NITESH SAXENA

Nitesh Saxena (http://saxena.cis.uab.edu/) is an Associate Professor of Computer and Information Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), and the founding director of the Security and Privacy in Emerging Systems (SPIES) group/lab. He works in the broad areas of computer and network security, and applied cryptography, with a keen interest in wireless security and the emerging field of usable security.

RESEARCH

Saxena's SPIES group (http://spies.uab.edu) conducts research on a multitude of topics related to the security and privacy of "emerging" systems or paradigms. Currently, these emerging systems range from mobile and wireless networks (such as those involving smartphones, sensors and RFID devices) to the Internet class of systems (such as peer-to-peer systems and online social networks). The group is currently running many projects centered on the following topics:

- *Usable Security and Privacy* (secure association of wireless devices, CAPTCHAs, user authentication and extrinsically motivated or playful security)
- *Security and Privacy of Small Devices* (such as smartphones, RFID tags and medical implants)
- *Fault-Tolerant Distributed Security and Cryptographic Services* (such as multi-factor authentication, and secure storage in the cloud)
- *Privacy and Anonymity on the Internet* (such as web search privacy and location privacy)

Saxena's research has been externally supported by multiple grants from *NSF*, and by contributions and awards from industry, including *Google (2 Google Faculty Research awards), Cisco, Comcast, Intel, Nokia and Research in Motion*. Saxena has published over *80 journal, conference and workshop papers*, many at top-tier venues in computer science, including: IEEE Transactions, ACM CCS, ACM WiSec, ACM CHI, ACM Ubicomp, IEEE Percom, and IEEE S&P. His work has won the *Distinguished Paper Award at NDSS 2014*, and has received *extensive media coverage*, for example, at NBC, MSN, Fox, Discovery, ABC, Bloomberg, ZDNet, ACM TechNews, Yahoo! Finance, Communications of ACM, Yahoo News, CNBC, Slashdot, Computer World, Science Daily and Motherboard.

TEACHING & SERVICE

Saxena has significant experience developing and leading cyber-security programs. He is currently serving as a co-director for UAB's MS program in Computer Forensics and Security Management. He was previously also the principal architect and a co-director of the M.S. Program in Cyber-Security at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University (NYU-Poly). He has instructed many core courses in computer science, including Computer Security, Network Security, Modern Cryptography and Discrete Structures. Saxena has also advised numerous graduate (Ph.D. and M.S.) and undergraduate students as well as a few high school students. His graduated students are currently placed at major software and research organizations, and top academic institutions in the US. Saxena is serving as an Associate Editor for flagship security journals, IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS), and Springer's International Journal of Information Security (IJIS). He has also served as a technical program committee member for over 40 conferences/workshops focusing on security, and has been a reviewer of over 350 papers and many grant proposals.