

# Dr. Yacin I. Nadji

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Georgia Institute of Technology  
Klaus Advanced Computing Building  
Room 3115  
266 Ferst Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30332

my first name AT gatech DOT edu  
<http://yacin.nadji.us>  
Citizenship: U.S. Citizen  
Research Scientist II

## Education

### Georgia Institute of Technology (GT)

- Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science, 2015.
- Advisors: Dr. Manos Antonakakis and Dr. Wenke Lee

### Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, with Honors, 2009.
- Advisor: Dr. Ophir Frieder

## Publications

16. Rosa Romero-Gómez, **Yacin Nadji**, and Manos Antonakakis. Towards Designing Effective Visualizations for DNS-based Network Threat Analysis. In *Proceedings of the 14th International Symposium on Visualization for Cyber Security (VizSec)*, 2012
15. Yizheng Chen, **Yacin Nadji**, Athanasios Kountouras, Fabian Monrose, Roberto Perdisci, Manos Antonakakis, and Nikolaos Vasiloglou. Practical Attacks Against Graph-based Clustering. In *Proceedings of the 24th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS)*, 2017
14. Yizheng Chen, **Yacin Nadji**, Rosa Romero-Gómez, Manos Antonakakis, and David Dagon. Measuring Network Reputation in the Ad-Bidding Process. In *Detection of Intrusions and Malware & Vulnerability Assessment (DIMVA)*, 2017
13. Athanasios Kountouras, Panagiotis Kintis, Chaz Lever, Yizheng Chen, **Yacin Nadji**, David Dagon, Manos Antonakakis, and Rodney Joffe. Enabling Network Security Through Active DNS Datasets. *Research in Attacks, Intrusions, and Defenses (RAID)*, 2016
12. Panagiotis Kintis, **Yacin Nadji**, David Dagon, Michael Farrell, and Manos Antonakakis. Understanding the Privacy Implications of ECS. In *Detection of Intrusions and Malware & Vulnerability Assessment (DIMVA)*, 2016
11. Yizheng Chen, Panagiotis Kintis, Manos Antonakakis, **Yacin Nadji**, David Dagon, Wenke Lee, and Michael Farrell. Financial Lower Bounds of Online Advertising Abuse. In *Detection of Intrusions and Malware & Vulnerability Assessment (DIMVA)*, 2016
10. Charles Lever, Robert Walls, **Yacin Nadji**, David Dagon, Patrick McDaniel, and Manos Antonakakis. Domain-Z: 28 Registrations Later—Measuring the Exploitation of Residual Trust in Domains. In *IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (Oakland)*, 2016
9. Yizheng Chen, Manos Antonakakis, Roberto Perdisci, **Yacin Nadji**, David Dagon, and Wenke Lee. DNS Noise: Measuring the Pervasiveness of Disposable Domains in Modern DNS Traffic. In *International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks*, 2014
8. Jessica Annette Pater, **Yacin Nadji**, Elizabeth D Mynatt, and Amy S Bruckman. Just awful enough: the functional dysfunction of the something awful forums. In *Proceedings of the 32nd annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems*, pages 2407–2410. ACM, 2014
7. **Yacin Nadji**, Manos Antonakakis, Roberto Perdisci, David Dagon, and Wenke Lee. Beheading Hydras: Performing Effective Botnet Takedowns. In *Proceedings of the 20th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCS)*, 2013

