

WAJEEHA AHMAD

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EDUCATION

Stanford University PhD candidate in <i>Management Science and Engineering</i>	2020 - Present
University of Toronto Visiting Scholar in the <i>Strategic Management</i> group at the Rotman School of Management	2022 - 2023
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Master of Science, <i>Technology and Policy Program</i> , Institute for Data, Systems and Society Thesis: “The Anonymity-Accountability Trade-off in Communication Networks.” ☞	2017 - 2019
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Bachelor of Science in <i>Mathematics with Computer Science</i> Minors in <i>Economics</i> and <i>Applied International Studies</i> Activities: Chair of the Undergraduate Association Judicial Review Board, PaksMIT Co-President (Pakistanis@MIT)	2013 - 2017

PUBLICATIONS

(* denotes first-author)

1. * “Companies inadvertently fund online misinformation despite consumer backlash.” In *Nature*, 123–131 (2024) (with Ananya Sen, Chuck Eesley and Erik Brynjolfsson).
2. * “A Systems Approach Toward Addressing Anonymous Abuses: Technical and Policy Considerations.” In *IEEE Security & Privacy*, Volume: 19, Issue: 2, March-April 2021, p. 38-47 (with David D. Clark). **Best paper award**.
3. * “Addressing Anonymous Abuses: Measuring the Effects of Technical Mechanisms on Reported User Behaviors.” In *Proceedings of the ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, p. 1-14, April 25-30, 2020, Honolulu, HI, USA (with Ilaria Liccardi).
4. “Preventing Surveillance Cities: Developing a Set of Fundamental Privacy Provisions.” *Journal of Science Policy and Governance* (JSPG), Vol. 15, Issue 1, October 2019 (with Elizabeth Dethy).
5. “Senseable City Guide to Quito”. MIT School of Architecture and Planning. 2017. ISBN: 978-0-9984189-0-2 (with Anthony Vanky, Akshay Gayal, Phillip Hu, Chang Liu, and Wayne Liu).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Measuring the trade-off between discourse quality and platform engagement: Evidence from field experiments.
2. Does the AI-powered advertising business model amplify misinformation?
3. Evaluating the impact of AI coaching on workplace outcomes (with Eric Horvitz).

SELECT REPORTS

1. “Examining consumer responses to advertising on misinformation websites.”* Economics of Digital Services Initiative, University of Pennsylvania (with Ananya Sen, Chuck Eesley and Erik Brynjolfsson). ☞
2. “Why Botnets Persist: Designing Effective Technical & Policy Interventions.”* MIT IPRI (2019). ☞
3. Ahmad, W., Fruchter, N., Gallet, M., He, P., Pfister, J., Phee, B. and Zhang, Y., 2018. “Driving Security and Accountability in a Smart Singapore.” Science, Technology and Policy Workshop on The Future of Work. ☞
4. “Dealing with Fake News: Policy and Technical Measures.”* MIT Internet Policy Research Initiative Report. Submitted to Members of the UK Parliamentary Inquiry on Disinformation (2018). ☞
5. “Enabling Digital Development: 6 digital technologies to watch.” World Development Report 2016, World Bank (with Hallie Applebaum, Naomi Halewood, Arturo Muentek-Kunigami, Marcela Sabino, Randeep Sudan, and Darshan Yadunath). ☞

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence Seed Grant , <i>Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI</i> Research funding for field experiments examining the incentives for monetizing misinformation (\$75,000)	2022
Emerging Technology Policy Writing Competition , <i>Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI</i> Awarded second place prize for policy brief titled “Robots as Equalizers” (\$1500)	2022
Ethics, Society and Technology Grant Award , <i>Stanford McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society</i> Funding for experimental research on the ethical and societal implications of technology (\$8,644)	2022
Summer Collaborative Research Fellowship , <i>Stanford Impact Labs</i> Graduate funding for impact-focused research with community and policy partners (\$4,000)	2022
Economics of Digital Services Research Grant , <i>University of Pennsylvania</i> Funding for collaborative research (\$10,000)	2021
Graduate Public Service Fellowship , <i>Stanford Haas Center for Public Service</i> Selected for graduate fellowship focused on community-based research (declined due to time conflicts)	2021
Heitz Fellowship , <i>Stanford Management Science and Engineering</i> Nominated and selected for departmental fellowship funding 1.5 quarters in the 2021-22 academic year	2021
IEEE Security & Privacy 2021 Best Paper Award , <i>IEEE Computer Society Publications Board</i> Best Paper award for “A Systems Approach Toward Addressing Anonymous Abuses” with David D. Clark	2021
Information Controls Fellowship , <i>Open Technology Fund</i> Funding (\$50,400) for research on the global surveillance trade (declined due to work authorization constraints)	2019
Best Privacy Bill , <i>Georgetown Law Center on Privacy and Technology</i> Best proposed smart city legislation judged by computer scientists, legal and policy experts	2018
Davis Projects for Peace Fellowship , <i>Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program</i> Annual \$10,000 fellowship for one MIT student jointly selected by UWC and the MIT Public Service Center	2017
Burchard Scholar , <i>MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences</i> Scholarship for ~ 35 undergraduates demonstrating excellence in the humanities, arts and social sciences	2016
MIT Washington D.C. Program , <i>MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences</i> Summer fellowship awarded to ~ 15 undergraduates via an Institute-wide application	2015
Regional Distinction , <i>University of Cambridge International General Certificate of Education</i> Awarded “Best Across Four Advanced Subsidiary Levels” for top scores	2012
National Mathematics Olympiad Qualifier , Higher Education Commission of Pakistan Ranked in Top 20 across Pakistan in mathematics examination	2011

