

SAMER NAJJAR

Personal portfolio: snajjar.me

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SKILLS

Languages

Python, Java, JavaScript, PHP, C++, Go

DevOps

Kubernetes, Terraform, Docker, CI/CD

Other

AI/ML, IAM, data science, web dev.

EXPERIENCE

Indeed, Inc., Austin, Texas

Sep 2022 - May 2024

Associate Security Software Engineer

- Worked on fraud threat detection and identity & access management (IAM).
- Migrated all company IAM roles to an open-source OIDC provider, as part of an initiative to save \$265,000 annually in licensing fees.
- Enhanced IP-scanning service by integrating third-party threat intel, expanding coverage from 0.00035% to 99.98% of IPv4 space, and increasing detected threats by 483% in two weeks. Commended by Security Director.
- Identified and fixed a 3-year-old bug, improving detection of malicious IPs on the company network by 31,000%.
- Identified and initiated a patch for a high-impact bug in the widely-used JupiterOne cyber asset analysis platform.
- Took initiative to streamline and partially automate our deployment process, saving several hours weekly for team.
- Independently developed a library of tools to automate performance metric reporting, saving several hours of manual data-collection and analysis monthly for the team.
- Identified a shortcoming in AWS' JWT processing related to restrictive timestamp types.
- Organized and managed a knowledge-sharing forum between business-critical security teams.
- Technologies used: Java, Go, Kubernetes, AWS, gRPC, IAM, Argo CD, Terraform, Docker

Komak Solutions, Missouri City, Texas

Apr - Sep 2019

Full-Stack Web Developer (contractor)

- Developed an online electricity supplier marketplace using TypeScript, MongoDB, AWS, ReactJS.
- Developed backend for processing orders, credit checks, and product filtering; designed frontend product cards.
- Noted by manager for consistently delivering sprint goals and having keen ability to quickly master new concepts.

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

In-progress

Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence

- GPA: 3.5
- Relevant coursework: machine learning, deep learning, Bayesian inference, MLE, neural networks, computer vision

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

May 2022

Bachelor of Science and Arts in Mathematics, Certificate in Elements of Computing

- 4.0 department GPA, 3.95 overall GPA
- Graduated with Highest Honors (top 4% of class)
- Relevant coursework: software engineering, machine learning, data analytics, web programming, linear algebra, discrete math, probability, multivariate calculus, cryptography, number theory, numerical analysis

Austin Community College, Austin, Texas

Dec 2019

Associate of Science in Mathematics, Associate of Arts in Foreign Language (French)

- 4.0 department GPA, 3.94 overall GPA

Certifications: Supervised Machine Learning by Stanford Online, Data Science Boot Camp by General Assembly

PROJECTS

Heart Arrhythmias ML Research: In an independent research project, I trained machine learning models on ECG data from 10,000+ patients to diagnose heart conditions, achieving 94% accuracy and a recall score of 0.93. Built in Python (sklearn, numpy, pandas, matplotlib). Used feature engineering and classifiers like KNN, decision trees, and logistic regression.

SuperTuxKart AI: In my graduate Deep Learning course, we trained a competitive AI for SuperTuxKart Ice-Hockey using DAgger imitation learning, with plans for strategic enhancements through reinforcement learning. I led the writing of a publication-worthy technical paper on our findings, highlighting the impact of machine learning in gaming.

"Squeezer" Website: With 3 other devs, built a web app that predicts stock short-squeezes from technical indicators. Used web scraping and APIs. Predictions updated semi-hourly by a cron job. Used SQL, PHP, Python, and AJAX.