

Kritagya Raj Upadhyay | Curriculum Vitae

✉ kritagya.upadhyay@mtsu.edu • 🌐 kritagya93.github.io/

Last updated: November 2023

EDUCATION

- 2018 – 2023 **Doctor of Philosophy, Computer Science and Engineering**
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
University of North Texas, Denton, Texas
Advisor: Prof. Dr. Ram Dantu
Dissertation: Paradigm Shift from Vague Legal Contracts to
Blockchain-based Smart Contracts
- 2011 – 2015 **Bachelor of Information Management**
Faculty of Management
College of Applied Business
Tribhuvan University, Nepal

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Blockchain and Smart Contracts, Legal Contracts, Fuzzy Logic, Natural Language Processing, Artificial Intelligence, Metaverse, Data Cooperatives, Cyber Security, Consensus Mechanisms in Blockchain, Quantum Computing and Communications

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – Present **Assistant Professor**
Department of Computer Science,
Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- 2018 – 2023 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
University of North Texas
- Support for many undergraduate and graduate-level courses such as Intro to Computer Security, Intro to Computer Science and Programming in C++, Intro to Computer Networks, Foundations of Data Structures, Computer Forensic, Advance Network Security - Blockchain Development Course, Cryptography, Secure Software Systems, Secure E-Commerce
 - Guidance to TAMS, Undergraduate and Graduate students on their research and senior design projects

2018 – 2023

Doctoral Researcher

Network Security Lab, University of North Texas

- Research on Ethereum-based Blockchain technologies, especially on Smart Contracts and Vague Legal Contracts
- Research on Metaverse and Application Development, Blockchain Interoperability, Blockchain for AI Fairness, Data Security with Data Cooperatives and Blockchain, ChatGPT and Natural Language Processing,
- Proposal writing for grants for NSA and NSF

Summer 2021

Graduate Student Assistant

Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
University of North Texas

- Conducted administrative and technical tasks in the lab requested by the advisor

2011 – 2015

Undergraduate Researcher

Faculty of Management
College of Applied Business, Tribhuvan University

- Research on secure online store management system

PUBLICATIONS

1. S. Talapuru, R. Dantu, **K. Upadhyay**, S. Badruddoja, S. Zaman, "The Dark Side of the Metaverse: Why is it Falling Short of Expectations?," *2023 Fifth IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems and Applications (TPS-ISA)*
2. S. Zaman, R. Dantu, S. Badruddoja, S. Talapuru, **K. Upadhyay**, "Seamless Asset Exchange in Interconnected Metaverses: Unraveling On-Chain Atomic Swap," *2023 Fifth IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems and Applications (TPS-ISA)*
3. S. Zaman, R. Dantu, S. Badruddoja, S. Talapuru and **K. Upadhyay**, "Layerwise Interoperability in Metaverse: Key to Next-Generation Electronic Commerce," *2023 IEEE International Conference on Metaverse Computing, Networking and Applications (MetaCom)*, Kyoto, Japan, 2023, pp. 9-16, doi: 10.1109/MetaCom57706.2023.00018.
4. **K. Upadhyay**, R. Dantu, Y. He, S. Badruddoja and A. Salau, "Auditing Metaverse Requires Multimodal Deep Learning," *2022 IEEE 4th International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems, and Applications (TPS-ISA)*, Atlanta, GA, USA, 2022, pp. 39-46, doi: 10.1109/TPS-ISA56441.2022.00015.
5. A. Salau, R. Dantu, **K. Upadhyay**, S. Badruddoja, "Data Cooperatives for Trusted News Sharing in Social Media," *EAI BlockTEA 2022 - 2nd EAI International Conference on Blockchain Technology and Emerging Applications*.

6. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, Y. He, A. Salau, **K. Upadhyay**, "Scalable Smart Contracts for Linear Regression Algorithm," *EAI BlockTEA 2022 - 2nd EAI International Conference on Blockchain Technology and Emerging Applications*.
7. A. Salau, R. Dantu, K. Morozov, S. Badruddoja and **K. Upadhyay**, "Making Blockchain Validators Honest," *2022 Fourth International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA)*, 2022, pp. 267-273, doi: 10.1109/BCCA55292.2022.9921952.
8. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, Y. He, M. Thompson, A. Salau and **K. Upadhyay**, "Trusted AI with Blockchain to Empower Metaverse," *2022 Fourth International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA)*, 2022, pp. 237-244, doi: 10.1109/BCCA55292.2022.9922027.
9. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, Y. He, M. Thompson, A. Salau and **K. Upadhyay**, "Smarter Contracts to Predict using Deep-Learning Algorithms," *2022 Fourth International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA)*, 2022, pp. 280-288, doi: 10.1109/BCCA55292.2022.9922240.
10. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, Y. He, M. Thompson, A. Salau and **K. Upadhyay**, "Making Smart Contracts Predict and Scale," *2022 Fourth International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA)*, 2022, pp. 127-134, doi: 10.1109/BCCA55292.2022.9922480.
11. Salau, A., Dantu, R., Morozov, K., **Upadhyay, K.**, & Badruddoja, S. (2022). Multi-Tier Reputation for Data Cooperatives. In *The 3rd International Conference on Mathematical Research for Blockchain Economy*.
12. Salau, A.; Dantu, R.; Morozov, K.; **Upadhyay, K.** and Badruddoja, S. (2022). Towards a Threat Model and Security Analysis for Data Cooperatives. In *Proceedings of the 19th International Conference on Security and Cryptography - SECRIPT*, ISBN 978-989-758-590-6; ISSN 2184-7711, pages 707-713. DOI: 10.5220/0011328700003283.
13. **K. Upadhyay**, R. Dantu, Y. He, A. Salau and S. Badruddoja, "Paradigm Shift from Paper Contracts to Smart Contracts," *2021 Third IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems and Applications (TPS-ISA)*, 2021, pp. 261-268, doi: 10.1109/TPSISA52974.2021.00029.
14. **K. Upadhyay**, R. Dantu, Y. He, S. Badruddoja and A. Salau, "Can't Understand SLAs? Use the Smart Contract," *2021 Third IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems and Applications (TPS-ISA)*, 2021, pp. 129-136, doi: 10.1109/TPSISA52974.2021.00015.
15. **K. Upadhyay**, R. Dantu, Y. He, A. Salau and S. Badruddoja, "Make Consumers Happy by Defuzzifying the Service Level Agreements," *2021 Third IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems and Applications (TPS-ISA)*, 2021, pp. 98-105, doi: 10.1109/TPSISA52974.2021.00011.
16. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, Y. He, **K. Upadhyay** and M. Thompson, "Making Smart

