

Department of Computer Science
Boston University
Boston, USA

Email: nabeel@bu.edu
<http://cs-people.bu.edu/nabeel/>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Network Function Virtualization (NFV), Future Internet Architectures (FIA), Content Delivery Networks (CDN), Software Defined Networking (SDN), Wireless Networks (4G & 5G)

EDUCATION

PhD student, Computer Science, 2013 to present
Boston University, Boston, USA
Expected graduation: 2018

- *Advisers: Prof. Ibrahim Matta*
- *Current position: Research and teaching assistant*
- *Research Area: Network Function Virtualization (NFV), Cloud Computing, Future Internet Architectures (RINA)*

Master of Science, Computer Science & Engineering, 2011 to 2013
Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey
Graduated: July 2013

- *Advisers: Prof. Oznur Ozkasap; Prof. Sinem Coleri Ergen*
- *Thesis: Vehicle Mobility, Communication Channel Modeling and Traffic Density Estimation in VANETs*

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science, 2007-2011
Lahore University of Management Science. Lahore, Pakistan.
Graduated: June 2011

- *Adviser: Prof. Fareed Zaffar*

PUBLICATIONS

N. Akhtar, I. Matta, Y. Wang, "Managing NFV using SDN and Control Theory". *IEEE/IFIP International Workshop on Management of the Future Internet (ManFI 2016)*, co-located with NOMS 2016, Istanbul, Turkey, April 2016. (pdf)

Y. Wang, I. Matta, N. Akhtar, "Application-Driven Network Management with ProtoRINA". *IEEE/IFIP Network Operations and Management Symposium (NOMS 2016)*, Istanbul, Turkey, April 2016. (pdf)

Y. Wang, N. Akhtar, I. Matta, "Programming Routing Policies for Video Traffic," *International Workshop on Computer and Networking Experimental Research using Testbeds (CNERT 2014)*, co-located with ICNP 2014, Raleigh, NC, USA. October 2014. (pdf)

Y. Wang, I. Matta, N. Akhtar, "Experimenting with Routing Policies using ProtoRINA over GENI," *The Third GENI Research and Educational Experiment Workshop (GREE2014)*, Atlanta, Georgia. March, 2014 (pdf)

N. Akhtar, S. Coleri Ergen, and O. Ozkasap, "Vehicle Mobility and Communication Channel Models for Realistic and Efficient Highway VANET Simulation," *IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology*, vol.64, no.1, pp.248-262, January 2015 (pdf)

N. Akhtar, O. Ozkasap, & S. Coleri Ergen, "VANET Topology Characteristics under

Realistic Mobility and Channel Models,” accepted in the proceedings of IEEE Wireless Communication and Networking Conference (WCNC 2013), Shanghai, China, April 2013 (pdf)

N. Akhtar, S. Coleri Ergen, & O. Ozkasap, “Analysis of Distributed Algorithms for Density Estimation in VANETs,” IEEE Vehicular Networking Conference (VNC) (VNC 2012), Seoul, Korea, Nov. 2012 (pdf)

Poster: N. Akhtar, O. Ozkasap, and S. Coleri Ergen, “Realistic Mobility and Channel Modeling in Vehicular ad-hoc Networks,” Turk Telekom Group R & D University Relation Workshop, Istanbul, Turkey. Dec. 2011

TECHNICAL REPORTS

N. Akhtar, I. Matta, Y. Wang, “Managing NFV using SDN and Control Theory,” *Technical Report BUCS-TR-2015-013, Boston University, 2015* (pdf)

Y. Wang, I Matta, **N. Akhtar**, “Application-Driven Network Management with ProtoRINA,” *Technical Report BUCS-TR-2015-003, Boston University, 2015* (pdf)

Y. Wang, **N. Akhtar**, I Matta, “Programming Routing Policies for Video Traffic,” *Technical Report BUCS-TR-2015-005, Boston University, 2014* (pdf)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Managing NFV using SDN and control theory

Adviser: Prof. Ibrahim Matta

Spring 2015 to Present

Concepts from Control theory and SDN (Software Defined Networking) are used for NFV (Network Function Virtualization) management and deployment.

Recursive InterNetwork Architecture (RINA)

[details]

Adviser: Prof. Ibrahim Matta

Spring 2013 to Present

RINA is a new network architecture that is based on the fundamental principle that networking is inter-process communication (IPC). It recurses the IPC service over different scopes.

Analysis of realistic Channel Models for VANETs

[details]

Advisers: Dr. Sinem Ergen and Dr. Oznur Ozkasap

Fall 2011 to Spring 2013

This project deals with analyzing different channel models and proposing a realistic model for vehicular ad-hoc network (VANET).

Realistic Mobility Modeling for VANETs

[details]

Advisers: Dr. Sinem Ergen and Dr. Oznur Ozkasap

Fall 2011 to Spring 2013

In this project, we integrate real-world road topology and real-time data extracted from the Freeway Performance Measurement System (PeMS) database into the microscopic mobility model in order to generate realistic traffic flows along the highway.

