

# STEVEN ULLMAN

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Department of Information Systems and Cyber Security  
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## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2024 – Present	Assistant Professor, Information Systems and Cyber Security	University of Texas at San Antonio
2018 – 2024	Research Associate, Artificial Intelligence (AI) Lab	University of Arizona

## EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Management Information Systems (MIS) University of Arizona	2024
MS	Management Information Systems (MIS) University of Arizona	2019
MBA	Master of Business Administration Colorado State University-Pueblo	2018
BS	Computer Information Systems Colorado State University-Pueblo	2018

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Domain:** Cybersecurity, Vulnerability Assessment and Management, Enterprise Information Technology (IT) Security, Open-Source Software Security, Internet of Things (IoT) Security.

**Methods:** Deep Learning (Self-Supervised Learning, Multi-View Representation Learning, Contrastive Representation Learning), Machine Learning, Network Science (Graph Representation Learning, Graph Neural Networks), Design Science.

## DISSERTATION

**Title:** “Artificial Intelligence-enabled Vulnerability Analysis and Management Enterprise IT Infrastructure: A Computational Design Science Approach”

**Committee Members:** Dr. Hsinchun Chen (Chair), Dr. Jay F. Nunamaker Jr. (Member), Dr. Sue Brown (Member)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Publications

1. **S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, B. Lazarine, H. Chen, and J.F. Nunamaker, Jr. (2024) “Enhancing Vulnerability Prioritization in Cloud Computing Using Multi-View Representation Learning” *Accepted at Journal of Management Information Systems (JMIS)*.
  2. B. Ampel, **S. Ullman**. (2023) “Why Following Friends Can Hurt You: A Replication Study,” *AIS Transactions on Replication Research (TRR)*, 9(1):1–15.
- Journal Papers Under Review
1. **S. Ullman**, H. Zhu, S. Samtani, and H. Chen “Linking Vulnerabilities in Cyberinfrastructure With Their Remediations: A Contrastive Representation Learning Approach” **Revise and Resubmit (First Round) at Information Systems Research (ISR)**.

### Work-In-Progress Journal Papers

1. C. Yang, **S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, and H. Chen “Exploring the Propagation of Vulnerabilities in FinTech Payment Applications on GitHub: A Deep Node Ranking Approach” *Preparing for Submission to Information Systems Research (ISR)*.
2. A. Ndubizu, **S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, and H. Chen “Generating Security Nutrition Labels for Internet of Things Device GitHub Repositories: A Multi-Label Classification Approach” *Preparing for Submission to MIS Quarterly (MISQ)*.
3. B. Lazarine, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, **S. Ullman**, and H. Chen “Detecting and Grouping Vulnerable GitHub Repositories in Scientific Cyberinfrastructure: An Unsupervised Graph Embedding Approach” *Preparing for Submission to Journal of Management Information Systems (JMIS)*.
4. **S. Ullman**, “Replication of Internet Privacy Concerns in the Context of Smart Home Devices” *Preparing for Submission to AIS Transactions on Replication Research (TRR)*.
5. R. Reyes, **S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, and H. Chen “Identifying Vulnerability Persistence on Containers from Docker Hub: A Multi-View Learning Approach” *Preparing for Submission to ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems (TMIS)*.
6. **S. Ullman**, B. Lazarine, S. Samtani, and H. Chen “Securing Software Application Deployments in Cloud Computing: A Graph Contrastive Learning Approach” *Preparing for Submission to MIS Quarterly (MISQ)*.
7. B. Lazarine, **S. Ullman**, H. Zhu, and S. Samtani “Suggesting Alternatives for Insecure Machine Learning Repositories: A Multi-View Graph Transformer Approach” *Preparing for Submission to Information Systems Research (ISR)*.
8. A. Ndubizu, **S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, and H. Chen “Identifying Vulnerability Propagation in Quantum Source Code on GitHub: A Large-Language Model Code Clone Detection Approach” *Preparing for Submission to Information Systems Research (ISR)*.

#### Refereed Conference Proceedings (\* indicates I was the presenting author)

1. **\*S. Ullman**, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, B. Lazarine, B. Ampel, M. Patton, and H. Chen “Smart Vulnerability Assessment for Scientific Cyberinfrastructure: An Unsupervised Graph Embedding Approach” *IEEE Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI)*. Rosslyn, VA (Virtual). November 2020.
2. B. Ampel, S. Samtani, H. Zhu, **S. Ullman**, and H. Chen “Labeling Hacker Exploits for Proactive Cyber Threat Intelligence: A Deep Transfer Learning Approach” *IEEE Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI)*. Rosslyn, VA (Virtual). November 2020. (*Winner of the Best Paper Award*).
3. B. Lazarine, S. Samtani, M. Patton, H. Zhu, **S. Ullman**, B. Ampel, and H. Chen “Identifying Vulnerable GitHub Repositories and Users in Scientific Cyberinfrastructure: An Unsupervised Graph Embedding Approach” *IEEE Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI)*. Rosslyn, VA (Virtual). November 2020.

