

VITA



Radu Sion was born sometime in 1975. He received his computer science B.Sc. (1998) and M.Sc. (1999) degrees from the “Politehnica” University of Bucharest. He remembers: punch-cards, the times when 600bps modems were hot, when 16KBytes of RAM was *huge*, when Minix fit on a few floppies, when Mosaic came out, when Java had no packages and came on tapes with lots of CRC errors.

In eighth grade Radu managed to stop most of the trains in Romania by playing a newly discovered exciting game called “shutdown”. He played the game at the (only) green VT100 console of the main railway (PDP-11 based) control center where he was taken by his nice grown-up friend in a moment of weakness. His friend was fired. Radu had to wait almost 4 years to play that game again. The resulting adrenalin was arguably *the* determining factor in his going for computer science instead of particle physics in College. Thoughts of unifying quantum mechanics with a peculiar concept of Zen relativity still haunt him, mostly in the allergy season.

In the summer of 1999 Radu crossed the Atlantic. Once on the left side of it, he worked hard during most of the year and for fun and cash during the summers, including IBM in 2000 and NEC Research Labs in 2001 and 2003. Radu also interviewed repeatedly for Microsoft but managed never to work there. At the time of this writing, he spends most of his afternoons and some of his mornings at the IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, California, in the middle of a protected natural habitat, surrounded by amazingly smart people (mostly during lunch) and cows (rest of the day).

Radu is currently interested in inter-connected entities that access data and need to do so with assurances of security, privacy, and functionality, preferably efficient. His research lies at the intersection of security, databases and distributed systems. Applications include: authentication, rights protection and integrity proofs in sensor networks, secure storage in peer to peer and ad-hoc environments, data privacy and bounds on illicit inference over multiple data sources, security in computation/data grids, detection of intrusions by access profiling for on-line web portals.

Radu has been an invited speaker and guest lecturer at several institutions. He has been reviewing for numerous journals and conferences including ACM TODS, IEEE TKDE and IEEE S&P. In 2004, Radu received the CERIAS Diamond Award for his Ph.D. dissertation work. In the Spring of 2005, Radu is joining the Computer Sciences Department of SUNY at Stony Brook, with the declared goal of both teaching youngsters about computing and fathering many good academic children.