cohen, S. Scheffler, M. Varia.
Can the government compel decryption? Don't trust — verify.
In ACM CS/Law 2022.
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2208.02905>.
- [2] S. Scheffler, E. Tromer, M. Varia.
Formalizing Human Ingenuity: A Quantitative Framework for Copyright Law's Substantial Similarity.
In ACM CS/Law 2022.
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2206.01230>.
- [3] Y. Gvili, J. Ha, S. Scheffler, M. Varia, Z. Yang, X. Zhang.
TurboIKOS: Improved Non-interactive Zero Knowledge with Sublinear Memory.
In Applied Cryptography and Network Security 2021. (Acceptance rate: 19.9%)
<https://ia.cr/2021/478>.
- [4] Y. Gvili, S. Scheffler, M. Varia.
BooLigero: Improved Sublinear Zero Knowledge Proofs for Boolean Circuits.
In Financial Crypto 2021. (Acceptance rate: 24.2%)
<https://ia.cr/2021/121>.
- [5] S. Scheffler M. Varia.
Protecting Cryptography against Compelled Self-Incrimination.
In USENIX Security 2021. (Acceptance rate: 18.7%)
<https://ia.cr/2020/862>.
- [6] L. Alcock, S. Asif, J. Bosboom, J. Brunner, C. Chen, E. Demaine, R. Epstein, A. Hesterberg, L. Hirschfeld, W. Hu, J. Lynch, S. Scheffler, L. Zhang.
Arithmetic Expression Construction.
In International Symposium on Algorithms and Computation 2020. (Acceptance rate: 31.2%)
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.11767>.
- [7] J. Milligan, S. Scheffler, A. Sellars, T. Tiwari, A. Trachtenberg, M. Varia.
Case Study: Disclosure of Indirect Device Fingerprinting in Privacy Policies.

In Socio-Technical Aspects of Security 2019.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.07965>.

- [8] J. Ani, S. Asif, E. Demaine, Y. Diomidov, D. Hendrickson, J. Lynch, S. Scheffler, A. Suhl.
PSPACE-completeness of Pulling Blocks to Reach a Goal.
In the Japan Conference on Discrete and Computational Geometry, Graphs, and Games 2019.
- [9] R. Canetti, A. Cohen, N. Dikkala, G. Ramnarayan, S. Scheffler, A. Smith.
From Soft Classifiers to Hard Decisions: How fair can we be?.
ACM Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency 2019. (Acceptance rate: 24%)
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.02003>.
- [10] S. Scheffler, S. Smith, Y. Gilad, S. Goldberg.
The Unintended Consequences of Email Spam Prevention.
In International Conference on Passive and Active Network Measurement 2018. (Acceptance rate: 40%)
https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-76481-8_12.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- [11] J. Ani, S. Asif, E. Demaine, Y. Diomidov, D. Hendrickson, J. Lynch, S. Scheffler, A. Suhl.
PSPACE-completeness of Pulling Blocks to Reach a Goal.
In the Journal of Information Processing 2020.
https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/ipsjjip/28/0/28_929/_pdf.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- [12] T. Morrison, S. Scheffler, B. Pal, A. Viand.
Private Outsourced Translation for Medical Data.
In Protecting Privacy through Homomorphic Encryption (2021), pp. 107-116.
https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-77287-1_7.

WORKS IN SUBMISSION

- [13] S. Scheffler, A. Kulshrestha, J. Mayer.
Public Verification for Private Hash Matching
Under submission at IEEE S&P 2023.
- [14] S. Scheffler, J. Mayer.
Systemization of Knowledge: Content Moderation for End-to-End Encryption.
Under submission at PETS 2023.

MANUSCRIPTS

- [15] S. Scheffler, J. Ostling.
Dismantling False Assumptions about Autonomous Weapon Systems.
Manuscript.
Won 2nd place in the Student Paper Competition at the ACM CSLaw Student Paper Competition in 2019.
https://sarahscheffler.net/Autonomous_Weapons_False_Assumptions.pdf.
- [16] J. Hennessey, S. Scheffler, M. Varia.
On Resilient Password-Based Key Derivation Functions.
Manuscript.
<https://sarahscheffler.net/diskcrypt/draft-2018-bog.pdf>.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Google Ph.D. Fellowship (supported my Ph.D. research 2019-2021)
Clare Boothe Luce Graduate Fellowship (supported my Ph.D. research 2017-2019)
Boston University Computer Science Research Excellence Award (2021)
RSA Conference Security Scholar (2020)
ACM CSLaw Student Paper Competition: 2nd Place (2019)
Clinic Team Award, HMC Computer Science Department (2015, awarded for an exceptional capstone project)
International Mathematical Competition in Modeling: Meritorious Winner (2014), Honorable Mention (2015)