#### Refereed Workshop Papers (No Proceedings; \* indicates I was the presenting author)

1. **\*S. Ullman** and H. Chen “VulnSSL: Identifying Relevant Vulnerability Remediation Strategies Using Self-Supervised Learning” *International Conference on Secure Knowledge Management (SKM)*. Tempe, AZ (Virtual). September 2023.
2. B. Ampel, S. Samtani, **S. Ullman**, H. Chen “Linking Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures to the MITRE ATT&CK Framework: A Self-Distillation Approach” *ACM KDD Workshop on AI-enabled Cybersecurity Analytics*. Virtual Event. August 2021.

#### Poster Presentations

1. M. Wisniewski, L. Irizarry, A. Hayes, S. DeHeart, K. Shu, **S. Ullman** “Automated Vulnerability Classification Using Supervised Machine Learning Methods” Colorado State University Pueblo 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Symposium: A Celebration of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity. Pueblo, CO. April 2023.

2. M. Wisniewski, L. Irizarry, A. Hayes, S. DeHeart, K. Shu, **S. Ullman** “Cybersecurity Advisory Data Collection for Data-Driven Tools” Colorado State University Pueblo 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Symposium: A Celebration of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity. Pueblo, CO. April 2023.

## INVITED TALKS AND EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS

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1. *University of Arizona MIS Department 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Future of MIS*. **Presentation Title:** “Vulnerability Management for IT Infrastructure: An Artificial Intelligence-enabled Approach” March 22, 2024.
2. *INFORMS Annual Meeting*. **Presentation Title:** “Using Computational Design Science and Contrastive Self-Supervised Learning to Link Vulnerabilities and Their Remediations” October 15, 2023.
3. *Open Data Science Conference (ODSC) East 2023*. **Presentation Title:** “AI4Cyber: An Overview of Artificial Intelligence for Cybersecurity and an Open-Source Virtual Machine” May 9, 2023.
4. *56<sup>th</sup> Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS)*. **Symposium Title:** “AI in Cybersecurity – Machine Learning/Deep Learning Data Analytics” January 3, 2023.
5. *Open Data Science Conference (ODSC) West 2022*. **Presentation Title:** “AI4Cyber: An Overview of the Field and an Open-Source Virtual Machine for Research and Education” November 2, 2022.
6. *Inaugural University of Arizona MS Cybersecurity Board of Advisors Meeting*. **Presentation Title:** “Detecting and Grouping Vulnerable Virtual Machines in Public Clouds: A Multi-View Representation Learning Approach” April 8, 2022.
7. *NSF Cybersecurity Summit Vulnerability Management Workshop*. **Presentation Title:** “Detecting and Grouping Vulnerable Virtual Machines in Scientific Cyberinfrastructure” October 19, 2021.
8. *NSF Cybersecurity Summit Vulnerability Management Workshop*. **Presentation Title:** “Detecting and Linking Vulnerabilities in Scientific Cyberinfrastructure to MITRE ATT&CK” October 19, 2021.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### Conference Committees

- Program Co-Chair, 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Artificial Intelligence-enabled Cybersecurity Analytics (AI4Cyber-KDD), 2024.
- Program Committee, INFORMS Workshop on Data Science (WDS), 2022.
- Program Committee, ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS) AISEC Workshop, 2021.
- Program Committee, Workshop on Artificial Intelligence-enabled Cybersecurity Analytics (AI4Cyber-KDD), 2021, 2023.

### Ad-hoc Reviewer: Journal Publications

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- Information Systems Frontiers, 2024.
- Computers & Security, 2022, 2023.
- IEEE Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing (TDSC), 2021, 2023.
- IEEE Internet of Things Journal (IoTJ), 2023.
- ACM Digital Threats: Research and Practice (DTRAP), 2022, 2023.
- ACM Transactions on Management Information Systems (TMIS), 2019.

### Ad-hoc Reviewer: Refereed Conference Proceedings

- Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS), 2021, 2023.
- Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems (PACIS), 2020-2023.
- International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS), 2020, 2021.
- IEEE Security and Privacy Deep Learning and Security Workshop (DLS) 2020.
- ICDM Workshop on Deep Learning for Cyber Threat Intelligence (DL-CTI), 2020.

