Maksim Ekin Eren

https://www.maksimeren.com

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science

Baltimore, Maryland

Email: meren1@umbc.edu

Mobile: +1(202) 509-3353

Present

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Master of Science in Computer Science; GPA: 4.00

Baltimore, Maryland

May 2022

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science; GPA: 4.00

Baltimore, Maryland

cheior of Science in Comparer Science, GIA. 4.0

Dec. 2020

o Summa Cum Laude.

o National Science Foundation (NSF) CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service (SFS).

EMPLOYMENT

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Los Alamos, NM Nov. 2022 - Present

Scientist

Nov. 2022 - Present

- Conduct research in machine learning with an emphasis on tensor decomposition methods for an interdisciplinary set of fields including cyber-security, text mining and natural language processing, data privacy, biology, and high performance computing.
- Develop machine learning pipelines/tools for extra-large datasets.
- Lead for Cyber Summer School Research Track, an internship program where students apply machine learning to solve cyber-security problems.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

Los Alamos, NM

Graduate Research Assistant/Undergraduate Research Assistant

Jun. 2020 - Oct. 2022

- Conducted research in data analysis and machine learning with an emphasis on tensor decomposition methods for anomaly detection, natural language processing, and high performance computing.
- o Develop pipelines/tools for machine learning and natural language processing.
- o Delivered state-of-the-art solutions for cyber anomaly detection, malware analysis, and large-scale data analysis.

University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Baltimore, MD

Graduate Research Assistant/Undergraduate Teaching Fellow

Aug. 2020 - May 2022

- Conducted research in data analysis and machine learning with an emphasis on tensor decomposition methods for malware analysis and data privacy.
- Collaborated with a team to teach and prepare instruction material for an active cyber defense class.
- o Presented Linux hardening and machine learning topics to eighty students.

Cyber Pack Ventures

Columbia, MD

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Nov. 2019 - May 2020

- Conducted research on the detection of malicious code in larger systems.
- Implemented a data science driven approach to malware analysis on a large scale.

Montgomery County Government EISO

Rockville, MD

Information Security Intern

Jan. 2018 - Oct. 2019

- Utilized the central threat console, SIEM, OSINT, asset and vulnerability management system, and help desk system to identify, investigate, and respond to malicious incidents.
- Developed a real-time cyber threat map, and incident response and vulnerability management dashboards for the Security Operations Center display.

U.S. Patents

• Eren, M.E., Bhattarai, M., Nicholas, C., Rasmussen K., and Alexandrov, B. (2023), Data Identification and Classification Method, Apparatus, and System, US, Provisional Patent 63/472,188.

