

Mitchell Zakocs

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Relevant Experience

Software Simulation Engineer Intern, NASA • Greenbelt, MD

May 2022 - Aug 2022

- Interned on a team working towards replacing radio communications on the ISS with laser/[optical communication](#)
- Tasked with writing a [Python](#) simulator for the [ISS hardware](#) and integrating it with NASA flight control software
- Worked alongside some of the masterminds behind the James Webb Space Telescope project, hardware engineers straight out of MIT, and other interns from universities all around the US

Computer Security Research Aide, Arizona State University SEFCOM Lab • Tempe, AZ

Jun 2021 - Present

- Writing automated tools to discover bugs in important software (Chrome, Windows) and exploiting them
- Analyzed and audited a laser communications system for satellites alongside DARPA, Arm®, and Honeywell
- Researched industry-standard [software obfuscation](#) solutions and wrote IDA [Python](#) plugins to mitigate them

Business Operations Analyst Intern, Culdesac • Tempe, AZ

Aug 2021 - Dec 2021

- Designed meaningful data dashboards using [Looker](#) and [SQL](#) by amassing insights & visualizations; influenced large company decisions regarding leases, deposits, properties, etc.
- Ventured into Data Engineering and data pipeline management using [LookML](#), [dbt](#), and [Google BigQuery](#)

Software Applications Engineer Intern, Ordertech • Tempe, AZ

Mar 2020 - Aug 2020

- Engineered a unified communications system using [WebRTC](#), [Java](#), [Python](#), and [JavaScript](#) for integrated phone call and text chat functionality; yielded company up to [35% increased revenue](#) on certain clients for CRM services
- Devised a productivity-focused [cloud](#) email system for managing customer support tickets and internal tasks

Electrical Software Engineer Intern, Circuit Specialists • Tempe, AZ

Aug 2019 - Jan 2020

- Developed software for embedded microcontrollers in [Python](#) and [C](#) programming languages
 - Launched projects for clients involving extensive integrated PCB design, custom firmware programming, debugging, soldering, reverse-engineering, troubleshooting, rewiring, battery rebuilding, and more
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Highlighted Projects

Personal Website (mitchellzakocs.com)

2021

- Designed, developed, and maintained a personal website & technical blog using [React](#) and [Next.js](#)
- Contains several blog posts regarding computer security, software virtualization, kernel development, and more

CVE-2021-21551-POC (github.com/mzakocs/CVE-2021-21551-POC)

2020

- Reverse-engineered, analyzed, and documented a severe [kernel vulnerability](#) in a Dell BIOS Driver
 - Wrote a well-documented and stable [C++](#) exploit for the vulnerability and published a writeup in a [blog post](#)
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Education & Certifications

Arizona State University, Ira. A Fulton & Barrett Honors College • Tempe, AZ

2021 - 2025

- *Computer Science (Software Engineering), BS, 4.0 GPA*
 - *Extracurriculars: Officer, ASU Hacking Club; Member, Shellphish CTF Team; Researcher, SEFCOM Security Lab*
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Awards & Achievements

Flinn Scholar: 1/20 students selected from nearly 1000 applicants to receive a prestigious full-ride scholarship

Seal of Biliteracy: Recognized fluency in Spanish through difficult standardized language & culture assessments

PicoCTF 2021: Computer Security competition; scored Top 10 in the US for solo teams and Top 100 in the US overall

Scudder Award: Award for outstanding academic excellence, high standards of character, and intellectual curiosity

Relevant Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript, Java, C++, C, x86 Assembly, C#, HTML, CSS

Technologies: React, Django, Qt, Node.js, Next.js, Express.js, jQuery, ExtJS, JSP, Material-UI, Chrome API, WinAPI

Data Management: MongoDB, PostgreSQL, BigQuery, REST, Looker, dbt, Apollo, GraphQL

Miscellaneous: Git, GitHub, Kubernetes, Docker, Visual Studio, gdb, CMake, Linux / Unix, Chrome Devtools