

# NIKOLAY IVANOV, PH.D., CCT

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Rowan University, 328J Robinson Hall, 201 Mullica Hill Road, Glasboro, NJ 08028

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## EDUCATION

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- Michigan State University** 2019 - May 2023  
PhD in Computer Science *Advisor:* Dr. Qiben Yan GPA: 4.00/4.00  
*Research areas:* network security, distributed systems, applied cryptography, smart contract security  
**Outstanding Graduate Student Award**  
**Phi Kappa Phi** (*eligibility: top 10% of graduate students*)  
**MSU Certificate in College Teaching (CCT)**
- University of Nebraska—Lincoln** 2018 - 2019  
Graduate student, Computer Engineering GPA: 4.00/4.00  
**Othmer Fellowship (exceptional scholar)**  
*Transferred to Michigan State University with my advisor*
- Southwest Minnesota State University** 2014 - 2018  
BSc in Computer Science **Summa Cum Laude**

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### RESEARCH UNIVERSITY FACULTY:

**Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Computer Science**  
*Research Laboratory for Advanced Cyber Systems and Usable Security (ACSUS Lab)* — founder, director  
*Rowan University* Incoming in September 2023

### ACADEMIC RESEARCHER:

**Research Assistant at Secure and Intelligent Things Lab (SEIT Lab)** 2019—2023  
*Michigan State University*

- Conducted research in the fields of blockchain security, smart contracts, and applied cryptography.

**Research Assistant at Cyber Security and Threat Intelligence Lab** 2018—2019  
*University of Nebraska — Lincoln*

- Conducted research in the fields of IoT security, blockchain, smart contract security.

### UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD:

**CS 06205-2: “Computer Organization”** Fall 2023  
*Rowan University*

**CS 06205-3: “Computer Organization”** Fall 2023  
*Rowan University*

**CSE 450-001: “Translation of Programming Languages”** Spring 2023  
*Michigan State University*

**CSE 450-001: “Translation of Programming Languages”** Fall 2022  
*Michigan State University*

## INTERNSHIPS:

**Thomson Reuters, Eagan, MN**

June 2016—December 2016

*Software Engineer, Co-op Intern through Maverick Software Consulting*

- Implemented several endpoints for the DataRoom REST API serving  $\approx$  3 million end customers.
- Implemented a Pub/Sub logging framework using Apache Kafka.
- Served as project lead at Thomson Reuters Innovation Week (automated workplace setup software).

**Anoka Technical College, Anoka, MN**

June 2017—August 2017

*Android and iOS App Developer*

- Created native Android and iOS college apps.

**Marshall Frame Shop, Marshall, MN**

May 2017—June 2017

*PHP/MySQL Web Developer*

- Created web interface for MySQL database.

## UNIVERSITY TUTOR:

**Mathematics Tutor, Marshall, MN**

*Math Learning Center, Southwest Minnesota State University*

2017—2018

**Computer Science Tutor, Marshall, MN**

*Schwan's Computer Science Lab, Southwest Minnesota State University*

2015—2018

**Technical and Creative Writing Tutor, Marshall, MN**

*Writing Center, Southwest Minnesota State University*

2015—2018

## PUBLICATIONS

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### JOURNAL PAPERS:

1. **N. Ivanov**, Q. Yan. *AutoThing: A Secure Transaction Framework for Self-Service Things*. IEEE Transactions on Services Computing (**IEEE TSC**) DOI: 10.1109/TSC.2022.3185114  
(**impact factor: 11.019**) 2022
2. **N. Ivanov**, A. Kompalli, Q. Yan. *TxT: Real-time Transaction Encapsulation for Ethereum Smart Contracts*. IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (**IEEE TIFS**) DOI: 10.1109/TIFS.2023.3234895  
(**impact factor: 7.231**). 2023
3. **N. Ivanov**, C. Li, Q. Yan, Z. Sun, Z. Cao, X. Luo. *Security Threat Mitigation For Smart Contracts: A Survey*. To appear at ACM Computing Surveys (**ACM CSUR**) DOI: 10.1145/3593293  
(**impact factor: 14.324**) 2022

### CONFERENCE PAPERS:

4. H. Guo, Y. Wang, **N. Ivanov**, L. Xiao, Q. Yan. *SpecPatch: Human-In-The-Loop Adversarial Audio Spectrogram Patch Attack on Speech Recognition*. The ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (**ACM CCS 2022**) DOI: 10.1145/3548606.3560660  
(**Best Paper Honorable Mention**) 2022
5. **N. Ivanov**, Q. Yan, Q. Wang. *Blockumulus: A Scalable Framework for Smart Contracts on the Cloud*. The 41st IEEE International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems (**IEEE ICDCS 2021**)

DOI: 10.1109/ICDCS51616.2021.00064

(acceptance rate: 19.8%).

