brandon amos. vitæ.

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Interests

My research interests are in the **mobile** and **distributed** computing space to enable technology for next-generation mobile applications.

Education

Carnegie Mellon University Ph.D. Student, Computer Science.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Starting August 2014

Virginia Tech

B.S., Computer Science, Honors Scholar. GPA: 3.99/4.00

Blacksburg, Virginia

August 2011–May 2014

Research Experience

Magnum Research Group

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Jules White

Blacksburg, Virginia May 2012–January 2014

- Work supported with ARO REU grant.
- Android malware detection research resulting in primary authorship on a conference publication.
- Led a small team to create a distributed **Actor** system in **Scala** for **machine learning** classification of APKs.
- Developed VC# and Python programs for a pilot study on manufacturing cyber-physical security.
- Assisted C++ and Make development in Linux for a deployment optimization framework.
- Modified the **Android source** to provide non-standard logging information for dynamic malware analysis.

Virginia Tech Computer Science

Blacksburg, Virginia

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Layne Watson

January 2013-May 2014

- Algorithm development for stochastic optimization using quasi-Newton methods for parameter estimation in Fortran 95 and OpenMP resulting in primary authorship on a conference publication.
- Bioinformatics research on yeast cell modeling using Fortran 95, C++, and Matlab.

Systems Software Research Group

Blacksburg, Virginia

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Dr. Binoy Ravindran

November 2012-March 2014

- Work supported with NSF and NEEC REU grants.
- Research on automatic **OpenMP** to **CUDA** translation using **C++** and the **ROSE** compiler framework.
- Polyhedral loop optimization research to restructure OpenCL kernels for locality using LLVM and Polly.
- Scala and Bash development in Linux.

Teaching Experience

Virginia Tech Computer Science Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

Blacksburg, Virginia

January 2013–May 2013

• Assisted students in a software design and data structures class using Java and Android.

Publications

Conference Proceedings.

- [1] T. Andrew, B. Amos, D. Easterling, C. Oguz, W. Baumann, J. Tyson, and L. Watson, "Global parameter estimation for a eukaryotic cell cycle model in systems biology," in 2014 Summer Simulation Multiconference, Society for Modeling and Simulation International, 2014.
- B. Amos, D. Easterling, L. Watson, B. Castle, M. Trosset, and W. Thacker, "Fortran 95 implementation of qustop for global and stochastic optimization," in 2014 Spring Simulation Multiconference, 22nd High Performance Computer Symposium, Society for Modeling and Simulation International, 2014.
- B. Amos, H. Turner, and J. White, "Applying machine learning classifiers to dynamic android malware detection at scale," in IWCMC'13 Security, Trust and Privacy Symposium, 2013.

Articles.

[4] H. Turner, J. White, B. Amos, J. Camelio, C. Williams, and R. Parker, "Bad parts: are our manufacturing systems at risk of silent cyber-attacks?" IEEE Security and Privacy Magazine, to appear.

Industry Experience

Adobe Research

San Jose, California

May 2014-August 2014

- Data Scientist Intern • Distributed systems research on building and benchmarking a web analytics processing engine with Scala, Spark, Spray, and Parquet.
 - Released 3 open source projects on the Adobe Research GitHub page and submitted a conference paper.

Snowplow Analytics

London, United Kingdom (Remote)

Software Winter Intern

December 2013-January 2014

- Open-source Scala development with a startup on the Snowplow analytics platform.
- Developed a new server using **Spray** and **Actors** to store **Apache Thrift** events on **Amazon Kinesis**.
- Completed project ahead of schedule, and also helped port Snowplow's Scala enrichment process to Kinesis.

Qualcomm Source Integrity Team Software Intern San Diego, California

May 2013-August 2013

- Developed a web application to modify an XML-based grammar for fuzz vector generation. Implemented with client-side HTML and js, using D3 for graphics and Handlebars for templating.
- Developed an XML-based grammar translator in C++ with the Xerces XML parser in Linux. Reimplemented in **Python** using the **ElementTree** XML API for better analysis and tree transformation.

