



Alex Bellon

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Computer Science

2021 - Present

University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA

- Advised by [Alex Snoeren](#) and [Deian Stefan](#), with a focus on the security of embedded and IoT devices and firmware. Part of [SysNet](#) and [CryptoSec](#) groups

B.S., Computer Science, B.S. Mathematics

2017 - 2021

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Security Engineering Intern

Summer 2020

Mozilla, Mountain View, CA (remote)

- Researched security issues in language-based package managers like Cargo, NPM and PyPI
- Calculated attack possibilities for package maintainer account takeover, package code compromise, and vulnerability exploitation
- Used research about past security incidents to fix security scoring algorithm on Mozilla's Dependency Observatory (github.com/mozilla-services/dependency-observatory) project, used to estimate the security of NPM packages

Security Analyst Intern

Summer 2019

Electronic Arts, Seattle, WA

- Used Python to automate checking for open ports and other attack vectors on EA's cloud instances.
- Scanned 800+ instances, found 1400+ security incidents sending summary of vulnerabilities to affected parties, with descriptions of the vulnerabilities and instructions to resolve them

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergrad. TA - CS349 Contemporary Issues in Comp. Sci.

Spring 2021

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

- Graded assignments and held office hours for a class of 40+ students
- Shared resources and information regarding ethical and social issues in computer science

Undergrad. TA - CS361 Intro to Security

Spring, Fall 2019

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

- Created and graded security-focused assignments for 80+ students
- Lectured on various topics in security including cryptography and data forensics
- Wrote, hosted and ran a CTF competition for the students' final exam

HONORS

San Diego Fellowship, UCSD Graduate Division

2021

Cactus Standout Award, UT Cactus Yearbook

2021

Louis E. Rosier Memorial Scholarship, UT Dept. of Computer Science

2020/2021

Tapia Conference Scholarship, UT Dept. of Computer Science

2020

USENIX Security Diversity Grant, USENIX Security

2020

Grace Hopper Conference Scholarship, UT Dept. of Computer Science

2019

BlackHat Student Scholarship, BlackHat

2019

DEFCON 27 Scholarship, Women in Security & Privacy

2019

Jack S. Blanton Family Scholarship, Texas Exes Houston Chapter

2017/2018

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Most comfortable in Python, Java and C; familiar with C++, MySQL, JS, HTML/CSS and Haskell.

Comfortable with Linux (Ubuntu, Arch/Manjaro) and UNIX, Shell (`bash`, `zsh`), `git`, `vim`, `LATEX`, and command line tools. Familiar with Wireshark, Ghidra, `gdb`, Kubernetes and Docker.