- INFORMS Workshop on Data Science (WDS), 2022.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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### Awards:

- Moshe Dror Research Excellence Award. 2024.
- James F. LaSalle Teaching Excellence Award. 2024.
- Doctoral Consortium, Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS). 2023.
- Paul S. and Shirley Goodman Award in International Computer Technology. 2022.
- Samtani-Garcia MIS Ph.D. Commitment Scholarship. 2022.
- Best Paper Award, IEEE Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI). 2020.
- Nunamaker-Chen Doctoral Student Scholarship. 2020.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor:

University of Texas at San Antonio – IS 4893 “**Cyber Security Capstone**”

- Fall 2024 (15 students, online synchronous)

University of Arizona – MIS 689 “**Cyber Warfare Capstone**”

- Spring 2024 (22 students, online asynchronous)
- Fall 2023 (10 students, online asynchronous)
- Spring 2023 (27 students, online asynchronous)
- Fall 2022 (11 students, online asynchronous)
- Spring 2022 (16 students, online asynchronous)
- Fall 2021 (13 students, online asynchronous)
- Spring 2021 (4 students, online asynchronous)

Colorado State University-Pueblo – CIS 490 “**Special Projects: AI for Cybersecurity**”

- Spring 2024 (14 students, online synchronous)
- Spring 2023 (5 students, online synchronous)

### Graduate Teaching Assistant:

University of Arizona – MIS 611D “**Topics in Data and Web Mining**”

- Spring 2023, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (12 students)

University of Arizona – MIS 464 “**Data Analytics**”

- Spring 2023, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (43 students)

University of Arizona – MIS 689 “**Cyber Warfare Capstone**”

- Fall 2020, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (17 students)
- Spring 2020, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (3 students)
- Fall 2019, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (15 students)
- Spring 2019, Instructor: Dr. Hsinchun Chen (3 students)

### External:

- **AZ Cyber Initiative – Cyber Bootcamp** (High School Bootcamp). 2021 (Inaugural Year), 2022. Instructor.

## GRANT EXPERIENCE

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- **Year:** 2024. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CICI: TCR: Enhancing the Resilience of Open Source Artificial Intelligence Software: Vulnerability Detection and Deep Learning-based Linkage and Remediation” **Funding Amount:** \$1,199,998. **Role:** Co-PI. **Status:** Under Review.
- **Year:** 2023. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CICI: UCSS: Enhancing the Usability of Vulnerability Assessment Results for Open-Source Software Technologies in Scientific

Cyberinfrastructure: A Deep Learning Perspective” **Funding Amount:** \$600,000. **Role:** Assisting Grant Writer. **Status:** Awarded.

- **Year:** 2022. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CICI: UCSS: Enhancing the Usability of Vulnerability Assessment Results for Open-Source Software Technologies in Scientific Cyberinfrastructures: A Deep Learning Perspective” **Funding Amount:** \$600,000. **Role:** Assisting Grant Writer. **Status:** Not Funded (Low Competitive).
- **Year:** 2022. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CISE-MSI: DP: SaTC: MSI Research Capacity Building for Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled Vulnerability Assessment and Remediation in Cyberinfrastructure” **Funding Amount:** \$600,000. **Role:** Lead Author. **Duration:** 2022-2025. **Status:** Awarded.
- **Year:** 2021. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CCRI: New: CCRI for Cybersecurity: An Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled Cybersecurity Analytics Perspective” **Funding Amount:** \$2,000,000. **Role:** Assisting Grant Writer. **Status:** Not Funded (Competitive).
- **Year:** 2020. **Funding Source:** National Science Foundation. **Grant Title:** “CICI: SIVD: Proactively Detecting and Categorizing Configuration and Social Coding Vulnerabilities in Scientific Cyberinfrastructure: An AI-enabled Vulnerability Discovery Approach” **Funding Amount:** \$492,000. **Role:** Assisting Grant Writer. **Status:** Not Funded (Competitive).
- **Year:** 2020. **Funding Source:** NSF XSEDE. **Grant Title:** “Exploratory Study of Scientific Cyberinfrastructure for Information Systems Research” **Funding Amount:** \$2,000. **Role:** Allocation Manager. **Status:** Awarded.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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<b>University of Arizona</b> <i>Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant</i>	2018 – 2024
<b>The MITRE Corporation</b> <i>Cybersecurity Intern</i>	2019 –2019
<b>Institutional Research (CSU-Pueblo)</b> <i>Data Analytics Assistant</i>	2017 –2018

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Association for Information Systems (AIS), Member.
- Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS), Member.
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Member.
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), Member.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- **Databases:** Oracle, MySQL, MongoDB.
- **Programming Languages:** Python, R, Bash.
- **Visualization:** Tableau, Gephi.
- **Data Mining Tools:** RapidMiner, SPSS, scikit-learn.
- **Deep Learning Modules:** TensorFlow, Keras, PyTorch.
- **Security Tools:** Nmap, Wireshark, SQLMap, Metasploit, Meterpreter, Hydra, Nessus, BurpSuite.
- **Operating Systems:** Linux (Ubuntu, CentOS, Kali), Windows.