Ayush **Bansal**

Founder, Hacker, Musician, Geek

Wired in · Urbana, Illinois, United States

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Edu**cation**

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
Urbana, Illinois

PH.D. (DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY) IN COMPUTER SCIENCE — *2024 - Present*
- Working in the area of **Systems and Networking**.
- Advised by **Prof. Tianyin Xu**.

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)
Kanpur, India

BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY, MAJOR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING — *2016 - 2020*
- Cumulative Performance Index / CGPA: 9.0/10.0.
- Specialized in Systems (kernel systems and security) and Programming Languages (verification and formal methods).

Wor**k Experience**

Siebel School of Computing and Data Science, UIUC
Urbana, Illinois

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT — *Aug 2024 - Present*
- Worked on Low-Latency Networking, re-imagining the QoS (Quality of Service) of applications. End-host devices can significantly improve the QoS of applications without any support from the core network. Treating packets with heterogeneous performance goals differently on the end host leads to huge benefits in latency.
- Developing a real-time query-able database system for satellite images, solving problems of communication and make it fast and cost-effective.
- Worked on improving the usage of eBPF by bridging the language-verifier gap and analyzing the model of verifier using abstract interpretation.

Freelance: Venture Capital & Startups
Remote

ADVISOR & CONSULTANT — *Jan 2023 - Present*
- Work as a **deeptech expert** for **evaluating potential deals** for institutional and micro VC funds.
- Advise young startups and various portfolio companies on **technical architecture, product planning and hiring**.

NimbleEdge
Bangalore, India

CO-FOUNDER AND CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER — *Mar 2021 - Feb 2024*
- **NimbleEdge is revolutionising the way world computes**, migrating compute from the cloud to the edge (or user) devices, i.e. capturing free real estate. We take care of complex things like the diversity of computing power, OS or communication mediums.
- Raised a **pre-seed round of $3.3 Million** from **Neotribe Ventures** (based out of Silicon Valley) & **Sistema Asia Capital** as institutional investors.
- **Built the entire Technology** (Systems, Development and DevOps), **Content, Marketing** and **Human Resources team** from scratch.
- Brought in **OYO, Dream11 & Glance (Inmobi) as clients** for the company, each having **scale of more than 100 Million Monthly Active Users**.
- Built the **NimbleNet (Peer-to-Peer communication SDK)**, our main product to be completely agnostic of any operating system & architecture.
- Built the entire Infrastructure for our **Aggregating Service** (Cloud Service) to be able to handle **scale of 100s of Millions of devices**.
- Completed the Paid Pilot with OYO via A/B testing over 100 Thousand devices with incredible results in CTR improvement & cloud cost reduction.
- Technologies focussed: C/C++, Golang, Scala, Distributed Edge Computing, Homomorphic Encryption, Peer-to-Peer Communication Protocols.
- Our clients are able to unlock the power of **Hyper-personalization - Billion models for Billion users** and access to untapped data with un-limited revenue potential. All this while **saving enormous cloud costs, improving performance and enhancing end user privacy**.

Tower Research Capital
Gurgaon, India

LOW LATENCY SOFTWARE DEVELOPER — *Aug 2020 - Mar 2021*
- Write efficient and maintainable automated software in C++ allowing us to ensure our correct position in the market.
- Develop cutting-edge software in C++ and Python which allow trading teams to run strategies smoothly.
- **Maintained the entire Trade Reconciliation System** along with a team of 2 people for all the markets that Tower Research Capital trades on.
- **Expanded the Tower's Trading & Reconciliation System** to allow trading **on Taiwan Futures & Crypto Exchanges like FTX, Huobi**.
- **Developed low latency Simulation Software** in C++ and Python running within containerized environment for **testing out trading strategies and platform**. Simulated the trading with custom exchanges developed in-house using historical market data.

InterviewVector
Gurgaon, India

CO-FOUNDER AND CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER — *June 2020 - Aug 2020*
- InterviewVector **created Interview as a Service (IaaS) category** helping companies in hiring for Technical roles across teams.
- We believe Engineers' precious time is better spent churning out the next big feature, not on taking interviews to weed out the unfit candidates.
- Signed **more than 10 clients** including emerging unicorns **like BharatPe & MindTickle in first 3 months**.
- **Bootstrapped** the business to an **ARR of $170,000 in just 4 months**.

