NAVEEN REDDY POGALLA

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EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University — University Park, PA
Master of Science - Cybersecurity Analytics and Operations | CGPA: 4.0/4.0 — Aug 2023 - Dec 2024
Courses: Network Security and Management, Penetration Testing, Information Security & Assurance, Cybersecurity Analytics, Software Security

Shri Ramdeobaba College of Engineering and Management — Nagpur, India
Bachelor of Engineering - Computer Science and Engineering — August 2018 - June 2022
Courses: Operating Systems, Database Management Systems, Computer Network, Introduction to IoT, Enterprise Systems

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

GRANT THORNTON LLP — June 2024 - Aug 2024
Cybersecurity Consulting | Role: Cybersecurity and Privacy Intern — *Philadelphia, PA, USA*

- Conducted technical security testing with a specialization in network-focused cyber-attack simulations, and comprehensive threat and vulnerability assessments.
- Working on developing an AI-powered red team chatbot aimed at robustly testing the security configurations of LLMs
- Assisting in incident response readiness activities, including tabletop exercises and evaluations of incident response capabilities.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY — Jan 2024 - May 2024
Teaching Assistant — *University Park, PA, USA*

- Assisted the instructor for two courses EA 876: Architecting Enterprise Security and Risk Analysis and IST 866: Threat Hunting and Offensive Cybersecurity under Dr. Edward J. Glantz.

ERNST & YOUNG — Feb 2022 - July 2023
Cybersecurity Consulting | Role: Senior Security Analyst — *Mumbai, India*

- Conducted security assessment of over 100 firewalls, switches and routers for clients during a ransomware attack incident. Provided comprehensive recommendations and delivered results under stringent timelines.
- Executed network Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT) and Red Team assessments for Fortune 500 clients, focusing on Internet and Intranet connected systems, networks, and applications, including Windows and Linux environments.
- Demonstrated expertise in web application security testing, specializing in OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities and mitigations. Conducted comprehensive security assessments for over 25 applications, identifying and addressing critical vulnerabilities.
- Conducted cloud security audits for leading steel manufacturing companies, resulting in identification and mitigation of vulnerabilities, ensuring compliance with industry standards and protecting sensitive data (AWS, GCP, Azure).
- Conducted offensive cyber drills and simulated real-world scenarios to test the effectiveness of security measures and assisted in curating process and procedure documents for incident response playbooks.
- Collaborated on drafting technical proposals to onboard potential clients. Mentored 4 interns, enhancing team collaboration.
- Awarded for excellence in client delivery on firewall restoration activities and leading the network team for incident response.

HITACHI VANTARA — Jan 2022 - Feb 2022
Security Engineering | Role: Security Intern — *Hyderabad, India*

- Collaborated closely with Incident Response and Data Protection teams to evaluate and strengthen network security through hands-on penetration testing and vulnerability assessments.
- Employed advanced social engineering techniques, including phishing campaigns, to enhance Red Team engagements and evaluate client readiness.

CERTIFICATIONS

- **CompTIA Security+ SY0-701**
- **Certified Cyber Security Analyst (C3SA)**
- **Certified AppSec Practitioner (CAP)**
- **Certified Network Security Practitioner (CNSP)**
- **Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK)**
- **Fortinet Certified Network Security Associate**
- **SQL Certification by HackerRank**
- **Microsoft Certified Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900)**

PROJECT WORK EXPERIENCE

Automated Rotoscoping Tool — Feb 2021 - May 2021

- Led a team to develop a PyTorch & OpenCV-based rotoscoping tool, greatly enhancing VFX efficiency by automating frame and video rotoscoping, typically taking days or months manually. Utilized OpenCV and PIL collectively to convert videos into image streams, applying semantic segmentation to categorize pixels into 21 features and render them accordingly.

SKILLS

Tools	Nmap, Nikto, Packet Tracer, Wireshark, Burp Suite, Metasploit, Nessus, FTK, WAFW00F, Autopsy
Languages	Python, Bash Scripting, SQL, HTML, CSS, JavaScript
Technical Skills	Computer Networks, Penetration Testing, Red Teaming, Web Application Security, Incident Response Cloud Security, Vulnerability Assessment, Social Engineering, Secure Configuration of Firewalls, Switches & Routers, TCP/IP, MITRE ATT&CK, OSINT
Soft Skills	Leadership, Communication, Team Player, Client Relationship