2021

6. N. Ivanov, J. Lou, T. Chen, J. Li, Q. Yan. *Targeting the Weakest Link: Social Engineering Attacks in Ethereum Smart Contracts*. The 15th ACM Asia Conference on Computer and Communications Security (**ACM ASIACCS 2021**) DOI: 10.1145/3433210.3453085  
(acceptance rate: 18.9%). 2021
7. G. Wang, N. Ivanov, Q. Wang, T. Nguyen, Q. Yan. *Graph Learning for Interaction Analysis in Smart Home Rule Data*. ACM Special Interest Group on Management of Data (**ACM SIGMOD 2023**) DOI: 10.1145/3588956  
(average acceptance rate: 17.4%) 2023
8. H. Guo, Q. Yan, N. Ivanov, Y. Zhu, L. Xiao, E. Hunter. *SUPERVOICE: Text-Independent Speaker Verification Using Ultrasound Energy in Human Speech*. The 16th ACM Asia Conference on Computer and Communications Security (**ACM ASIACCS 2021**) DOI: 10.1145/3488932.3517420  
(acceptance rate: 18.4%). 2022
9. N. Ivanov, Q. Yan. *EthClipper: A Clipboard Meddling Attack on Hardware Wallets with Address Verification Evasion*. IEEE Conference on Communications and Network Security (**IEEE CNS 2021**) DOI: 10.1109/CNS53000.2021.9705033  
(acceptance rate: 28.3%) 2021
10. N. Ivanov, H. Guo, Q. Yan. *Rectifying Administrated ERC20 Tokens*. 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Information and Communications Security (**ICICS 2021**) DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-86890-1\_2  
(acceptance rate: 24.3%) 2021
11. N. Ivanov, Q. Yan. *System-Wide Security for Offline Payment Terminals*. EAI International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Networks (**EAI SecureComm 2021**) DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-90022-9\_6 2021
12. N. Ivanov, J. Lou, Q. Yan. *SmartWiFi: Universal and Secure Smart Contract-Enabled WiFi Hotspot*. EAI International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Networks (**EAI SecureComm 2020**) DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-63086-7\_23 2020

### **JUST ACCEPTED PAPERS:**

13. B. Chen, N. Ivanov, G. Wang and Q. Yan. *DynamicFL: Balancing Communication Dynamics and Client Manipulation for Federated Learning*. 20th Annual IEEE International Conference on Sensing, Communication, and Networking (**IEEE SECON 2023**) 2023
14. J. Watkins, N. Ivanov, K. Hinko and K. Mohan. *Investigating Perceptions of Relevance Towards Computation in an Introductory Physics for Life Science Course*. Physics Education Research Conference 2023 (**PERC 2023**) — Result of SUTL Fellowship 2023

### **POSTERS AND PREPRINTS:**

15. N. Ivanov, Q. Yan. *Et tu, Blockchain? Outsmarting Smart Contracts via Social Engineering*. 14th annual Graduate Academic Conference (GAC) (poster) 2022
16. N. Ivanov, Q. Yan. *Decentralization Paradox: A Study of Hegemonic and Risky ERC-20 Tokens*. 2022 Engineering Graduate Research Symposium (EGRS) (poster) 2022

17. **N. Ivanov.** *Is Rust C++-fast? Benchmarking System Languages on Everyday Routines* (arXiv, preprint) 2020
18. **N. Ivanov, Q. Yan.** *Constraint-Based Inference of Heuristics for Foreign Exchange Trade Model Optimization* (arXiv, preprint) 2019

### **BOOKS:**

19. **N. Ivanov.** *Book: Programming in Linux: Self-instruction Guide. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.* ISBN: 978-5-9775-0744-8, BHV-Peterburg [in Russian] 2012
20. **N. Ivanov.** *Book: Programming in Linux: Self-instruction Guide. 1<sup>st</sup> Edition.* ISBN: 978-5-9775-0071-5, BHV-Peterburg [in Russian] 2007

## **PATENTS**

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### **Scalable Frameworks for Deployment of Decentralized Transactions**

