

Olivia Figueira

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Usable Privacy, System Auditing and Compliance, Privacy Legislation and Regulation, Children's and Adolescents' Online Privacy, Human-Computer Interaction (HCI).

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Student in Computer Science** 2021 – Present
University of California, Irvine
Advisors: Athina Markopoulou and Scott Jordan
- M.S. in Computer Science** 2023
University of California, Irvine
- B.S. in Computer Science and Engineering** 2021
Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA
Magna Cum Laude and University Honors
Minor in Mathematics
Thesis: "Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data", advised by Yuhong Liu

PUBLICATIONS

Journal & Conference Papers

DiffAudit: Auditing Privacy Practices of Online Services for Children and Adolescents
Olivia Figueira, Rahmadi Trimananda, Athina Markopoulou, Scott Jordan
Under Submission

VBIT: Towards a Usable MR and Web-Based System for IoT Privacy Control
Jad Al Aaraj, Olivia Figueira, Tu Le, Rahmadi Trimananda, Athina Markopoulou
Under Submission

DeepPhish: Understanding User Trust Towards Artificially Generated Profiles in Online Social Networks
Jaron Mink, Licheng Luo, Natã M. Barbosa, Olivia Figueira, Yang Wang, Gang Wang
USENIX Security Symposium, 2022

Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data
Olivia Figueira, Yuka Hatori, Liying Liang, Christine Chye, Yuhong Liu
IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC), 2021

Distress Among Undergraduates: Marginality, Stressors and Resilience Resources

Paula Nurius, Yasaman Sefidgar, Kevin Kuehn, Jake Jung, Han Zhang, Olivia Figueira, Eve Riskin, Anind Dey, Jennifer Mankoff
Journal of American College Health, 2021

Technical Reports

Privacy of Virtual Reality: Our Future in the Metaverse and Beyond

Authors: Girard Kelly, Jeff Graham, Jill Bronfman, Steve Garton
Contributors: Olivia Figueira, Aya Nouiouat
Common Sense Media, Privacy Program, 2022

Op-Eds

Meet Me in the Metaverse: Location Privacy in Virtual Reality

Olivia Figueira
Common Sense Education, Privacy Articles, 2022

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher

2021 – Present

UCI Networking Group, NSF SaTC Frontier ProperData, University of California, Irvine

- Research interests include children's and adolescents' online privacy and safety, privacy regulation, network traffic and privacy policy auditing for systems, and privacy in emerging platforms.
- Investigating privacy behaviors of online services directed towards children and adolescents, age assurance/verification mechanisms, parental consent mechanisms, and parental controls.
- Designing usable and human-centered privacy-protecting tools across services and devices.
- **Advisors:** Athina Markopoulou and Scott Jordan

Privacy Engineering Intern

Summer 2022

Common Sense Media, San Francisco, CA

- Advanced internal privacy policy evaluation machine learning system by developing improved policy text processing and trained to become a privacy policy evaluator.
- Consulted on and contributed to research report about privacy of virtual reality.
- **Host:** Jill Bronfman, Privacy Program

Undergraduate Researcher

2020 – 2021

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Santa Clara University

- Analyzed COVID-19 public sentiment on social media to better understand the public's reaction to public health policies enacted in several states in the United States.
- **Publication:** "Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data", *IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference*, 2021.
- **Advisor:** Yuhong Liu

Undergraduate Researcher, DREU Program

Summer 2020

Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Designed a user study to determine how well users can identify fabricated social media profiles, such as for social engineering, containing generated natural language content and deep fake images.
- **Publication:** “DeepPhish: Understanding User Trust Towards Artificially Generated Profiles in Online Social Networks”, *USENIX Security Symposium*, 2022.
- **Advisor:** Gang Wang

Undergraduate Researcher, DREU Program

Summer 2019

Make4All Lab, Paul G. Allen School for Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington

- Examined the impact of cumulative adversity on mental health in college students using actively reported data from surveys and passively reported data from wearable devices.
- **Publication:** “Distress among undergraduates: Marginality, stressors and resilience resources”, *Journal of American College Health*, 2021.
- **Advisor:** Jennifer Mankoff

PRESENTATIONS

Understanding COVID-19 Public Sentiment Towards Public Health Policies Using Social Media Data, Paper Presentation, *IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC)*, 2021

Cumulative Adversity: The Contribution of Correlated Stressors on Mental Health in College Students, Poster Presentation, *Grace Hopper Celebration (GHC) Conference*, 2019

HONORS, AWARDS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS) Conference Scholarship 2024
- Mentoring Excellence Certificate, Graduate Division, University of California, Irvine 2024
- GREPSEC VI Workshop Scholarship 2023
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Honorable Mention 2023
- CRA-WP Grad Cohort Workshop for Women 2023
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon Scholar of the Year Award 2021
- Society of Women Engineers Intel Graduate Scholarship 2021
- Student Life Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- James W. Reites, S.J. Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- Outstanding Computer Science and Engineering Senior Award, Santa Clara University 2021
- Engineering Ethics Prize Honorable Mention, Santa Clara University 2021
- IEEE Women in Engineering Frances B. Hugle Scholarship 2020
- Dean’s List, Santa Clara University 2019 – 2021
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon ACM Student Chapter Scholarship Award 2019
- CRA-WP Grace Hopper Celebration Conference Research Scholarship 2019
- Grace Hopper Celebration Conference Student Scholarship 2019
- University Honors Program, Santa Clara University 2018 – 2021
- Dean’s Scholar, Santa Clara University 2017 – 2021

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Women in CyberSecurity (WiCyS) Student Chapter – University of California, Irvine

Positions: President (2023 – Present), Vice President (2021 – 2023)

Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society Student Chapter – Santa Clara University

Position: President (2020 – 2021)

School of Engineering Peer Advising Program – Santa Clara University

Positions: Lead Peer Advisor (2019 – 2021), Peer Advisor (2018 – 2019)

Association for Computing Machinery Women’s Student Chapter (ACM-W) – Santa Clara University

Positions: Co-President (2018 – 2020), First-Year Representative (2017 – 2018)

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

Alumni Mentor, Mentor Collective, Santa Clara University (2021 – Present)

Alumni mentor for first-year students in the School of Engineering.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of California, Irvine

Systems Engineering & Technical Communications (Winter 2022, Winter 2023)

Master of Computer Science Program Capstone Writing & Professional Communication (Spring 2022)

RELATED COURSEWORK

Graduate: Data Privacy, Research in HCI, Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods, Machine Learning, Scientific Computing, Reinforcement Learning, Probabilistic Learning, Statistical Natural Language Processing, Computer Networks, Embedded Systems and Ubiquitous Computing

Undergraduate: Machine Learning, Operating Systems, Computer Security, Computer Networks, Compilers, Programming Languages, Theory of Algorithms, Web Programming, Software Engineering

SKILLS

Research Skills: Cross-Platform Network Traffic Analysis, System Privacy Auditing, Qualitative and Quantitative Research, HCI Research Methods, Privacy Policy Analysis & Evaluation

Languages: Python, C/C++, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, React/React Native

HONOR SOCIETIES

- Upsilon Pi Epsilon Computing Honor Society 2021 – Present
- Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honor Society 2020 – Present
- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society 2019 – Present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) *2021 – Present*
- Order of the Engineer *2021 – Present*
- Society of Women Engineers (SWE) *2021 – Present*
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) *2018 – Present*
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) *2017 – Present*