

Computer Science

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IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

Monday, November 3, 2025 Pre-registration for Winter quarter begins

Monday, November 10, 2025 Registration for Winter quarter begins

Wednesday, November 26, 2025 University offices close at 5:00 pm for
Thanksgiving break

Friday, December 5, 2025 Master's completion form due for TGS Fall master's
candidates

Monday, December 8, 2025 Fall Exams begin

Monday, December 15, 2025 Grades due 3:00 PM

Friday, December 19, 2025 Fall 2025 Degrees Conferred

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 Winter Recess Starts - University Closed
Through January 1st, 2026

We want to hear from you!

Please send any upcoming news and events to

**news@cs.northwestern.edu to be included in future bulletins &/featured
on our socials/website.**

Events for the bulletin must be emailed by Thursdays 12PM to be in that Friday's bulletin.

Missed a seminar? No worries!
View past seminars via the Northwestern CS Website
(northwestern login required).

[View Past Seminars »](#)

UPCOMING SEMINARS

November

3rd - Aloni Cohen
10th - Aravindan Vijayaraghavan
17th - Shaddin Dughmi
19th - Robert Rand

January

5th - Ari Holtzman
12th - Rana Hanocka



Blameless Users in a Clean Room: Defining Copyright Protection for Generative Models

Aloni Cohen, University of Chicago

Abstract

"Are there any conditions under which a generative model's outputs are guaranteed not to infringe the copyrights of its training data? This is the question of "provable copyright protection" first posed by Vyas, Kakade, and Barak [ICML 2023]. They define near access-freeness (NAF) and propose it as sufficient for protection.

This talk will revisit the question and establish new foundations for provable copyright protection---foundations that are firmer both technically and legally. We show that NAF models can enable verbatim copying, a blatant failure of copy protection. We give definitions providing meaningful guarantees, allowing a user to control their risk of copying by behaving in a way that is unlikely to copy in a counterfactual "clean-room setting." Finally, we formalize a common intuition about differential privacy and copyright by proving that DP implies clean-room copy protection when the dataset is "golden," a copyright

deduplication requirement."

Biography

Aloni Cohen an Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Data Science at the University of Chicago. His research explores the interplay between theoretical cryptography, privacy, law, and policy. Aloni earned his PhD in the Cryptography and Information Security group at MIT, advised by Shafi Goldwasser, and was a postdoc at Boston University, joint at the Hariri Institute for Computing and the School of Law.

🕒 **Monday, November 3, 2025**
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

📍 **Mudd Hall, 3514,**
2233 Tech Drive, Evanston, IL 60208

[More Information »](#)

CS Department Events

IDEAL WORKSHOP: INFERENCE IN HIGH DIMENSIONS: ALGORITHMS AND STATISTICS

This one-day workshop is part of the Fall 2025 IDEAL Special Program on High Dimensional and Complex Data Analysis. The event will explore the development of uncertainty quantification in statistics, machine learning and computer science. We will focus on the both theoretical and computational aspects of confidence sets, prediction sets and distribution-free methods.

The workshop brings together mathematicians, computer scientists, biologists, statisticians and scientists from related fields to foster interdisciplinary collaboration.

🕒 **Wednesday, October 29, 2025**
All day

📍 **Mudd Hall, 3514,**
2233 Tech Drive, Evanston, IL 60208


[More Information »](#)

COMPUTER SCIENCE FALL PUBLIC LECTURE

The Computer Science Department invites you to a free public lecture on October 29, 2025 at 4:00PM in Cohen Commons. This new series aims to educate the Northwestern community about the core contributions of Computer Science to society.

Professors Bryan Pardo and V.S. Subrahmanian will kick off the series with mini talks focusing on AI.

Registration is recommended as seating is limited.

 **Wednesday, October 29, 2025**
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM CT

 **Cohen Commons, Technological Institute,**
2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208

[More Information »](#)

TGIT PAN: CELEBRATING DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

You are invited to TGIT Pan: Celebrating Dia de los Muertos!

Join us on Thursday, October 30th in Mudd 3514 for a musical celebration hosted by the department's Community Building Committee in collaboration with musical duo Son Monarcas. Enjoy traditional pan dulce, pan de Muertos, and coffee starting at 10am, with music kicking off at 11am. RSVP is not required.

In addition, we will be setting up a traditional Dia de los Muertos ofrenda in the front lobby of Mudd third floor on October 23rd. We invite all members of our community to stop by and take a look. You are also welcome to bring a photo of your loved one(s) who has passed to place on the ofrenda. This act honors their memory and helps maintain a living connection between the living and the departed.

🕒 Thursday, October 30, 2025
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CT

📍 Mudd Hall, 3514,
2233 Tech Drive, Evanston, IL 60208

[More Information »](#)

Other Events

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA PROSPECTIVE GRADUATE STUDENT VISIT DAY

The Computer Science (CS) department welcomes prospective students interested in our graduate programs to our annual Prospective Student Visit Day on Friday, Nov. 7. We are looking for strong students with diverse backgrounds to join our MCS and PhD programs. A wide variety of research areas is represented by our world-class faculty including algorithms, computational epidemiology, distributed computing, human-computer interaction, machine learning, massive data algorithms and technology, mobile computing, networks, programming languages, text mining, security, and virtual reality.

Any student who wants to visit can RSVP by filling out [this form](#) by November 3. Assistance with travel expenses is available, with requests made via the form.

🕒 Friday, November 7, 2025
1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

📍 University Capitol Centre
Room - 2520D
200 South Capitol Street, Iowa City, IA 52240

[More Information »](#)

CS News

PhD Student Charles Cui Attends Heidelberg Laureate Forum

Cui was among 200 young researchers selected to attend the annual networking conference designed to encourage intellectual discourse and collaboration.

[Read More](#)



Northwestern Department of Computer Science
Mudd Hall, 2233 Tech Drive, Third Floor
Evanston, Illinois 60208

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