Shiza Ali

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Research Interests

Security and Privacy of Online Systems

Education

2019-Present **PhD in Computer Science**, *Boston University*, Boston, MA.
Thesis: ... advised by Gianluca Stringhini

2014-2018 **BS in Computer Science**, *National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, NUCES*, Pakistan.
Graduated with Highest Honors *Magna Cum Laude*

Employment History and Affiliations

2019-Present **Graduate Student Researcher**, *Boston University*, Boston, MA.
- Ongoing PhD. research on mitigating risks in online systems.

2019 **Developer Advocate**, *Educative Inc.*, Pakistan.
- Designed interactive courses in the fields of data science and machine Learning.
- Worked closely with the development team to design and deploy features for the company website.

2018-2019 **Research Associate**, *Lahore University of Management Sciences*, Pakistan.
Mentor: Fareed Zaffar
- Supervised a team of researchers to build a machine learning-based model to detect Tuberculosis in Lung X-ray images.
- Developed a deep learning-based pipeline that takes multiple video features to detect child-unsafe content on YouTube with high accuracy.

2017 **Software Engineer, Internship**, *Mindstorm Studios*.
- Worked as a full-stack developer and deployed HTML5 game on Facebook

Honors and Awards

2023 **SIGCHI Gary Marsden Travel Award**, *CSCW'2023*.

2023 **Research PhD. Fellowship Finalist**, *Meta*.

2021 **Best Paper: Honorable Mention Award**, *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
Understanding the Digital Lives of Youth: Analyzing Media Shared within Safe Versus Unsafe Private Conversations on Instagram

2022 **IEEE S&P Student Travel Grant**, *($1,500)*.

2018 **Graduated with the Highest Honor *Magna Cum Laude***, *National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES)*, Pakistan.

2014-2018 **Dean's Honor Award**, *National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES)*, Pakistan.

Publications

2023 Razi, Afsaneh, Ashwaq AlSoubai, Seunghyun Kim, **Shiza Ali**, Gianluca Stringhini, Munmun De Choudhury, and Pamela J. Wisniewski. "Sliding into My DMs: Detecting Uncomfortable or Unsafe Sexual Risk Experiences within Instagram Direct Messages Grounded in the Perspective of Youth." Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 7, no. CSCW1 (2023): 1-29.

2023 **Ali, Shiza**, Afsaneh Razi, Seunghyun Kim, Ashwaq Alsoubai, Chen Ling, Munmun De Choudhury, Pamela J. Wisniewski, and Gianluca Stringhini. "Getting Meta: A Multimodal Approach for Detecting Unsafe Conversations within Instagram Direct Messages of Youth." Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 7, no. CSCW1 (2023): 1-30.

2022 **Ali, Shiza**, Afsaneh Razi, Seunghyun Kim, Ashwaq Alsoubai, Joshua Gracie, Munmun De Choudhury, Pamela J. Wisniewski, and Gianluca Stringhini. "Understanding the digital lives of youth: Analyzing media shared within safe versus unsafe private conversations on Instagram." In Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, pp. 1-14. 2022.

2022 Razi, Afsaneh, Ashwaq AlSoubai, Seunghyun Kim, Nurun Naher, **Shiza Ali**, Gianluca Stringhini, Munmun De Choudhury, and Pamela J. Wisniewski. "Instagram Data Donation: A Case Study on Collecting Ecologically Valid Social Media Data for the Purpose of Adolescent Online Risk Detection." In CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts, pp. 1-9. 2022.

2022 Saeed, Mohammad Hammas, **Shiza Ali**, Jeremy Blackburn, Emiliano De Cristofaro, Savvas Zannettou, and Gianluca Stringhini. "Trollmagnifier: Detecting state-sponsored troll accounts on Reddit." In 2022 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP), pp. 2161-2175. IEEE, 2022.

2021 Caddle, Xavier V., Afsaneh Razi, Seunghyun Kim, **Shiza Ali**, Temi Popo, Gianluca Stringhini, Munmun De Choudhury, and Pamela J. Wisniewski. "MOSafely: Building an Open-Source HCAI Community to Make the Internet a Safer Place for Youth." In Companion Publication of the 2021 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, pp. 315-318. 2021.

2021 **Ali, Shiza**, Mohammad Hammas Saeed, Esraa Aldreabi, Jeremy Blackburn, Emiliano De Cristofaro, Savvas Zannettou, and Gianluca Stringhini. "Understanding the effect of deplatforming on social networks." In Proceedings of the 13th ACM Web Science Conference 2021, pp. 187-195. 2021.

2021 **Ali, Shiza**, Mohammad Hammas Saeed, Esraa Aldreabi, Jeremy Blackburn, Emiliano De Cristofaro, Savvas Zannettou, and Gianluca Stringhini. "Understanding the effect of deplatforming on social networks." In Proceedings of the 13th ACM Web Science Conference 2021, pp. 187-195. 2021.

2021 Caddle, Xavier, Ashwaq Alsoubai, Afsaneh Razi, Seunghyun Kim, **Shiza Ali**, Gianluca Stringhini, Munmun De Choudhury, and Pamela Wisniewski. "Instagram data donation: A case for partnering with social media platforms to protect adolescents online." In ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2021)/Social Media as a Design and Research Site in HCI: Mapping Out Opportunities and Envisioning Future Uses Workshop. 2021.

2021 Razi, Afsaneh, Seunghyun Kim, Ashwaq Alsoubai, Xavier Caddle, **Shiza Ali**, Gianluca Stringhini, Munmun De Choudhury, and Pamela Wisniewski. "Teens at the Margin: Artificially Intelligent Technology for Promoting Adolescent Online Safety." In ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2021)/Artificially Intelligent Technology for the Margins: A Multidisciplinary Design Agenda Workshop. 2021.

2019 Tahir, Rashid, Faizan Ahmed, Hammas Saeed, **Shiza Ali**, Fareed Zaffar, and Christo Wilson. "Bringing the kid back into youtube kids: Detecting inappropriate content on video streaming platforms." In Proceedings of the 2019 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining, pp. 464-469. 2019.

Non-Reviewed Articles

2021 Conroy, Tess, **Shiza Ali**, Gianluca Stringhini, Joshua Gracie, Pamela Wisniewski, and Mubarak Shah. "Object and Text Recognition in Images Shared in Private Instagram Conversations to Detect Risky Content."

Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Spring 2021 EC 330 Applied Algorithms for Engineers, *48 students*

Fall 2020 EC 330 Applied Algorithms for Engineers, *67 students*

Conference Reviewer

2023 CSCW 2024 July 2023, Reviewed 3 research papers

2022 CSCW 2023 July 2022, Reviewed 2 research papers

References

Gianluca Stringhini, PhD
Associate Professor
Boston University
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Christo Wilson, PhD
Associate Professor
Northeastern University
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