



Akshith Gunasekaran

Publication

- 2021 **Recovery of Symbolic Mathematics and Software Re-Synthesis of Control Binaries.**
- Decompilation of Control Binaries
 - Isolation of Symbolic Mathematical Expressions
 - AST translation of Symbolic Expressions
 - Software Re-Synthesis and Verification
- 2020 **MultiK: A Framework for Orchestrating Multiple Specialized Kernels.**
- Kernel specialized per application to reduce the attack surface.
 - A kernel multiplexing framework with close to bare-metal context switching performance.
- NDSS 2019 **Balancing Image Privacy and Usability with Thumbnail-Preserving Encryption.**
- An image encryption scheme that balances privacy and usability.
 - Deployable with no changes to your cloud storage backend.
 - Try it at photoencryption.org

Projects / Research In Progress

- 2022 **Adversarial Attacks on Code Completion Models.**
- Targeted and Non-Targeted Attacks on Code Completion Models
 - Attacks on GPT-2 based code completion model
 - Attacks on LSTM based code completion model
 - Data poisoning and model poisoning attacks
- 2021 **Fine-grained Analysis of Kernel Non-Determinism.**
- Static and Dynamic analysis of non-deterministic code paths in the Linux kernel
 - Improved code coverage for profilers.
 - Effective bug finding and attack surface reduction.

Education

- 2017 - 2022 **PhD - Computer Science, Oregon State University, Corvallis.**
- Area of Focus: System Security, Applied Cryptography, AI
 - Co-Advised by: Rakesh Bobba, Yeongjin Jang
 - Research: Linux Kernel Security, Static Analysis, Dynamic Analysis, Data flow analysis, Adversarial attacks on machine learning.
 - Research Tools: LLVM, Qemu, GDB, Python, C/C++, TensorFlow, Adversarial Attacks
 - Coursework: CS Theory (algorithms, graph theory, distributed systems), Security (operating systems, cryptography), AI (machine learning, reinforcement learning, machine learning security)
- 2012 - 2016 **BTech - Computer Science, SRM University, Chennai.**
- Activities: ABU Asia-Pacific Robot Contest, Semantic Search Engine.
 - Venture: Simpl, a fin-tech startup.

Work

- Summer 2021 **Research Intern - Intelligent Systems Lab, PARC, a Xerox Company.**
- Locating and Isolating software features in binary application
 - Automated test generation
 - Designing search based techniques for software synthesis
 - Methods for evaluating equivalency of software applications
 - Evaluation of neural decompilation methods

- Winter 2017 **Winter Intern - MIT Media Lab, Human Dynamics Group.**
- Mentored by: Dazza Greenwood
 - Investigate and design applications that use decentralized identities
 - Prototyped a decentralized autonomous organization
 - Tools: Node, Solidity, web3.js, Ethereum, TravisCI
- 2014 - 2017 **Software Developer/Founding Team, Simpl.**
- A buy now, pay later service
 - Used by 5 Mil + users
 - Scaled the service using an event-based/pub-sub microservice architecture (1 of 4 devs)
 - Built the data engineering pipeline, for Business Intelligence queries (1 of 2 devs)
 - Tools: Golang, Ruby on Rails, Python, Redis, Kafka, RabbitMQ, Spark, Cassandra, Datadog

Activities

- Current **CTF Team, OSUSEC.**
- Skills: Pwn, Reverse Engineering, Program Analysis, Forensics
- Summer 2019 **Instructor, Pacific North West Cyber Camp.**
- A week long hands-on educational camp for high school students
 - Topics include basic computer/network security hardening, cyber ethics
 - Delivered the course material and instructed the lab sessions
- Winter 2021 **Teaching Assistant, CS427 Cryptography.**
- Fall 2021 **Teaching Assistant, CS370 Introduction to Security.**
- 2020 **Poster Jury, IEEE Security and Privacy.**
- 2020 **Shadow Program Committee, IEEE Security and Privacy.**
- 2019 **External Reviewer, ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security.**
- 2019 **External Reviewer, IEEE Real-Time and Embedded Technology and Applications Symposium.**
- 2019 **External Reviewer, IEEE International Conference on Dependable Systems and Network.**
- Summer 2018 **Volunteer, Pacific North West Cyber Camp.**
- Fall 2017 **Teaching Assistant, CS290 Web Technologies and Web Security.**
- Since 2015 **Research Mentor, Next Tech Lab.**
- A Multidisciplinary undergrad research lab
 - International QS Award For Re-imagining Education
 - I advise undergrads on Security and Privacy topics