

SAI TEJA PEDDINTI

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science, New York University 2009-2014
Polytechnic (now Tandon) School of Engineering, Brooklyn, New York (CGPA: 3.94/4.0)

Bachelor of Technology in Information Communication Technology, DA-IICT 2005 - 2009
Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of ICT (DA-IICT), India (CGPA: 9.72/10.0, **GOLD MEDAL**)

EXPERIENCE

Staff Research Scientist Nov 2022 - Current
Google Inc. Mountain View, CA

Senior Research Scientist Nov 2017 - Oct 2022
Google Inc. Mountain View, CA

Research Scientist Nov 2014 - Oct 2017
Google Inc. Mountain View, CA

Research Intern Summer 2013
Google Inc. Mountain View, CA

Research Intern Summer 2012
Alcatel Lucent Bell Labs Holmdel, NJ

Research Intern June 2007 – July 2007
Microsoft Research India Bangalore, India

PROJECTS

A couple of my research projects are listed below:

Hark. Developed a system for discovering and summarizing privacy-related feedback at scale. Hark automates the entire process of summarizing privacy feedback, starting from unstructured text and resulting in a hierarchy of high-level privacy themes and fine-grained issues within each theme, along with representative reviews for each issue. At the core of Hark is a set of new deep learning models trained on different tasks, such as privacy feedback classification, privacy issues generation, and high-level theme creation.

Android Permissions - Users. Conducted a global study on the behaviors, expectations and engagement of users towards Android application permissions. Collected data using in-situ surveys and behavioral monitoring using Android APIs, and studied how often users grant or deny permissions to applications, identified some of the underlying factors that drive those decisions, and measured participants' expectation of permission requests at several points in time and gathered the attitudes of users towards privacy.

Android Permissions - Developers. Developed multiple alerts/signals within Play Developer console to share privacy insights with app developers and nudge them towards requesting fewer permissions.

PATENTS

- “Providing a fast, remote security service using hashlists of approved web objects”, US Patent Grant 9246929 B2.

PUBLICATIONS & THESES

- Hamza Harkous, **Sai Teja Peddinti**, Rishabh Khandelwal, Animesh Srivastava, Nina Taft. “Hark: A Deep Learning System for Navigating Privacy Feedback at Scale”, In Proceedings of the 43rd IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (IEEE S&P), 2022.

- Vijayanta Jain, Sanonda Datta Gupta, Sepideh Ghanavati, **Sai Teja Peddinti**, Collin McMillan. “PAcT: Detecting and Classifying Privacy Behavior of Android Applications”, In Proceedings of the 15th ACM Conference on Security and Privacy in Wireless and Mobile Networks (ACM WiSec), 2022.
- Weicheng Cao, Chunqiu Xia, **Sai Teja Peddinti**, David Lie, Nina Taft and Lisa M. Austin. “A Large Scale Study of User Behavior, Expectations and Engagement with Android Permissions”, In Proceedings of the 30th USENIX Security Symposium, 2021.
- Additional publications and citations can be obtained from my [Google Scholar](#) page.

My research theses:

- Ph.D. Thesis: “Evaluating Privacy, Anonymity, and Sensitivity by Analyzing Crowds”
- Undergraduate Thesis: “Autonomic Framework for Security Protocol Generation”

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Technical Program Committee member for:

- [ACM CCS 2022](#): ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security
- PETS 2021, 2022, 2023: Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium
- [PAL: Privacy-Enhancing Artificial Intelligence and Language Technologies 2019](#), AAAI Spring Symposium
- [Workshop on Understanding and Enhancing Online Privacy \(UEOP\) 2016](#), satellite workshop of NDSS’16.
- [ACM Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Security \(AISec\) 2015](#).

Reviewer for journals:

- ACM Transactions on Internet Technology (TOIT)
- COMNET Journal
- Elsevier Computers & Security Journal
- IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security (TIFS)
- Information Retrieval Journal
- Journal of Computer and System Sciences.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Finalist in the Kaspersky’s ‘CyberSecurity for the Next Generation’ conference in the North American Round 2013.
- Deborah Rosenthal, MD Award for outstanding performance in PhD qualifying exam
- President’s Gold Medal for Academic Excellence while pursuing BTech, DA-IICT class of 2009.