Yingtong Liu

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EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine (UCI)

Ph.D. of Science in Computer Science; GPA: 3.76

CA, USA

Aug. 2016 - Aug. 2022

Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST)

Wuhan, China

Bachelor of Computer Science and Engineering; GPA: 3.9 (2/49)

Aug. 2011 - July. 2015

Professional skills

• C/C++, Python, Java, Shell, Linux, Solidity, Ethereum, Git, CI/CD, AWS, Automation testing

EXPERIENCE

Certik New York, NY

Sr. Software Engineer, evolution team

Sep 2022 - May 2023

- Worked on improving the security of blockchains by automation testing
- Developed company's internal fuzzing tools for smart contracts
- o Audited customers' smart contracts and provided PoCs for vulnerabilities

Microsoft Research Redmond, WA

Research Intern, New Security Ventures Team

June 2020 - Sep 2020

- Worked on developing performance benchmarks in Microsoft's OneFuzz platform
- Proposed the smart synchronization strategy of different fuzzers in OneFuzz

University of California, Irvine

Irvine, CA

Research Assistant, Trustworthy Systems Lab, Advisor: Ardalan Amiri Sani

Sep 2016 - Aug 2022

- Worked on the intersection of operating systems, system security and program analysis
- Lead Macaron project
- Lead Mousse project, published on EuroSys conference
- o Participated Sifter project, published on MobiCom conference
- o Participated Sugar project, published on ASPLOS conference

Ericsson Shanghai, China

Software Engineering Intern, MME Team

June 2017 - Sep 2017

• Worked on maintaining and improving Ericsson's internal Mobility Management Entity(MME) product

Huazhong University of Science and Technology

Wuhan, China

Research Assistant, Media and Communication Lab, Advisor: Chen Tian

Aug 2014 - Aug 2015

- Worked on researching the performance improvement of data center networks
- Proposed and implemented stacked congestion control method for datacenter bandwidth allocation, published on INFOCOM conference

Research Projects

• Macaron (Nov. 2020 – Oct. 2022)

The Google kernel fuzzing platform syzbot constantly reports plenty of bugs caused by race condition. However, a lot of those bugs cannot be reliably reproduced even using their reproducers because of their complexity. This work focuses on building a framework to automatically and reliably reproduce non-deterministic bugs in Syzbot.

Skills: C++, LLVM, Linux kernel, QEMU, Fuzzing, Symbolic execution

• Sifter (April. 2020 – Dec. 2021)

In Sifter, we developed fine-grained, highly-selective seccomp/eBPF filters to reduce the attack surface of security-critical Linux kernel modules and make their vulnerabilities unreachable for untrusted programs.

Skills: Seccomp, ebpf, Linux kernel

• Mousse (June. 2018 – Dec. 2020)

Mousse is a system we developed for analyzing programs that interact with complex external environments using Selective Symbolic Execution (SSE). We present solutions to overcome important challenges stemming from the program's complex environment. These solutions include a novel OS-level SSE design, environment-aware concurrent execution, and distributed execution of program paths.

Skills: C++/C, Selective symbolic execution/S2E, OS services, QEMU, LLVM

• Sugar (Sep. 2016 - Sep. 2017)

Sugar leverages modern GPU virtualization solution to provide untrusted web applications with a dedicated virtual graphics plane. Sugar enhances the system security since a virtual graphics plane from the user space to the kernel is fully isolated from the rest of the system.

Skills: C++, GPU virtualization, WebGL, Chromium

• Multi-Tenant Multi-Objective Bandwidth Allocation in Data centers (Sep. 2015 - Dec. 2016)

Bandwidth allocation in data centers should support not only performance isolation among divisions but also objective-oriented scheduling among flows within the same division. This work studies the Multi-Tenant Multi-Objective (MT-MO) bandwidth allocation problem.

Skills: TCP/IP, Python, Data center networks, NS2 simulation

Publications

- Hsin-Wei Hung, Yingtong Liu, Ardalan Amiri Sani. Sifter: Protecting Security-Critical Kernel Modules in Android through Attack Surface Reduction. In Proc. ACM Int. Conf. Mobile Computing and Networking (MobiCom), October 2022.
- Yingtong Liu, Hsin-Wei Hung, Ardalan Amiri Sani. Mousse: A System for Selective Symbolic Execution of Programs with Untamed Environments. In Proc. ACM European Conference on Computer Systems (EuroSys), April 2020.
- Zhihao Yao, Zongheng Ma, Yingtong Liu, Ardalan Amiri Sani, Aparna Chandramowlishwaran. Sugar: Secure GPU Acceleration in Web Browsers. In Proc. ACM Int. Conf. Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS), March 2018.
- Chen Tian, Ali Munir, Alex X. Liu, Yingtong Liu, Yanzhao Li, Jiajun Sun, Fan Zhang, and Gong Zhang. Multi-Tenant Multi-Objective Bandwidth Allocation in Datacenters Using Stacked Congestion Control. In Proceedings of IEEE INFOCOM, 2017.

Honors and Awards

- External reviewer. MobiSvs'21
- Student Travel Grant. ASPLOS'18
- Deans Award Stewardship. UCI. 2016
- PhD fellowship. UCI. 2016
- Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award (11/440). Hubei Province. 2015
- National Grant. HUST. 2014

- \bullet Academic Excellence Scholarship. HUST. 2012 & 2013 & 2014
- Scholarship for Excellent Freshman. HUST. 2011