

# Cen Zhang

## Curriculum Vitae

Cyber Security Lab  
Nanyang Technological University  
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1995/05/07, Male



### Education

- 2019 – 2023 **Ph.D of Computer Science**  
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- 2014 – 2017 **Master of Computer Science**  
University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, Anhui
- 2009 – 2013 **Bachelor of Computer Science**  
North China Electric Power University, Baoding, Hebei

### Research Interests

- Fuzzing; Vulnerability Detection; AI for Software Security;

### General Information

- Total citations 292 with h-index 8, ◦ Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) of ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award (2023 & 2024) 500,000+ SGD government projects
- 70+ CVEs, \$10,000+ Bug Bounty ◦ Testing, Vulnerability Detection from Apple & Samsung

### Awards

- ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award, ICSE 2024
- ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award, ASE 2023
- Best Paper Award of Year 2021, Most Influential Research Paper Election of Ant Finance
- Best Early-Research-Achievement Paper, APSEC 2020
- 1st Award in Prototype Competition (freestyle track), NASAC 2019
- The Best New Employee Award of Year 2017, IFLYTEK Co, Ltd

### Publications (\* for Co-first Author)

- Zhengjie Du, Yuekang Li, Yaowen Zheng, Xiaohan Zhang, **Cen Zhang**, Yi Liu, Sheikh Mahbub Habib, Xinghua Li, Linzhang Wang, Yang Liu, Bing Mao. Medusa: Unveil Memory Exhaustion DoS Vulnerabilities in Protocol Implementations, **WWW 2024**.

- Yiming Liu, **Cen Zhang**, Feng Li, Yeting Li, Jianhua Zhou, Jian Wang, Lanlan Zhan, Yang Liu, Wei Huo. Semantic-Enhanced Static Vulnerability Detection in Baseband Firmware, **ICSE 2024 Acceptance Rate: 8% (65/808), \$10,000+ Bug Bounty from Samsung ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award**
- Yao Zhang, Xiaofei Xie, Yi Li, Sen Chen, **Cen Zhang**, Xiaohong Li. EndWatch: A Practical Method for Detecting Non-Termination in Real-World Software, **ASE 2023 ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award**
- \*Xinyi Wang, \***Cen Zhang**, Yeting Li, Zhiwu Xu, Shuailin Huang, Yi Liu, Yican Yao, Yang Xiao, Yanyan Zou, Yang Liu, and Wei Huo. Effective ReDoS Detection by Principled Vulnerability Modeling and Exploit Generation, **IEEE S&P 2023**
- **Cen Zhang**, Yuekang Li, Hao Zhou, Xiaohan Zhang, Yaowen Zheng, Xian Zhan, Xiaofei Xie, Xiapu Luo, Xinghua Li, Yang Liu, and Sheikh Mahbub Habib. Automata-Guided Control-Flow-Sensitive Fuzz Driver Generation, **USENIX Security 23**
- Yi Liu, Yuekang Li, Gelei Deng, Yao Du, **Cen Zhang**, Chengwei Liu, Yeting Li, Lei Ma, Yang Liu. Aster: Automatic Speech Recognition System Accessibility Testing for Stutterers, **ASE 2023**
- **Cen Zhang**, Mingqiang Bai, Yaowen Zheng, Yeting Li, Xiaofei Xie, Yuekang Li, Wei Ma, Limin Sun, Yang Liu. Understanding Large Language Model Based Fuzz Driver Generation, Arxiv 2023
- Yaowen Zheng, Yuekang Li, **Cen Zhang**, Hongsong Zhu, Yang Liu, and Limin Sun. Efficient Greybox Fuzzing of Applications in Linux-Based IoT Devices via Enhanced User-Mode Emulation, **ISSTA 2022**
- **Cen Zhang**, Xingwei Lin, Yuekang Li, Yinxing Xue, Jundong Xie, Hongxu Chen, Xinlei Ying, Jiashui Wang, and Yang Liu. APICraft: Fuzz Driver Generation for Closed-source SDK Libraries, **USENIX Security 21 Best paper award of Ant Financial Group in 2021**
- Muhui Jiang, Lin Ma, Yajin Zhou, Qiang Liu, **Cen Zhang**, Zhi Wang, Xiapu Luo, Lei Wu, and Kui Ren. ECMO: Peripheral Transplantation to Rehost Embedded Linux Kernels, **CCS 2021**
- \*Qiang Liu, \***Cen Zhang**, Lin Ma, Muhui Jiang, Yajin Zhou, Lei Wu, Wenbo Shen, Xiapu Luo, Yang Liu, and Kui Ren. FirmGuide: Boosting the Capability of Rehosting Embedded Linux Kernels Through Model-Guided Kernel Execution, **ASE 2021**
- \***Cen Zhang**, \*Yuekang Li, Hongxu Chen, Xiaoxing Luo, Miaohua Li, Anh Quynh Nguyen, and Yang Liu. BIFF: Practical Binary Fuzzing Framework for Programs of IoT and Mobile Devices, **ASE 2021 1st Award in NASAC 2019 Competition**
- Yuekang Li, Guozhu Meng, Jun Xu, **Cen Zhang**, Hongxu Chen, Xiaofei Xie, Haijun Wang, and Yang Liu. Vall-nut: Principled anti-grey box fuzzing, **ISSRE 2021**
- Yuekang Li, Hongxu Chen, **Cen Zhang**, Siyang Xiong, Chaoyi Liu, and Yi Wang. Ori: A Greybox Fuzzer for SOME/IP Protocols in Automotive Ethernet, **APSEC 2020 Best Paper Award in ERA track**

- Hongxu Chen, Shengjian Guo, Yinxing Xue, Yulei Sui, **Cen Zhang**, Yuekang Li, Haijun Wang, and Yang Liu. MUZZ: Thread-aware grey-box fuzzing for effective bug hunting in multithreaded programs, **USENIX Security 20**
- Yuekang Li, Yinxing Xue, Hongxu Chen, Xiuheng Wu, **Cen Zhang**, Xiaofei Xie, Haijun Wang, and Yang Liu. Cerebro: context-aware adaptive fuzzing for effective vulnerability detection, **ESEC FSE 2019**

## Public Services

- Program Committee, Artificial Evaluation Track, ASE 2022
- Reviewer, IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS)

## Patents

- Control-flow-sensitive fuzz driver generation. **In the application progress of NTU-Conti Corp Lab.**
- Semi-automated harness generation for dynamic software analysis. **In the application progress of NTU-Conti Corp Lab.**
- Efficient Greybox fuzzing for Automotive Grade Linux (AGL) Applications. **In the application progress of NTU-Conti Corp Lab.**

## Teaching Experience

- Guest Lecturer for Introduction of Software Engineering, Undergraduate Course of NTU, 2023 Aug
- Teaching Assistant for Introduction of Software Engineering, Undergraduate Course of NTU, 2019 Jul - 2022 Jan, Five Semesters
- Teaching Assistant for Introduction of Information Security, Undergraduate Course of USTC, 2016 Jan - 2017 Jan, Two Semesters

## Work Experience

### Software Vulnerability

23/03 – now **Research Associate**  
18/11 – 19/07 NTU, Singapore

16/06 – 16/10 **Intern of Department of Vulnerability Mining**  
China Information Technology Security Evaluation Center, Beijing

15/08 – 16/02 **Intern of Vulcan Team**  
Qihoo 360 Technology Co, Ltd, Beijing

### Microservice

17/07 – 18/10 **Algorithm and Engine Development Engineer**  
AI Research Institute, IFLYTEK Co, Ltd, Hefei, Anhui