TEACHING & SERVICE

Stanford University		
<i>MS&E Undergraduate Diversity in Research program</i> ☞	Graduate Mentor	2022-24
<i>MS&E 272: Entrepreneurship without Borders</i> ☞	Teaching Assistant (Spring 2023)	2023
<i>MS&E Undergraduate Diversity in Research program</i> ☞	Research mentor for four students	2021-22
<i>Digital Economy Lab Seminar Series</i> ☞	Co-organize seminars and research meetings	2021-22
<i>ENGR 145: Technology Entrepreneurship</i> ☞	Teaching Assistant (Spring 2021, Fall 2021)	2021
Massachusetts Institute of Technology		
<i>NeurIPS Joint Workshop on AI for Social Good</i> ☞	Reviewer for the Public Policy track	2019
<i>MIT Global Teaching Labs: Entrepreneurship</i> ☞	Led trainings for students in Amman, Jordan	2016
<i>MIT D-lab Botswana Product Design Workshops</i> ☞	Organized sessions to co-create tech tools	2015

RESEARCH TALKS AND CONFERENCES

Reinventing Digital Infrastructure for Civic Empowerment workshop (2024), Stanford, CA
Strategy and the Business Environment Conference (2024), Arlington, VA
Rising Stars Workshop for Management Science and Engineering (2024), Stanford, CA
National Academies' Virtual Workshop on Countering Disinformation in Social Media (2024)
MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (2023), Cambridge, MA
Conference on Information Systems and Technology (2023), Phoenix, AZ
Trust and Safety Research Conference (2023), Stanford, CA
Conference on Field Experiments in Strategy (2023), Cambridge, MA
SSRC Workshop on the Economics of Social Media (2023), New York City, NY
NBER Summer Institute on Digital Economics and Artificial Intelligence (2023), Cambridge, MA
Platform Strategy Research Symposium (2023), Boston, MA
ISMS Marketing Science Conference (2023), Miami, FL
Rotman Strategy Seminar (2023), Toronto, Canada
Workshop on Information Systems and Economics (2022), Copenhagen, Denmark
MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (2022), Cambridge, MA
Second Economics of Digital Services Symposium (2022), Philadelphia, PA
Inaugural Tufts Symposium in Cybersecurity Policy (2019), Medford, MA
Science, Technology and Policy Workshop on The Future of Work (2018), Singapore

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Stanford Digital Economy Lab, Institute for Human-Centered AI <i>Graduate Research Affiliate</i>	Sep 2020 - Present
Stanford Technology Ventures Program, Management Science and Engineering <i>Graduate Research Affiliate</i>	Sep 2020 - Present
Advanced Network Architecture, MIT Computer Science and AI Lab <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i>	Sep 2017- Sep 2019
Internet Policy Research Initiative, MIT Computer Science and AI Lab <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i>	Sep 2017- Sep 2019
Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court <i>Visiting Researcher</i>	Jun 2017 - Aug 2017
Center for Innovation, Leiden University <i>Visiting Researcher</i>	Jun 2017 - Aug 2017
Transport & ICT Global Practice Unit, The World Bank <i>Short-term Technical Research Consultant</i>	May 2015 - May 2016
MIT Senseable City Lab, Department of Urban Studies and Planning <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant</i>	Jun 2014 - May 2015
Lifelong Kindergarten Research Group, MIT Media Lab <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant</i>	Feb 2014 - Aug 2014

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Microsoft, Research Intern , Boston, MA	Jun - Aug 2023
Keystone Strategy, Associate , Boston, MA	Oct 2019 - Aug 2020
Thomson Reuters, Product Management Intern , Toronto, Canada	May 2018 - Jul 2018
Google X, The Moonshot Factory, Product & Strategy Intern , Mountain View, California	Jun 2016 - Aug 2016

SELECTED COURSEWORK

Computer Science	Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning (Stanford), Computer Systems Engineering (MIT), Design and Analysis of Algorithms (MIT)
Statistics	Data Mining and Analysis (Stanford), Machine Learning and Causal Inference (Stanford), Principles of Discrete Applied Math (MIT)
Economics	Intermediate Econometrics I, Intermediate Econometrics II (Stanford), Microeconomics I, II, and III (Stanford)
Strategy (<i>economic, organization theory and cognitive approaches</i>)	Economics of Digitization (Stanford), Industrial Organization I (Stanford) Strategy Doctoral Research Seminar (Stanford), Innovation and Strategic Change (Stanford), Entrepreneurship Research Seminar (Stanford)
Public Policy and Law	Law for Algorithms (Harvard), Foundations of Information Policy (MIT), Ethics and Governance of Artificial Intelligence (MIT/Harvard), Privacy Legislation: Law and Technology (MIT/Georgetown)
Political Science	Comparative Politics (MIT), Political Economy (MIT), Quantitative Research Methods (MIT)
Design	Digital City Design Workshop (MIT), D-Lab: Development (MIT)

SKILLS

Programming Languages	Python, R
Languages	English (fluent), Urdu (native).