Eightfold.ai
Noida, India

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER INTERN — *Apr 2020 - June 2020*
- Configured and deployed the **complete Alert Management System for the production & development environment**.
- **Re-designed the complete product model** to facilitate and **setup Behavior Driven Development style of testing** using Selenium Framework.
- Reduced the **time taken to run the complete test suite from 62 minutes to less than 10 minutes (84%)**.

Core Engineering, Tower Research Capital
Gurgaon, India

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER INTERN — *May 2019 - July 2019*
- Containerized and automated Trade Reconciliation setup to run as microservices on bare metal Kubernetes.
- Developed low latency software in C++ to facilitate integration and regression testing of Trade Reconciliation setup by inducing ``deterministic mutations" on the network stream to simulate diverse un-reconciliation or trading-platform failure scenarios.
- Received a Pre-Placement Offer even though there was no vacant position, out of ~35 interns.

Google Summer of Code

OPENPRINTING, THE LINUX FOUNDATION   *May 2018 - August 2018*
- Worked on the Common Print Dialog Project, developing backend connecting and serving all available printers to the Common backend.
- The Dialog allowed access to the available printing queues such as "CUPS", "Google Cloud Print" and more via "Dbus" on the network/system.

New York Office, IIT Kanpur   *Kanpur, India*

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT & FULL STACK DEVELOPER, SUPERVISOR PROF. MANINDRA AGRAWAL   *May 2017 - Mar 2020*
- Worked on a scalable microservice based web application with an extensive technology stack.
- Developed and deployed the data sharing functionality (using Kafka, Redis, Scala and Go).
- Deployed microservices utilizing Docker, Coreos Container Linux, ConcourseCI, JenkinsCI, and have maintained the cluster on Kubernetes.
- Configured and deployed complete Persistent Volume Storage System, ConcourseCI and pipelines for diverse microservices.
- Developed and deployed LeaderBoard, an Automated Ranking and Scoring System using Ruby on Rails.
- Technologies used: Kubernetes, Docker, Kafka, JenkinsCI, Ruby on Rails, Nginx, Coreos Applications, Rook with Cephfs, Glusterfs.

Publications

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Rex: Closing the language-verifier gap with safe and usable kernel extensions
   Jinghao Jia, Ruowen Qin, Milo Craun, Egor Lukiyanov, Ayush Bansal, Michael V. Le, Hubertus Franke, Hani Jamjoom, Tianyin Xu, Dan Williams
   In Proceedings of 2025 USENIX Annual Technical Conference (USENIX ATC '25)

Projects

Typed PRNGs: Random Numbers with custom randomness   *IIT Kanpur*

UNDER PROF. SATYADEV NANDAKUMAR AND PROF. PRAMOD SUBRAMANYAN   *Jan 2020 - June 2020*
- Random Data generation should consider that the user can request high-quality random data or a significant amount of pseudorandom data. In other words, a random number generator can produce data of varying levels of randomness according to the user's needs.
- Linux's getrandom() faces the problem of blocking when there isn't enough entropy available to produce high-quality random numbers.
- We tested the properties of injectivity over the mixing function (core of Linux PRNG) which takes entropy stores and bytes of data as input and mixes in output block/non-blocking pools, we got some interesting results in that.
- Paper on Arxiv - Analysis of Linux-PRNG (Pseudo Random Number Generator)

pROP: Programmable Return Oriented Programming   *IIT Kanpur*

UNDERGRADUATE PROJECT, PROF. DEBADATTA MISHRA   *Jan 2019 - Apr 2019*
- Worked with **x86_64 binaries to invoke any particular syscall** by performing static analysis & using concepts of Return Oriented Programming.
- Developed a **tool (pROP) for building a ROP chain from ROP gadgets** to exploit the 64-bit binaries by invoking a particular syscall.
- Focussed technologies and areas: C/C++, Python, Systems Security - Overflows & Exploits, Computer Architecture, Operating Systems.
- Paper on Arxiv - A practical analysis of ROP attacks