Conferences & Workshops

- Eren, M.E., Barron, R., Bhattarai, M., Wanna, S., Solovyev, N., Rasmussen, K., Alexandrov, B., and Nicholas, C.. Catch'em all: Classification of Rare, Prominent, and Novel Malware Families. *In ISDFS '24: 12th IEEE International Symposium on Digital Forensics and Security (ISDFS)*, Apr. 29-30, 2024, San Antonio, Texas USA. 6 pages.
- Most, A., Eren, M.E., Alexandrov, B., and Lawrence, N.. Electrical Grid Anomaly Detection via Tensor Decomposition. In MILCOM '23: IEEE Military Communications Conference, Articial Intelligence for Cyber Workshop, Oct. 30 - Nov. 3, 2023, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. 7 pages. DOI: 10.1109/MILCOM58377.2023.10356348
- Solovyev, N., Barron, R., Bhattarai, M., **Eren, M.E.**, Rasmussen, K.O., and Alexandrov, B.. Interactive Distillation of Large Single-Topic Corpora of Scientific Papers. *In ICMLA '23: 22st IEEE International Conference on Machine Learning and Applications*, Dec. 15-17, 2023, Jacksonville Riverfront, Florida, USA. 6 pages.
- Eren, M.E., Bhattarai, M., Rasmussen, K., Alexandrov, B., and Nicholas, C.. MalwareDNA: Simultaneous Classification of Malware, Malware Families, and Novel Malware. *In ISI '23: 20th Annual IEEE International Conference on Intelligence and Security Informatics*, Oct. 2-3, 2023, Charlotte, North Carolina USA. 3 pages. DOI: 10.1109/ISI58743.2023.10297217
- Eren, M.E., Bhattarai, M., Solovyev, N., Richards, L., Yus, R., Nicholas, C., and Alexandrov, B.. One-Shot Federated Group Collaborative Filtering. *In ICMLA '22: 21st IEEE International Conference on Machine Learning and Applications*, Dec. 12-15, 2022, Nassau, The Bahamas. 6 pages. Awarded Best M.S. Research at 2023 UMBC CSEE Research Day. DOI: 10.1109/ICMLA55696.2022.00107
- Boureima, I., Bhattarai, M., Eren, M.E., Solovyev, N., Djidjev, H., and Alexandrov, B.. Distributed
 Out-of-Memory SVD on CPU/GPU Architectures. In HPEC '22: 26th IEEE High Performance Extreme Computing
 Conference, Outstanding Paper Award, Sept. 19-23, 2022, Virtual Event, New England. 8 pages. DOI:
 10.1109/HPEC55821.2022.9926288
- Eren, M.E., Solovyev, N., Bhattarai, M., Rasmussen, K., Nicholas, C., and Alexandrov, B.. SeNMFk-SPLIT: Large Corpora Topic Modeling by Semantic Non-negative Matrix Factorization with Automatic Model Selection. *In DocEng '22: 22th ACM Symposium on Document Engineering*, Sept. 20-23, 2022, Virtual Event, San Jose, CA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3558100.3563844
- Eren, M.E., Solovyev, N., Hamer, C., McDonald, R., Alexandrov, B., and Nicholas, C.. COVID-19 Multidimensional Kaggle Literature Organization. *In DocEng '21: 21th ACM Symposium on Document Engineering*, Aug. 24–27, 2021, Virtual Event, Limerick, Ireland. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3469096.3474927
- Eren, M.E., Moore, J.S., and Boian, A.S.. Multi-Dimensional Anomalous Entity Detection via Poisson Tensor Factorization. *In ISI '20: Proceedings of the 13th IEEE International Conference on Intelligence and Security Informatics*, Nov. 9-10, 2020, Virtual Event, USA., 6 pages. DOI: 10.1109/ISI49825.2020.9280524
- Eren, M.E., Solovyev, N., Raff, E., Nicholas, C., and Johnson, B.. COVID-19 Kaggle Literature Organization. *In DocEng '20: 20th ACM Symposium on Document Engineering*, Sep. 29 Oct. 2, 2020, Virtual Event, CA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3395027.3419591

Journals

- Eren, M.E., Bhattarai, M., Joyce, R.J., Raff, E., Nicholas, C. and Alexandrov, B.. 2023. Semi-supervised Classification of Malware Families Under Extreme Class Imbalance via Hierarchical Non-Negative Matrix Factorization with Automatic Model Selection. TOPS: ACM Transactions on Privacy and Security, 26 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3624567
- Bhattarai, M., Boureima, I., **Eren, M.E.**, Skau, E., Romero, P., Eidenbenz, S., and Alexandrov, B.. 2023. Distributed Out-of-Memory NMF on CPU/GPU Architectures. The Journal of Supercomputing. DOI: 10.1007/s11227-023-05587-4
- Eren, M.E., Moore, J.S., Skau, E.W., Bhattarai, M., Moore, E.A, and Alexandrov, B.. 2022. General-Purpose Unsupervised Cyber Anomaly Detection via Non-Negative Tensor Factorization. Digital Threats: Research and Practice, 28 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3519602
- Golaszewski, E., Sherman, A.T., [et al, including **Eren, M.E.**]. 2020. Project-based learning continues to inspire cybersecurity students: the 2018–2019 SFS research studies at UMBC. Association for Computing Machinery. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 9 pages. DOI: 10.1145/3386363

Book Chapters

• Eren, M.E., Alexandrov, B., and Nicholas, C.. Classifying Malware Using Tensor Decomposition. *Malware - Handbook of Prevention and Detection*, Springer Nature. 2024.