Phoenix Integration

Blacksburg, Virginia

Software Engineer Intern

May 2012-August 2012

- Integrated a new licensing mode into CenterLink, a grid computing application, using **FLEXIm** and **Java**.
- Assisted development of industry software in VC++, VC#, Java, and Tomcat.
- Improved the testing (JUnit and NUnit) and installation (Ant, InstallShield, and Make) frameworks.

Sunapsys

Vinton, Virginia

Network Administrator Intern

January 2011-August 2011

- Internship in high school with a small local company to replace Windows domain, mail, DHCP, and DNS servers with virtualized Linux servers.
- Fully developed the servers and successfully migrated all of the office's computers.
- Created **Bash** scripts to provide incremental backups.

Projects

GitHub Portfolio - http://github.com/bamos

- Hosts code samples, original source code, and patches for open source projects.
- 23 original repositories, 7 forked repositories.

Personal Blog and Website - http://bamos.io

- Hosted on GitHub Pages. Uses Markdown for posts and Jekyll for static HTML generation.
- 40 posts across the following tags, listed by highest frequency.
- Python, Bash, Linux, IATEX, Fortran, Scala, Android, JavaScript, Zsh, CUDA, News, OpenMP, C++, Mathematica, mpv, Lua

Skills

- Preference. Mac, vim, git, Make, sbt
- Languages. Akka**, Bash**, C/C++**, C#*, Fortran**, HTML/CSS*, LATEX**, Java**, JavaScript**, Mathematica**, Make***, PHP*, Python***, R*, Scala***
- Systems. Android**, Linux***, Mac***
- Rankings. $1/10^* 3/10^{**} 5/10^{***} 7/10^{****}$

Honors & Awards

- Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Inducted 2014
- 1st Place Capstone Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science, 2014
- David Heilman Research Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science, 2014
 - Given to the Computer Science student with the most outstanding research experience.
- Senior Scholar Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science, 2014
 - Given to the senior in Computer Science with the most outstanding academic record.
- ACC Meeting of the Minds Undergraduate Research Conference, 2014
- Honorable Mention, CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award, 2014
 - 1 of 15 North American males awarded honorable mention for exemplary computer science research.
- Qualstar Award, Qualcomm, 2013
- Pi Mu Epsilon Honor Society, Inducted 2013
- Benjamin F. Bock Merit Scholarship, Virginia Tech Engineering, 2013–2014
- Sophomore Scholar Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science, 2013
- University Honors, Virginia Tech, 2012–2014
- Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence Scholar, Virginia Tech, 2012–2014
 - Merit-based scholarship providing a cyber-security research fellowship.
- Dean's List with Distinction, Virginia Tech, 2011–2014
- Engineering Merit Scholarship, Roanoke County Public Schools Education Foundation, 2011
 - Merit-based scholarship presented annually to one student in the graduating Engineering class.
- Papa John's Merit Scholarship, 2011
- Gay B. Shober Memorial Merit Scholarship, Roanoke County Federal Credit Union, 2011
- Pamplin Leader Scholarship, Virginia Tech, 2011
 - Merit-based scholarship presented to one student from each public high school in Virginia.
- I. Luck Gravett Memorial Merit Scholarship, Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, 2011
- Salem-Roanoke County Chamber of Commerce Merit Scholarship, 2011

Activities

- Honors Residential College, Virginia Tech, 2013–2014
- Hokies Pep Band, Virginia Tech, 2012–2013
- Computer Science Community Service, Virginia Tech, 2012
- Symphony Band, Virginia Tech, 2011–2012
- \bullet Linux and Unix Users Group, Virginia Tech, 2011–2012
- Galileo Living–Learning Community, Virginia Tech, 2011–2012
- Trumpet Section Leader, Marching Band, Northside High School, 2010–2011
- Tennis Team, Northside High School, 2008–2011