Taha Biyikli

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EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University — Pittsburgh, PA
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science — *Aug. 2024 - Present*

Samsun Science High School — Samsun, Turkey
A public boarding high school specializing in natural sciences and mathematics. — *Sep. 2019 – Jun. 2024*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Languages**: : C, Python, Bash, x86 Assembly, Javascript, GraphQL, SQL
- **Technologies**: : UNIX, Burp Suite, GDB, Git, Flask, Wireshark, Docker/Kubernetes, Elasticsearch, Kibana, Logstash

EXPERIENCE

Cybersecurity Company (NDA) — Remote, UK
Team Lead — *Mar 2023 - Sep 2024*

- **Lead**: Supervised and guided a team of three cybersecurity professionals.
- **Application Security**: Conduct a wide variety of cyber security practices including web application, mobile application, and API security testing.

Triggerz Inc. — Remote, Delaware
Founding Engineer — *Mar 2022 - Mar 2023*

- **Backend Development**: Designed, implemented scalable RESTful APIs using Flask, integrated GraphQL with Postgres, used AWS for various microservices. Implemented robust authentication mechanisms using Keycloak.
- **DevOps & DevSecOps**: Built and maintained CI/CD pipelines with GitLab, automated deployments using Docker and Kubernetes, and ensured secure and efficient delivery of code.
- **Post-deployment Monitoring**: Implemented comprehensive monitoring and alerting systems using Sentry and the ELK stack, ensuring system reliability and quick response to incidents.
- **QA & Security Testing**: Conducted thorough QA and security testing, addressing OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities through blackbox and whitebox testing, including manual code reviews. Identified and mitigated security issues such as IDORs, XSS, and SQL injections by adding input sanitization and using pseudorandom UUIDs.
- **Security Engineering**: Established static and dynamic code analysis tools to enhance code security and quality, ensuring early detection of vulnerabilities.

HackerOne, Bugcrowd, and independent vulnerability disclosure programs
Freelance Security Researcher — *Jul 2020 - Present*

- **Acknowledgements**: Recognized and paid by more than 30 organizations in different industries including Apple, BBC, Sony, US Dept of Defense, AT&T for responsibly disclosing security vulnerabilities to their respective security programs. Collaborated with other researchers on HackerOne to secure more critical web applications.

PROJECTS

- **Brunhilda (Bash)**: Automated tool for web application reconnaissance and security audits.
- **EduSecure (Javascript)**: Created a secure, cost-effective password manager browser extension that uses on-the-fly password generation with hashing, eliminating the need to store passwords while maintaining security.

HONORS

- **Capture the Flags (CTF) with Parliament of Pwning (PPP)**: Participating in CTF competitions for 4 years. Joined Plaid PPP (CMU's hacking club). Focusing on challenges related to application security, reverse engineering, and coding. Qualified to finals of Google and CSAW CTF as a team. Ranked top 3 in some of the largest CTFs in Turkey during high school.
- **National High School Research Competition Winner**: Developed a browser extension designed to enhance online privacy and security for Learning Management System users, with a particular focus on password security and raising security awareness. The project **earned 1st place in the "cybersecurity" subcategory and 3rd place in the overall "software" category** in the most prestigious national research competition in Turkey, TUBITAK-2204.