# Saksham Chitkara

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# **FDUCATION**

#### **CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY**

## Master of Science

Information Security - Systems Track August 2017 - May 2019 | Pittsburgh, PA

#### RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Research: Ubiquitous Computing

**Advisor**: Dr. Mayank Goel

- Distributed Systems
- Computer Systems [TA Fall 2018]
- Parallel Computer Programming
- Infrastructure for Machine Learning
- Machine Learning
- Green Computing Audited
- Usable Privacy and Security

## **SRM UNIVERSITY**

Computer Science Engineering Aug 2012-2016 | Chennai, India

# CONFERENCES

- ACM SOUPS 2018
- Poster Usability of Crypto-currencies
- FTC PrivacyCon 2018
- Speaker on Smartphone privacy
- ACM Ubicomp 2017
- Why Does this App Need My Location?
- Acceptance (< 20%) | Top 5% paper
- CMU CyLab Conference 2017
- Poster Protect My Privacy
- DARPA Brandeis 2017
- Topic: Privacy-Enhanced Android
- CMU Privacy Day 2017, 2018
- Poster Presentation PrivacyProxy

# SKILLS

## **Programming Languages**

Java (JUnit) • Python • C

C++ • Matlab • Go • Assembly • HTML/CSS

#### Tools and Frameworks

Android • Django • Cassandra Spanner • Redis • Memcached

Git • Vim • Shell Scripts • ATEX

# **FELLOWSHIPS**

• Prabhu and Poonam **Goel Fellowship**, (1 of 34 students in MSIS 2017)

## @ Carnegie Mellon University

• India's Best Brains 2014, 3 in 3700

# **EXPERIENCE**

## **GOOGLE INC** | Software Engineering Intern

Google Product Infrastructure | May 2018 - Aug 2018 | Mountain View, CA

- Implement a user-facing search API using Structured Spanner to lookup OAuth information by brand name and allow special operator search.
- Worked on parallelizing and executing tasks asynchronously to improve the performance of the existing system from ~150 secs to ~90 secs.

#### **CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY** | Research Associate

School of Computer Science | Jan 2016 - June 2017 | Pittsburgh, PA

• Worked on Research papers (see below) and lead the CMU team to develop Privacy-Enhanced Android, a DARPA and Google funded project.

# RESEARCH

#### WHY DOES THIS APP NEED MY LOCATION?

Ubicomp 2017 | First Author | Featured Paper | Acceptance Rate < 20%

- Designed and built a Context-Aware library based permission model for Android which tells the users the purpose of the private data accesses providing 25% better protection, 30% reduced decisions.
- https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?doid=3139486.3132029

# PRIVACY PROXY | Mobile Systems | Network Security

- Leveraged Crowdsourcing and In Situ Traffic Analysis via a Proxy to detect and mitigate Information Leakage. The project will be Opensourced.
- https://arxiv.org/pdf/1708.06384.pdf

## **BLE SMART RING** | Independent Study | Ubiquitous Computing

- 3D printed a ring, which collects bio acoustic feedback using an Inertial Measurement Unit and a trackpoint and transmit it via BLE.
- Train a machine learning layer to do hand gesture recognition. Integrate gestures and trackpoint to control Hololens and Google VR.

# **PROJECTS**

#### **OPTICAL HEART RATE MONITOR** | Mobile Systems

• Monitor the heart rate by illuminating user's finger via camera flash and detecting changes in blood volume (PPG). Error Rate < 5% of Ground Truth.

#### PROTECT MY PRIVACY | DARPA funded | 30,000+ downloads

• Built an end-to-end app, which collects, enforces and transmits the user's privacy decisions on other apps and third-party libraries (root permission).

#### **DISTRIBUTED CONSENSUS - RAFT** | Distributed Systems

• Implemented Raft to achieve Distributed Consensus. Implementation was robust, fault-tolerant in case of Network Partitions or multiple leaders.

## **CRYPTOCURRENCY LEDGER** | Distributed Systems

• Implemented a Distributed ledger to keep track of proof-of-work for cryptocurrencies. Built a miner to calculate the hash based on the difficulty.

#### **DISTRIBUTED FILE SYSTEM** | Distributed Systems

• Built a Distributed File System modeled on Facebook's Haystack paper to store and retrieve images. Used multiple stores with Cassandra and Redis.