Education

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

08/2021- 12/2024

B.S. in Computer Science with a Double Major in Applied Mathematics and Statistics

GPA: 3.91/4

M.S.E in Computer Science (Advisor: Prof. Yinzhi Cao)

Coursework: Web Security, Operating Systems, Databases, Compilers & Interpreters, AI, Software System Design, Algorithms, Networks, Functional Programming

Research Interests

Web Security and Privacy, Mobile Security and Privacy, Machine Learning Security and Privacy

Publications

Zifeng Kang, **Muxi Lyu**, Zhengyu Liu, Jianjia Yu, Runqi Fan, Song Li, and Yinzhi Cao, Follow My Flow: Unveiling Client-Side Prototype Pollution Gadgets from One Million Real-World Websites, to appear in the Proceedings of the IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (Oakland), 2025.

• Won the Distinguished Paper Award.

Research Experience under SecLab JHU, Supervised by Prof. Yinzhi Cao

Follow My Flow: JavaScript Dynamic Analysis

September 2023 – May 2024

Client-Side Prototype Pollution Vulnerability Detection

- Investigated client-side prototype pollution gadgets in JavaScript, uncovering vulnerabilities across **one** million websites.
- Modified Chrome's V8 JavaScript engine to track data flow and enable dynamic runtime value injections.
- Designed a high-throughput MongoDB database to manage concurrent data processing for large-scale web crawling.
- Unveiled 133 zero-day vulnerabilities, including critical ones in Meta software and Vue, leading to CVE assignment and a bug bounty.

DARPA AI Cyber Challenge (AIxCC), Team 42-b3yond-6ug

May 2024 - July 2024

Automated Java Fuzzing Pipeline Development

- Developed an automated fuzzing pipeline leveraging JQF and Zest for Java applications, improving testing efficiency.
- Integrated large language models (LLMs) into the fuzzing process to iteratively generate and refine structural input generators.
- Overcame challenges such as dependency rebuilding, complex input generation, and feedback-driven build failure resolution.
- Contributed to the team's recognition as one of the top seven winners, receiving a \$2 million award.

Independent Research on Directed Grey-Box Fuzzing

July 2024 - Present

Enhancing Fuzzing for Web Applications

- Initiated an independent project combining ideas from previous research on vulnerability-guided flows and structured input generation.
- Developing a novel framework for Java fuzzing that addresses challenges in constraint solvers for closed-source APIs and cross-language communications.
- Utilizing machine learning techniques, such as graph neural networks, to prioritize seed scheduling based on bug-type knowledge.
- Collecting statistics on constraint usage in popular Java systems to identify patterns and improve input generation strategies.
- Designed the framework to target second-order vulnerabilities, advancing state-of-the-art fuzzing methodologies for web security.

JHU uCredit Dev Team — Link

May 2023 – Apr 2024

Software Developer (MERN stack - MongoDB, Express.js, React, Node.js)

Baltimore, MD

- Implemented website features for interactive degree auditing tailored to university students.
- Initiated the development of an advising chat-bot integrated with OpenAI and JHU information system.
- Utilized structured workflow and documenting skills to ensure the readability and scalability of the codebase.

JHU COLLAB, CAAMS Project Team

May 2022 - August 2023

Full-Stack Software Developer (**PERN stack** - PostgreSQL, Express.js, React, Node.js)

Baltimore, MD

- Developed a scalable hiring system for JHU students' career pursuits and professors' recruitment needs.
- Enhanced job-setup features with a streamlined process, improving user-friendliness compared to other systems.
- Demonstrated adaptability by successfully transitioning through various tech stacks.

Leadership

JHU HopHacks Organizer Team — Link

February 2022 - October 2024

Director

Baltimore, MD

- Led the planning and execution of the annual 36-hour hackathon, overseeing logistics, sponsorship, and event coordination for 300+ participants.
- Collaborated with university departments and external sponsors to secure funding and resources.
- Managed a team of 15 organizers, delegating tasks related to marketing, outreach, and operations to ensure smooth execution of the event.
- Organized workshops and mentorship sessions for participants, providing opportunities to learn from industry professionals and enhance technical skills.

JHU Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA)

May 2021 - May 2024

Vice President

Baltimore, MD

- Led an 8-member technology team in developing and maintaining software projects aimed at enhancing the campus experience for Chinese students.
- Organized and directed **four large-scale orientation programs**, welcoming and assisting over **1000 incoming students** from the Class of 2027.
- Facilitated conflict resolution and ensured smooth operations during high-attendance events, maintaining a positive and inclusive environment.

Teaching Experience

Fall 2024
Spring 2024
Fall 2022
Fall 2022

Academic Honors

Honorable Mention in the NSF GRFP competition

2025

Michael J. Muuss Research Award (\$3000 awarded from JHU CS)

2024 2024

Graduation with Honors in Computer Science

Dean's List Fall 2021 - Spring 2024

Technical Skills

Languages: Java, Python, JavaScript/TypeScript, C++, C, HTML/CSS, Matlab, R, Rust, Swift, Ruby

Databases: MongoDB, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Firebase

Technologies/Tools: Git, Linux/Ubuntu Server, AWS, Docker, JupyterNotebook, Latex, CAD