InVaSion: Input Validation with Symbolic Execution   *IIT Kanpur*

RESEARCH PROJECT, PROF. SUBHAJIT ROY   *May 2018 - Nov 2018*
- Worked on **forking-based symbolic execution engines to tackle the problem of Path Explosion** with goal of increasing code and branch coverage for programs requiring formatted inputs such image readers or video players.
- Formulated a framework to represent the formatted input as a FSA, an input specification language (ISL) to be used by a software.
- Developed a **tool in Ruby to parse and compile the ISL, and appending this ISL to the input program**, generating a set of logical constraints on execution by symbolic execution engine, with the goal of guiding symbolic execution tool to produce better inputs.
- **Improved branch coverage by greater than 150%** on programs in Siemens Test Suite, MiBench and Tiff library which require formatted input.
- Focussed technologies and areas: C/C++, Ruby, Compilers, Formal Methods - Software Verification, Symbolic Execution and Fuzzing.
- Paper on Arxiv - Input Validation with Symbolic Execution

Linux From Scratch: Compiled Linux System from Source and Built a Package Manager   *IIT Kanpur*

ASSOCIATION OF COMPUTING ACTIVITIES   *Feb 2017 - Apr 2017*
- Created a **Customized Linux based operating system** by compiling all packages from scratch using the host machine's kernel.
- Built a **Package Manager in python** which fetched the dependencies of packages and created a dependency list based on packages installed.
- Blog post with details - ayushb.org/posts/linux-from-scratch/

Positions of Responsibility

Teaching Assistant DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, IIT KANPUR   *July 2019 - July 2020*
- **Tutored multiple groups of 40 students** in basics of C programming, for the course ``Introduction to Programming".
- **Designed and graded assignments, quizzes and exams** for the course **of ~1000 students**.

System Administrator IIT KANPUR   *Mar 2018 - July 2020*
- **Administered a cloud in IIT Kanpur**, deploying and managing services **for the campus community**.
- Maintained the **Arch Linux, Gentoo and other mirrors** hosted by IIT Kanpur for the rest of the world.

Coordinator PROGRAMMING CLUB, IIT KANPUR   *Mar 2018 - Feb 2019*
- **Organized, and set problems** for various **capture the flag** and **programming contests** on campus.
- Conducted lecture series and workshops on programming topics.
- **Organized the Summer Camp & the Winter Camp**, & **mentored over 50 students** in various topics who completed projects in distinct fields.
- **Mentored 12 students in building IoT applications** using Amazon Echo/Alexa and Google Home as a Semester Project.

Honors & Awards

2020	**Academic Excellence Award**, Exceptional Academic Performance, for 3 consecutive years.	*CSE, IITK*
2019	**Exceptional Course Tutor**, Academic Year 2019-2020, rated exceptionally good by the students.	*IITK*
2016	**All India Rank 187**, Joint Entrance Exam Advanced, 200,000 candidates	*India*
2016	**All India Rank 571**, Joint Entrance Exam Mains, 1.5 million candidates	*India*
2016	**All India Rank 52**, KVPY Scholarship, Indian Institute of Science and Government of India	*Bangalore, India*
2015	**Merit Certificate, National Top 1%**, Indian National Chemistry Olympiad	*India*
2015	**Merit Certificate, National Top 1%**, Indian National Astronomy Olympiad	*India*

Relevant Coursework

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE   *Aug 2024 - Present*

Advanced Computer Networks	Advanced Distributed Systems	Advanced Topics in Internet of Things
(i) Distributed Algorithms		

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING   *July 2016 - July 2020*

(A∗) Abstract Algebra	Discrete Mathematics	Theory of Computation
(A∗) Programming Tools and Techniques	Data Structures and Algorithms	Computer Organization
(A∗) Principles of Programming Languages	Algorithms II	Operating Systems
Computer Networks	Systems Security	Compiler Design
Probability and Statistics	Advanced Statistical Methods	Introduction to Machine Learning
Blockchain Technology & Application	Modern Cryptology	Designing Verifiably Secure Systems

A∗: Grade for Exceptional Performance   *i: In progress*

Skills

Languages	C/C++, Python, Golang, Scala, Rust, Javascript/TypeScript, Haskell, Ruby, Java, Oz, Perl
Web	Akka with Scala, Gin with Golang, Node.js, React, Flask, Ruby on Rails, Django
Utilities	Linux shell utilities, Git, Docker, Kubernetes, eBPF, Ansible, AWS, Azure, Kafka, GDB, Postgres, MySQL, MongoDB, LaTeX, Jenkins, Vim