Inventor. *Application # US 63/219273*, filed July 7, 2021

## **MEDIA COVERAGE OF RESEARCH**

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**Mini-documentary:** M. David. *Combining the best of blockchain and cloud computing*  
 Institute for Cyber Enabled Research. February 2022.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6kiNm9N9I8>

**News Article:** *Ph.D. student Nick Ivanov creates Blockumulus*  
 Engineering News (Michigan State University). February 2022.  
<https://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2022/02/21/phd-student-nick-ivanov-creates-blockumulus>

**News Article:** *Combining the best of blockchain and cloud computing*  
 MSU Today. February 2022.  
<https://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2022/combining-best-blockchain-cloud-computing>

**Radio Interview:** C. Boodoo and D. Puentes. *The Sci-Files: Nick Ivanov — Fixing the Internet Inequality with Blockchain*  
 WDBM Impact 88.9FM. July 2021.  
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/3xVuOJN2hRBCD8lkF3RgIU?si=moqbLRHPStSbCuEBYe2sWQ>

**Radio Interview:** C. Boodoo and D. Puentes. *The Sci-Files: Nick Ivanov — Blockchain Beyond Cryptocurrencies*  
 WDBM Impact 88.9FM. May 2020.  
<https://impact89fm.org/101165/podcasts/the-sci-files-07-25-2021-nick-ivanov-fixing-the-internet-inequality-with-blockchain/>

## **AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND FUNDING**

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- Cloud Computing Fellowship**  
*Institute for Cyber-Enabled Research* 2020–2021
- Scholarship of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning (SUTL) Fellowship**  
*The Graduate School of MSU* 2022–2023

<b>Leadership Development Fellowship</b> <i>The Graduate School of MSU</i>	2021–2022
<b>Othmer Exceptional Scholar Fellowship</b> <i>University of Nebraska–Lincoln</i>	2018, 2019
<b>Carl V. Page Memorial Graduate Fellowship</b> <i>Michigan State University</i>	2022–2023
<b>Mildred B. Erickson Fellowship</b> <i>Michigan State University</i>	2022–2023
<b>William E. and Phoebe B. Clark Scholarship</b> <i>Michigan State University</i>	2022–2023
<b>Science Mathematics and Computer Science Scholarship</b> <i>SMSU Foundation</i>	2015, 2016, 2017
<b>International Student Success Scholarship</b> <i>Sara and Bryan Fier</i>	2017
<b>Outstanding Graduate Student Award</b> <i>Computer Science and Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2022
<b>ΦΚΦ Membership</b> (eligibility: top 10% of the university’s graduate students) <i>Michigan State University Chapter</i>	2022–Present
<b>Abacus Award</b> <i>SMSU Foundation</i>	2015, 2016, 2017
<b>Walter Mann Writing Center Award</b> <i>Walter L. Mann Estate</i>	2018
<b>Mark Edelman Leadership Award</b> <i>Mark W. Edelman</i>	2017
<b>Alec Bond Memorial Award</b> (essay contest winner) <i>Friends Colleagues, and family of Alec Bond</i>	2015

## CERTIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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<b>MSU Certification in College Teaching (CCT)</b> <i>Michigan State University Graduate School — portfolio submitted for final evaluation</i> Certificate: <i>to appear at the MSU official academic transcript after final evaluation (cir. Sep 2023)</i>	2022–2023
<b>An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM Teaching</b> <i>Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL Network)</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cirtl-stem.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cirtl-stem.pdf</a>	2022
<b>Inclusive Teaching: Supporting All Students in the College Classroom</b> <i>Columbia University</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/columbia-inclteach.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/columbia-inclteach.pdf</a>	2021–2022
<b>Teaching and Learning in the Diverse Classroom</b> <i>Cornell University</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cornell-tldc.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cornell-tldc.pdf</a>	2022

<b>Leading for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education</b> <i>University of Michigan</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umich-edi.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umich-edi.pdf</a>	2022
<b>Regional I-Corps Course. Project: Decentralized Network Sharing Platform</b> <i>NSF I-Corps Hub Great Lakes Region, hosted by University of Michigan</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/icorps.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/icorps.pdf</a>	2022
<b>Certified CyberAmbassador</b> <i>NSF Award #1730137, hosted by Michigan State University</i> Certificate: <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cyber-ambassador.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/cyber-ambassador.pdf</a>	2020
<b>Programming Mobile Applications for Android Handheld Systems</b> <i>University of Maryland, College Park</i> Certificate (Part 1): <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umd-android-part1.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umd-android-part1.pdf</a> Certificate (Part 2): <a href="https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umd-android-part2.pdf">https://nick-ivanov.com/certificates/umd-android-part2.pdf</a>	2017

