

THERESA STADLER

Researcher in Privacy and Trustworthy AI

✉ theresa.stadler@epfl.ch

🎓 Google Scholar

👤 Personal Web

🌐 LinkedIn

EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher - EPFL (CH)

Since 2025

Research and Teaching

Research on privacy-enhancing technologies, such as, synthetic data, differential privacy, and privacy-preserving machine learning. Lectures at BSc and MSc level on information security and privacy.

PhD Research Assistant - EPFL (CH)

2019 – 2024

Research and Teaching

Several high impact publications in the fields of data privacy and trustworthy machine learning.

Research Scientist - Privitar (UK)

2016 – 2019

Research and Product Development

Designed, developed, and prototyped enterprise software that implements privacy-enhancing technologies at scale.

Graduate Student Research Assistant - Werner Reichardt Centre for Integrative Neuroscience (DE)

2015-2016

Experimental Research and Data Analysis

Statistical models of visual information processing in retinal ganglion cells.

Student Research Assistant - University of Erlangen (DE)

2012 - 2014

Experimental Research and Data Analysis

Electrophysiology and biophysical modelling of voltage-gated sodium channels and the molecular mechanisms of chronic pain disorders.

EDUCATION

PhD in Computer Science - EPFL (CH), SPRING Lab

2019 - 2024

PhD Thesis: On the Fundamental Limits of Privacy-Enhancing Technologies.

MSc in Computational Neuroscience - University of Tübingen (DE)

2014 - 2016

Lectures in Statistics, Machine Learning, Dynamic Systems, and Neuroscience

BSc in Biomathematics - University of Erlangen (DE)

2011 - 2014

Lectures in Statistics, Linear Algebra, Physics, and Biology

GRANTS & AWARDS

Nominee for the EPFL Doctorate Award - EPFL (CH)

2024

Teaching Assistant Award - EPFL IC (CH)

2021

Graduate Grant - Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (DE)

2011 - 2016

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

Talk	On the Fundamental Limits of Privacy-Enhancing Technologies - Nokia Bell Labs Invited talk at the Responsible AI seminar.	2025
Lecture	On the fundamental limits of privacy-preserving data sharing technologies - Brussels Privacy Hub Lecture at the Summer Academy For Global Privacy Law 2024	2024
Panel	Looking beyond the EU data strategy: Where next for data use and regulation? - CPDP Panel discussion on the future of data use and regulations	2023
Lecture	Synthetic data as a privacy mechanism - A cautionary tale - MIT Invited lecture in the Health Science and Technology Program	2022

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Podcast	Privacy Engineering - They Talk Tech Podcast Available at frauen-technik.podigee.io	2025
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News Article	Warum wollen plötzlich alle Luca? - Eva Wolfangel, <i>Die Zeit</i> Available at zeit.de	2021
News Article	EU privacy experts push a decentralized approach to COVID-19 contacts tracing - <i>TechCrunch</i> Available at techcrunch.com	2020
News Article	Coronavirus apps: the risk of slipping into a surveillance state. - <i>Financial Times</i> Available at ft.com	2020

SELECTED ACADEMIC SERVICE & INVITED REVIEWS

PC Member	Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency - <i>FAccT</i>	2024
PC Member	Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium - <i>PETS</i>	2019-2025
Invited Reviewer	Workshop on Privacy in Machine Learning - <i>NeurIPS'21</i>	2021
External Reviewer	Conference on Computer and Communications Security - <i>CCS'19</i>	2019
Reviewer	Rethinking data and balancing digital power by the <i>Ada Lovelace Institute</i> Report on a future vision for data use and regulation. Available at adalovelaceinstitute.org	2022

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024**
- T. Stadler, B. Kulynych, N. Papernot, M. Gastpar, and C. Troncoso. The fundamental limits of least-privilege learning. In *Proceedings of the 41th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 24)*, 2024
- 2022**
- T. Stadler, B. Oprisanu, and C. Troncoso. Synthetic data – Anonymisation Groundhog Day. In *31st USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security 22)*, 2022
- T. Stadler and C. Troncoso. Why the search for a privacy-preserving data sharing mechanism is failing. *Nature Computational Science*, 2022
- C. Troncoso, T. Stadler, D. Bogdanov, E. Bugnion, S. Chatel, C. Cremers, S. Gürses, J.-P. Hubaux, D. Jackson, J. R. Larus, et al. Deploying decentralized, privacy-preserving proximity tracing. *Communications of the ACM*, 2022
- 2021**
- T. Stadler, W. Lueks, K. Kohls, and C. Troncoso. Preliminary analysis of potential harms in the luca tracing system. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2103.11958*, 2021
- 2020**
- C. Troncoso, M. Payer, J.-P. Hubaux, M. Salathé, J. Larus, E. Bugnion, W. Lueks, T. Stadler, A. Pyrgelis, D. Antonioli, et al. Decentralized privacy-preserving proximity tracing. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.12273*, 2020
- V. von Wyl, S. Bonhoeffer, E. Bugnion, M. A. Puhon, M. Salathé, T. Stadler, C. Troncoso, E. Vayena, and N. Low. A research agenda for digital proximity tracing apps. *Swiss Medical Weekly*, 2020
- M. Salathé, C. L. Althaus, N. Anderegg, D. Antonioli, T. Ballouz, E. Bugnion, S. Capkun, D. Jackson, S.-I. Kim, J. Larus, et al. Early evidence of effectiveness of digital contact tracing for sars-cov-2 in switzerland. *medRxiv*, 2020

PATENTS

- 2023**
- J. D. McFALL, C. C. Cabot, T. J. Moran, K. F. P. Guinamard, V. M. Eatwell, B. T. Pickering, P. D. Mellor, T. Stadler, A. Petre, C. A. Smith, et al. Computer-implemented privacy engineering system and method, Nov. 9 2023. US Patent App. 18/349,223
- 2022**
- C. C. Cabot, K. F. P. Guinamard, J. D. McFALL, P.-a. Maugis, P. Hector, B. T. Pickering, T. Stadler, J.-a. Tay, and S. Weller. Method or system for querying a sensitive dataset, Sept. 1 2022. US Patent App. 17/618,765