INVITED TALKS

EPFL SPRING Lab Seminar (November, 2022)
Stanford Security Lunch (November, 2022)
Microsoft Research Cryptography and Privacy Colloquium (November, 2022)
ACM CS/Law (November, 2022)
Rutgers Seminar for the REU Summer Program at DIMACS for Mathematics and Computer Science (June, 2022)
DIMACS Workshop on the Co-Development of Computer Science and Law (May, 2022)
CS+Law Research Presentations through Northwestern University (May, 2022)
USENIX Security (Aug. 2021)
Privacy Law Scholars Conference (June 2021)
Cryptic Commons Workshop (May 2021)
Georgetown Data Co-Ops Meeting (Mar. 2021)
Duke Privacy and Security Seminar (Mar. 2021)
Stanford Security Seminar (Feb. 2021)
Berkeley Cryptography Seminar (Jan. 2021)
Winter Security Seminar Series at Carnegie Mellon University (Jan. 2021)
Real World Crypto (Jan. 2021)
MIT Security Seminar (Dec. 2020)
Guest lecturer at ETH Zurich course “Approaches to Authentication and Security: Views from Law, Economics, and the Scientific Disciplines” (Nov. 2020)
Northeastern Privacy Scholars Workshop (Nov. 2020)
DIMACS Workshop on the Co-Development of Computer Science and Law (Nov. 2020)
Boston University Security Seminar (Oct. 2020)
Cybersecurity Law and Policy Scholars Conference (planned Apr. 2020, two papers accepted for discussion, event postponed to Dec. 2020 due to COVID-19)
Bridging Privacy seminar at Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society (Dec. 2019)
Cornell Crypto Seminar (Nov. 2019)
Carnegie Mellon University AI Seminar (Oct. 2019)
Boston University CyberAlliance Seminar (Dec. 2018)

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Program Committee:

USENIX Security 2023
Workshop on Foundations of Computer Security 2021

Shadow Program Committee:

IEEE S&P 2020

External Reviewer:

USENIX Security 2022
IEEE Security & Privacy 2021
ISCA Symposium on Security and Privacy in Speech Communication 2021
Theory of Cryptography Conference 2020
Eurocrypt 2020

IEEE Security & Privacy 2020
ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency 2020
IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium 2018
International Conference on Cryptology and Network Security 2017
International Conference on Information Theoretic Security 2016

K12 OUTREACH

RACECAR Crash Course: From Oct. 2018 - Jan. 2019, volunteered as a teaching assistant for this program to prepare high school students for the Beaver Works Summer Institute RACECAR course in the summer.

Code Creative: From Jan. 2017 - Jan. 2018, was a mentor for Code Creative, a computer science education program for Boston-area high school students who do not have access to a computer science course at their schools. Was responsible for creating slides and labs, lecturing, organizing, and in-class tutoring. <https://www.codecreative-ll.org/>

Codebreakers: In summer 2016, as one of a team of three, created and taught a summer cybersecurity class for high school girls. Was responsible for creating the curriculum, creating class material and exercises, and leading classes. In 2017, 2018, and 2019, was a guest lecturer. <https://www.bu.edu/lernet/cyber/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow: Applied Cryptography, Boston University Computer Science Department (Spring 2018, Spring 2017)

Head Grader: Linear Algebra (2013) and Differential Equations (2013), HMC Department of Mathematics

Tutor/Grader: Programming Languages (2014) and Principles of Computer Science (2013) and Intro to Computer Science (2013), HMC Computer Science Department

Grader: Multivariable Calculus (2013) and Calculus (2012) and Probability and Statistics (2012), HMC Department of Mathematics

TRAVEL GRANTS

Real World Crypto (2020), Crypto (2019, 2018), ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing (2019)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Staff MIT Lincoln Laboratory Sep. 2015 - June 2016

Worked in the Secure and Resilient Systems and Technology group within the Cybersecurity and Information Sciences division. Assisted in the implementation and testing of a library that adds confidentiality and integrity guarantees to the Accumulo database, protecting it against a malicious server or sysadmin.

Implementing Oblivious RAM MIT Lincoln Laboratory Summer 2015

Designed and implemented an Oblivious RAM for the Accumulo database in Java, to hide a querying client's access patterns from a malicious server as part of a larger project within the Secure and Resilient Systems and Technology group.

Quantifying Latent Fingerprint Quality The MITRE Corporation and HMC Fall 2014 - Spring 2015

Worked on a team of four students to design, implement, and test a system that uses image processing and machine learning techniques to evaluate the suitability of crime scene fingerprint images for identification by Automated Fingerprint Identification Systems.

Statistical Testing of Cryptographic Entropy Sources NIST Summer 2014

Worked with Dr. Allen Roginsky in the Computer Security Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to improve NIST's statistical tests for entropy sources in cryptographic random number generators. Also made adjustments to the process for generating large primes for cryptography.

ARTICLES AND BLOG POSTS

Cyber Alliance Blog:

(Fewer Than) Five Reasons the Tech Sector Isn't All That Different (Feb 2018)

Google Has Its Fingers In Many Pies, But Isn't Monopolizing Any Individual Pie (July 2018)

Computers are Poor Decision-Makers for Ill-Defined Problems (Aug 2018)

The Skeletons in My Closet Are Styrofoam But It's Really None Of Your Business (Sep 2018)

The Conversation:

Artificial intelligence must know when to ask for human help (Mar 2019)

Interviews and posts about my work:

(Written about my work on the Cyber Alliance Blog) Could math change the law? What the 5th Amendment means in cryptography (Mar 2021)

(Interview with me on the Cyber Alliance Blog) Security vs Privacy – Why should you have to choose on messaging apps? (Mar 2021)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Programming: Rust, Python, C++, C, Haskell, Java, Prolog

Software and Frameworks: NTL, SCALE-MAMBA (SPDZ-2), Mathematica, Sage, R, Matlab, L^AT_EX

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Cryptography: Multi-Party Computation at Scale, Cryptography, Applied Cryptography, Lattice Cryptography

Computer science: Privacy in Machine Learning, Adaptive Data Analysis, Networks, Security, Malware/Vulnerabilities

Law: Law and Algorithms (joint between BU, Harvard, UC Berkeley, and Georgetown), National Security and Technology

Mathematics: Abstract Algebra, Probability, Number Theory, Linear Algebra, Numerical Analysis