## SELECTED CONFERENCE AND JOURNAL ENGAGEMENT

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<b>IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS)</b> <i>Reviewer</i>	2023
<b>The Seventeenth International Conference on Emerging Security Information, Systems and Technologies (SECUREWARE 2023)</b> <i>TPC member</i>	2023
<b>IEEE International Conference on Computer Communications (INFOCOM)</b> <i>Poster TPC member</i>	2022
<b>ACM Transactions on Sensor Networks (TOSN)</b> <i>Reviewer</i>	2021, 2023
<b>EAI International Conference Heterogeneous Networking for Quality, Reliability, Security and Robustness (QSHINE)</b> <i>Reviewer</i>	2021
<b>IEEE Conference on Communications and Network Security (CNS)</b> <i>Presenter</i>	2021
<b>41st IEEE International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems (ICDCS)</b> <i>Presenter</i>	2021
<b>16th ACM ASIA Conference on Computer and Communications Security (AsiaCCS)</b> <i>Presenter</i>	2021
<b>17th EAI International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Networks (SecureComm)</b> <i>Presenter</i>	2021
<b>16th EAI International Conference on Security and Privacy in Communication Networks (SecureComm)</b> <i>Presenter</i>	2020

## LECTURES, INVITED TALKS, AND INTERVIEWS

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<b>“Relevance of Computation in an Intro Physics Course”</b> Presenter, <i>MSU Teaching Cohort Fellows and Fellowship Leaders Showcase</i>	2023
<b>“The Three Problems of the Modern NFT Ecosystem”</b> Invited speaker, <i>MSU Student Life &amp; Engagement</i>	2022
<b>“Blockchain beyond Hype: Scalability, Legalization, Fees, and Money Laundering.”</b> Expert panel member, <i>MSU Cryptocurrency Initiative</i>	2022
<b>“Outsmarting Smart Contracts via Social Engineering”</b> Speaker, <i>The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Academic Conference (GAC)</i>	2022
<b>“Combining the Best of Blockchain and Cloud Computing”</b> Video Interview, <i>Institute for Cyber-Enabled Research (ICER)</i> .	2022
<b>“Global Wi-Fi network for bridging the digital divide.”</b> Radio Interview, <i>The SciFiles, Impact 89FM</i> .	2021
<b>“Deploying Smart Contracts on the Cloud.”</b> Cloud Symposium Speaker, <i>Institute for Cyber-Enabled Research (ICER)</i>	2021
<b>“Blockchain &amp; Smart Contracts: Adoption, Challenges, and Research.”</b> Guest Speaker, <i>Michigan State University</i>	2021
<b>“Blockchain Beyond Cryptocurrencies.”</b> Radio Interview, <i>The SciFiles, Impact 89FM</i> .	2020
<b>“A Brief Introduction to Blockchain.”</b> Lecture, <i>Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2020

## ACADEMIC SERVICE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

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<b>Fitch H. Beach Award Adjudicator</b> <i>College of Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2023
<b>Reps for EDU Ambassador</b> <i>Replit Reps for EDU: <a href="https://reps-for-edu.replit-community.repl.co/">https://reps-for-edu.replit-community.repl.co/</a></i>	2022-2023
<b>Engineering Graduate Studies Committee (elected)</b> <i>College of Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2022-2023
<b>Mid-Michigan Symposium for Undergraduate Research (MIDSURE) Evaluator</b> <i>College of Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2022
<b>Strategic Planning Committee for 2022–2027 period</b> <i>College of Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2022
<b>SSS Team (“white hat” hacking team). Founder &amp; President</b> <i>Michigan State University</i>	2021-2022
<b>Department Advisory Committee. Graduate Representative (elected)</b> <i>Computer Science and Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2020-2021 and 2022-2023
<b>Computing Environment Committee (appointed by department)</b> <i>Computer Science and Engineering, Michigan State University</i>	2020-2022

**Graduate Representative for Computer Engineering (elected)**

*Computer Science and Engineering, University of Nebraska–Lincoln*

2018–2019

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES MEMBERSHIPS**

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**ACM, Professional Member**

2022–Present

**ACM, Student Member**

2015–2022

**IEEE, Full Member**

2023–Present

**IEEE, Graduate Student Member**

2018–2023

## **REFERENCES**

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*References will be provided upon request.*