Posters & Abstracts

- Eren, M.E., Rasmussen, K.O., Nicholas, C., and Alexandrov, B.S.. Malware-DNA: Machine Learning for Malware Analysis that Treats Malware as Mutations in the Software Genome. *MTEM '23: Malware Technical Exchange Meeting*, July 25-27, 2023, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California, USA.
- Eren, M.E., Nicholas, S., Barron, R., Bhattarai, M., Boureima, I.D., Rasmussen, K.O., and Alexandrov, B.. Sub-topic and Semantic Sub-structure Extraction via SPLIT: Joint Nonnegative Matrix Factorization (NMF) with Automatic Model Selection. *CoDA '23: Conference on Data Analysis*, March 7-9, 2023, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA.
- Bhandary, P., Adetunji, I., Kiendrebeogo, A., Vieson, C., Joyce, R.J., **Eren, M.E.**, and Nicholas, C.. Malware Antivirus Scan Pattern Mining via Tensor Decomposition. *MTEM '22: Malware Technical Exchange Meeting*, July 26-28, 2021, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA.
- Liu, R., Eren, M.E., and Nicholas, C.. Can Feature Selection Help Quantum Machine Learning for Malware Detection?. *MTEM '22: Malware Technical Exchange Meeting*, July 26-28, 2021, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA.
- Eren, M.E., Nicholas, C., McDonald, R., and Hamer, C.. Random Forest of Tensors. *MTEM '21: Malware Technical Exchange Meeting*, July 13-15, 2021, Sandia National Laboratories, Virtual Event, USA.
- Boutsikas, J., **Eren, M.E.**, Varga, C., Raff, E., Matuszek, M., and Nicholas, C.. Evading Malware Classifiers via Monte Carlo Mutant Feature Discovery. *MTEM '21: Malware Technical Exchange Meeting*, July 13-15, 2021, Sandia National Laboratories, Virtual Event, USA.

Thesis

• Eren, M. E.. Random Forest of Tensors (RFoT) Master's Thesis. Master's Thesis in Computer Science at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering. 2022.

Presentations

- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. University of Maryland Baltimore County, Cyber Defense Lab (CDL). Virtual Event, March 29, 2024.
- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. Auburn University, AI for security (AI4Sec). Virtual Event, March 12, 2024.
- Invited Speaker: Scientific Leadership Identification and Characterization: Interactive Distillation of Large Single-Topic Corpora of Scientific Papers. Love Data Week: Los Alamos National Laboratory Data Lightning Talks. Virtual Event, Feb. 14, 2024.
- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. Purdue University The Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security (CERIAS) Webinar. Virtual Event, Feb. 07, 2024.
- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. Lab Research Technical Exchange (LRTE). Virtual Event, Nov. 16, 2023.
- Project Presentation: Scientific Leadership Identification and Characterization: Interactive Distillation of Large Single-Topic Corpora of Scientific Papers. Lawrance 2023 Livermore National Laboratory, DOE Data Days (D3). Livermore, CA, Oct. 24-26, 2023.
- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. Los Alamos National Laboratory, Cybersecurity Capabilities Day. Los Alamos, NM, Oct. 11, 2022.
- Invited Speaker: Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity. DOE Omni Technology Alliance Internship Program. Virtual Talk. Jun. 22, 2021.
- Student Presentation: Anomalous Event Detection using Non-Negative Poisson Tensor Factorization. Los Alamos National Laboratory Student Symposium. Virtual Event, Aug. 10, 2020. (https://youtu.be/_z7yCd4vqrc)