Distributed Algorithms for density estimation in VANETs

[details]

Advisers: Dr. Oznur Ozkasap & Dr. Sinem Ergen

Summer 2011 to Spring 2013

The project deals with proposing fully distributed and infrastructure-free mechanisms for the density estimation in vehicular ad-hoc networks.

Providing VANET security through group based approach

[details]

Advisers: Dr. Fareed Zaffar

Fall 2010 to Spring 2011

The project deals with security aspects in VANETs. We analysed existing frameworks for providing security and proposed a more efficient framework for evaluating security.

Shortest path traffic flow optimization in VANETs

[details]

Advisers: Dr. Fareed Zaffar

Summer 2011

The project deals with computing the shortest path for vehicles using heuristic data and active query caching.

Development and Analysis of P2P Network Size Estimation [details]

Advisers: Dr. Ozgur Ozkasap

Summer 2010

In this project, we analysed and implemented distributed algorithm for network size estimation in P2P networks using Planet-Lab as the underlying test bed.

Color-based feature matching to track objects in consecutive video frames

Advisers: Dr. Sohaib Khan -Best Project Award at International Conference on Machine Vision (ICMV 2010) [details]

**WORK
EXPERIENCE**

Research Intern at Akamai Technologies

Summer 2016

Project: Over-Representation Analyzer for Anomaly Detection.

Description: Developing a tool which will help Akamai Media Performance team to identify problems (anomalies) in Akamai media delivery network.

Cambridge, USA

Researcher, Mobile Networks at CREATE-NET

January-May 2016

Project: NFV and SDN for wireless networks.

Description: Virtual Network Function management and deployment for 4G and 5G networks in Europe.

Trento, Italy

Research Intern at Akamai Technologies

Summer 2015

Project: Feature Selection, Anomaly Detection and Change Detection in Media Delivery.

Cambridge, USA

Research Assistant

Spring 2014 to Present

Project: Experimenting with Programmable Management Policies over GENI

Department of Computer Science,

Boston University, Boston, USA

Research Assistant

Fall 2011 to Spring 2013

Wireless Network Laboratory, Department of Computer Engineering,

Channel Modeling, Realistic Mobility Modeling and distributed algorithms for density estimation in vehicular ad-hoc networks

Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

Summer Research Assistant

Summer 2010

Project: Distributed Protocol for Frequent Item Set Discovery and network size estimation for P2P network

Koc University Summer Research Program, Istanbul, Turkey

IT Consultant

Summer 2009

IT Department, Sidat Hayder

- Worked on the second biggest database system in Pakistan, "Land Record Management Information System" (LRMIS)
- Worked as software quality assurance consultant

PROGRAMMING SKILLS Python, C, C++, Java, HTML, Matlab, SQL, Hadoop, SPARQL (RDF Query Language)

**AWARDS/
HONORS**

Project Title: *Color-based Feature Matching to track objects in consecutive video*

frames. **N. Akhtar**, A. Arif, and J. Ali, 2nd International Conference on Machine Vision (ICMV 2010). **Best Project Award**. 2010

Presented at *International Training School on Energy Efficiency* 2011
COST0804 International Training School on Energy Efficiency in Large Scale Distributed Systems. Palma de Majorca, Balearic Islands, Spain.

M.Sc. Vehbi Koc Fellowship 2011-2013
Full tuition fee waiver & living stipend. Koc University.

B.Sc. merit scholarship 2007-2011
90% tuition fee waiver. Lahore University of Management Sciences.

Selected for *Summer Research Program* 2010
Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

National Science Talent Contest (NSTC) 2007
Top 50 among 10,000 high school students. Represented Pakistan.

All-Pakistan Higher Education Commission Water Polo Championship 2009
Silver Medal

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant

Department of Computer Science, Boston University

CS101 Introduction to Computing Fall 2013

CS105 Introduction to Databases and Data Mining Fall 2015

CS655 Computer Networks Fall 2016

Department of Computer Engineering, Koc University

ENG 200 Probability Spring 2013

COMP 416 Computer Networks Fall 2012

COMP 202 Data Structures and Algorithm Spring 2012

COMP 132 Advanced Programming Fall 2011

Department of Computer Science, LUMS

CS 212 Computational Problem Solving Spring 2011

CS 371/ CMPE 371 Computer Networks Fall 2010

ACTIVITIES

Mountaineering: Active member of Koc Mountaineering Club. Climbed several peaks above 4500m in Himalayas and Karakorum Mountain Range.

Sports: LUMS water polo vice captain. Silver medal in All-Pakistan Higher Education Commission Water Polo Championship. Swimming. Badminton

Volunteer Work: worked with Flood Relief Team at LUMS, Earth Quick Victims in Northern Areas of Pakistan and Internally Displaced People (IDP) during military operation in Sawat, Pakistan

**RELEVANT
COURSEWORK**

Distributed Systems

Wireless Networks

Network Security

Random Computing

Formal Methods

Parallel Programming

Heuristic Methods

Computer Networks

Advance Databases

Computer Vision