Contracts Smarter," *2021 IEEE International Conference on Blockchain and Cryptocurrency (ICBC)*, 2021, pp. 1-3, doi: 10.1109/ICBC51069.2021.9461148.

17. A. Salau, R. Dantu and **K. Upadhyay**, "Data Cooperatives for Neighborhood Watch," *2021 IEEE International Conference on Blockchain and Cryptocurrency (ICBC)*, 2021, pp. 1-9, doi: 10.1109/ICBC51069.2021.9461056.

18. **K. Upadhyay**, R. Dantu, Z. Zaccagni and S. Badruddoja, "Is Your Legal Contract Ambiguous? Convert to a Smart Legal Contract," *2020 IEEE International Conference on Blockchain (Blockchain)*, 2020, pp. 273-280, doi: 10.1109/Blockchain50366.2020.00041.

19. S. Badruddoja, R. Dantu, L. Widick, Z. Zaccagni and **K. Upadhyay**, "Integrating DOTS With Blockchain Can Secure Massive IoT Sensors," *2020 IEEE International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium Workshops (IPDPSW)*, 2020, pp. 937-946, doi: 10.1109/IPDPSW50202.2020.00156.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Summer 2022	Internship, CertiK
2015 – 2016	Subisu Cablenet Limited
Summer 2015	Internship, Thamel.Com

HONORS /AWARDS

2023	Best Research Paper Award Awarded at 5 th IEEE Int'l Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security (TPS-ISA)
2023	Best Poster Award, Hot Topics in the Science of Security (HotSoS) 2023 Awarded by National Security Agency (NSA)
2023	Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award Awarded by Dept. of Computer Science and Eng., University of North Texas
2022	Best Research Paper Award Awarded at 4 th Int'l Conference on Blockchain Computing & Applications
2022	Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award Nomination Nominated by Dept. of Computer Science and Eng., University of North Texas
2021	NSA Innovation Award Awarded by the Center for Academic Excellence and Research (CAE-R)
2018 – 2023	Tuition Benefit Program Award Awarded by University of North Texas

2018 – 2023

College of Engineering Department Award

Awarded by College of Engineering, University of North Texas

PRESENTATIONS _____

- Jun 2023 Paradigm Shift from Vague Legal Contracts to Blockchain-based Smart Contracts. 2023 CAE in Cybersecurity Symposium, Seattle, WA, USA.
- Dec 2022 Auditing Metaverse Requires Multimodal Deep Learning. The 4th IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems, and Applications, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Nov 2022 Data Cooperatives for Trusted News Sharing in Social Media. EAI BlockTEA 2022 - 2nd EAI International Conference on Blockchain Technology and Emerging Applications, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Dec 2021 Paradigm Shift from Paper Contracts to Smart Contracts. The 3rd IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems, and Applications, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Dec 2021 Can't Understand SLAs? Use the Smart Contract. The 3rd IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems, and Applications, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Dec 2021 Make Consumers Happy by Defuzzifying the Service Level Agreements. The 3rd IEEE International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Intelligent Systems, and Applications, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Nov 2020 Is Your Legal Contract Ambiguous? Convert to a Smart Legal Contract. The 3rd IEEE International Conference on Blockchain (Blockchain 2020), Rhodes Island, Greece.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICES _____

Technical Program Committee Member

- ❖ 5th International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA 2023)

Ad-hoc Reviewer

- ❖ 5th International Conference on Blockchain Computing and Applications (BCCA 2023)
- ❖ 5th International Congress on Blockchain and Applications (BLOCKCHAIN'23)
- ❖ 2021 IEEE Information Theory Workshop (ITW), Kanazawa
- ❖ 26th Australasian Conference on Information Security and Privacy
- ❖ Information Processing & Management Journal, Elsevier

Professional Organization Member

- ❖ IEEE Student