GRANTS

- Principle Investigator: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Information Science and Technology Institute (ISTI) Rapid Response. Dec. 2022 Oct. 2023
- Co-Principle Investigator: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Information Science and Technology Institute (ISTI) Rapid Response. Dec. 2022 Oct. 2023

Professional Activities

- Principle Investigator, Organizer: Los Alamos National Laboratory, Information Science and Technology Institute (ISTI) Cyber Toaster Invited Speaker Series. May-Aug. 2023
- Data Analyst Volunteer: Los Alamos National Laboratory, Northern New Mexico Community Data Sprint. Assisted Rocky Mountain Youth Corps. Aug. 2021
- Editor: Los Alamos National Laboratory, Harnessing Transformational Technology Seminar (HTT). Aug. 2021

In the Press

- Using AI to develop enhanced cybersecurity measures: https://discover.lanl.gov/news/0215-ai-cybersecurity-measures. 2024.
- Not too big: Machine learning tames huge datasets: https://discover.lanl.gov/news/0911-machine-learning.
- Computer scientists build new tool to fight coronavirus: https://freethink.com/science/text-mining. 2020.

Software Releases

- T-ELF: Comprehensive machine learning toolbox for analyzing large datasets (https://github.com/lanl/T-ELF).
- **RFoT**: Tensor decomposition based semi-supervised ensemble classifier for malware (https://github.com/MaksimEkin/RFoT).
- pyCP_APR: Non-negative Poisson tensor decomposition algorithm on GPU with anomaly detection interface (https://github.com/lanl/pyCP_APR).
- pyCP_ALS: Python implementation of the CP-ALS tensor decomposition algorithm (https://github.com/MaksimEkin/pyCP_ALS).
- **pyDNMFk**: Distributed non-negative matrix factorization with automatic model determination (https://github.com/lanl/pyDNMFk).
- pyDNTNK: Distributed non-negative tensor networks (https://github.com/lanl/pyDNTNK).
- pyQBTNs: Boolean tensor factorization using D-Wave quantum annealers (https://github.com/lanl/pyQBTNs).
- pyDRESCALk: Distributed non-negative RESCAL decomposition for relational data (https://github.com/lanl/pyDRESCALk).

STUDENTS

• Alexander Most: M.S. Student at Montana State University.

SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Python, C++, C, x86_64 Assembly.
- Foreign Language: Turkish.

Honors and Awards

- Employee Achievement Award: Los Alamos National Laboratory. Spot Award, 2021, 2023.
- R&D100 Winner: R&D100 winner at R&D Magazine for SmartTensors project (team award), 2021.
- **R&D100 Bronze Award**: R&D100 special recognition award, Market Disruptor Services category, at R&D Magazine for SmartTensors project (team award), 2021.
- Competition Winner: University of Maryland, College Park, UMD Data Challenge 2020. Awarded the Most Innovative Project, and the Outstanding UMBC Project categories.
- Honors: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Phi Kappa Phi Honors, 2020.
- Hackathon Winner: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, hackUMBC 2019. Elected hackathon winning project. Additionally, awarded the Best Data Science Hack, and the Most Unique Hack categories.
- Hackathon Winner: Georgetown University, Hoya Hacks 2019. Elected second place in the Best Hardware Hack category.
- Academic Excellence: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, President's List, 2019, 2020.
- Academic Excellence: University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Dean's List, 2018, 2019, 2020.
- Scholarship: National Science Foundation (NSF) CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service (SFS), 2017-2020.
- Academic Excellence: Montgomery College, Dr. Harry Harden Jr. Student Academic Excellence Award, 2018.
- Academic Excellence: Montgomery College, Frank L. Verwieve Academic Excellence Award, 2017.
- Honors: Montgomery College, Phi Theta Kappa Honors, 2016.
- Academic Excellence: Montgomery College, Dean's List, 2016, 2017, 2018.