6. **Yacin Nadji**, Manos Antonakakis, Roberto Perdisci, and Wenke Lee. Connected Colors: Unveiling the Structure of Criminal Networks. *Research in Attacks, Intrusions, and Defenses (RAID)*, 2013
5. Wei Zhuo and **Yacin Nadji**. MalwareVis: Entity-based Visualization of Malware Network Traces. In *Proceedings of the Ninth International Symposium on Visualization for Cyber Security (VizSec)*, 2012
4. Manos Antonakakis, Roberto Perdisci, **Yacin Nadji**, Nikolaos Vasiloglou, Saeed Abu-Nimeh, Wenke Lee, and David Dagon. From Throw-Away Traffic to Bots: Detecting the Rise of DGA-Based Malware. In *Proceedings of 21st USENIX Security Symposium*, 2012
3. **Yacin Nadji**, Manos Antonakakis, Roberto Perdisci, and Wenke Lee. Understanding the Prevalence and Use of Alternative Plans in Malware with Network Games. In *Proceedings of the 27th Annual Computer Security Applications Conference (ACSAC)*, 2011
2. **Yacin Nadji**, Jonathon Giffin, and Patrick Traynor. Automated Remote Repair for Mobile Malware. In *Proceedings of the 27th Annual Computer Security Applications Conference (ACSAC)*, 2011
1. **Yacin Nadji**, Prateek Saxena, and Dawn Song. Document Structure Integrity: A Robust Basis for Cross-site Scripting Defense. In *Proceedings of the Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS)*, 2009

## Technical Skills

**Programming Languages:** Python, Clojure, R, Scala, Java

**Software and Techniques:** Machine Learning, Hadoop (Spark, MapReduce), Network Security, Network Analysis, \*nix, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

**Code:** <https://github.com/ynadji>

**Languages:** English (Native), Français (Intermediate), 中文 (Beginner)

## Talks

5. “IoT: Cybersecurity and Privacy Issues in a Hyper-Connected World.” *King & Spalding Cybersecurity & Privacy Summit*. 04/2017 Atlanta, GA, USA
4. “Passive DNS-based Device Identification.” *NANOG 67*. 06/2016 Chicago, IL, USA
3. “Does Malware Dream of Electric Domains? Detecting “Sleepy” Targeted Attack Infrastructure.” *Army Cyber Institute, M3AAWG 32nd General Meeting, Meetup*. 2016
2. “Beheading Hydras: Performing Effective Botnet Takedowns.” *M3AAWG 29th General Meeting*. 10/2013 Montreal, Canada
1. “Connected Colors: Unveiling the Structure of Criminal Networks.” *M3AAWG 26th General Meeting*. 10/2012 Baltimore, MD, USA

## Teaching Experience

Instructor, ECE 8813/CS 8803: Advanced Computer Security, Georgia Tech, Fall 2016.

Guest Lectures, ECE 3600: Computer Networks, Georgia Tech, Spring 2014. “Reliable Data Transfer & TCP.”

Guest Lecture, CS 4235: Introduction to Information Security, Georgia Tech, Fall 2012. “The Underground Economy.”

Guest Lecture, CS 6035: Introduction to Information Security, Georgia Tech, Fall 2011. “Understanding the Prevalence and Use of Alternative Plans in Malware with Network Games.”

Guest Lecture, CS 4235: Introduction to Information Security, Georgia Tech, Spring 2011. “Stalking the Wily Hacker.”

Teaching Assistant, CS 100: Intro to the Profession (follows Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs), IIT, Fall 2008. Responsible for running lab and recitation sections, grading labs, and assisting students during office hours.

## Service

### Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security  
IEEE Transactions on Dependable and Secure Computing  
Engineering Security Software and Systems (ESSoS) 2015  
USENIX Symposium on Networked Systems Design and Implementation (NSDI) 2013  
USENIX Security Symposium 2011  
Network & Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS) 2010

## Honors and Awards

President's Fellowship, GT, 2009-2014.  
AOF Fellowship (declined), Wisconsin, 2009.  
Undergraduate Summer Research Award, IIT, 2008.  
Computer Science Department Teaching Assistant of the Year, IIT, 2007.

## References

Dr. Manos Antonakakis  
Professor/Advisor  
Georgia Institute of Technology

Dr. Wenke Lee  
Professor/Advisor  
Georgia Institute of Technology

Dr. Gunter Ollmann  
CTO, Security (Cloud and Enterprise)  
Microsoft, Inc.

Brian Foster  
Senior Vice President  
Information Services  
Neustar, Inc.