

Tanishq Ashish Kothari

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MS in Cybersecurity Engineering- GPA: 3.95/4

Los Angeles, CA

Aug 2022 - May 2024

Courses: Web Application Security, Security Systems, Security and Privacy, Applied Cryptography, Computer Systems Assurance

UNIVERSITY OF PUNE

Bachelor of Technology in Computer Engineering - GPA: 9.07/10

Pune, India

Aug 2018 - May 2022

SKILLS

Application Security: OWASP Top 10, Risk and Compliance, Cryptography, Identity and Access Management, Vulnerability Assessment, SOC, System Administration, Intrusion Detection, Data Loss Prevention, Cloud Security, Digital Forensics, Incident Response, SIEM, Triage, EndPoint Security, Network Security, Threat Modeling, Penetration Testing, Security Documentation

Security frameworks: PCI DSS, NIST, HIPAA, ISO 27001, MITRE ATT&CK

Operating Systems: Linux, macOS, Windows

Languages: Python, C, C++, PowerShell

Tools and Technologies: Burp Suite, Metasploit, Nmap, Splunk, Generative AI Prompts, AI Safety, M365 Security, Nessus, Snort, SAML, Telnet, SSH, TCP/IP, LDAP, DNS, OAuth, DNS sec, SaaS, SQL, VLANs, ACLs, AWS, Azure AD, ERP, Firewalls, IDS, IPS, SSO, Microsoft Office Suite, HTML, PHP, Tableau

WORK EXPERIENCE

USC THOMAS LORD DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Los Angeles, CA

Graduate Assistant - Security Systems and Applied Cryptography

Sep 2023 - May 2024

- Performed manual design and implementation reviews for security systems, with risk and compliance, public key cryptography, and Linux permissions, to identify and mitigate potential vulnerabilities.
- Led the setup and management of virtual machines, assessed student performance, and mentored students on network and systems security while deploying and securing critical infrastructure.

TECH MAHINDRA

Pune, India

Cyber Security Intern

Mar 2022 - Jul 2022

- Detected and mitigated potential system and network vulnerabilities using SIEM tools by tracking and blacklisting over 500 malicious IP addresses, improving network security, and reducing potential breaches by 30%.
- Analyzed and monitored extensive datasets in Splunk, performing log analysis and security event analysis to identify and address security threats, streamlining processes, and saving 100+ hours monthly in manual analysis.
- Launched security awareness sessions that educated over 80 employees on current cybersecurity threats, achieving a 35% increase in the ability to recognize phishing attempts and other cyber threats among participants.

CODE DECODE LABS

Pune, India

Cyber Security Intern

May 2021 - Oct 2021

- Conducted over 15 risk assessments, generating detailed insights into discovering 50+ vulnerabilities, focusing on endpoint security principles, and assisting in implementing security best practices.
- Contributed to adopting security best practices in compliance with NIST and ISO 27001 frameworks to address identified risks and enhance overall security posture.
- Delivered comprehensive vulnerability assessment reports, utilizing Power BI for data visualization, to highlight findings of over 11 critical security gaps, effectively communicating technical information to non-technical stakeholders.

PROJECTS

HEALTH DATA PROTECTION

- Identified potential threats to protected health information (PHI) under HIPAA regulations and evaluated the adequacy of existing policies in covering the entire threat space.
- Outlined HIPAA-compliant safeguards, data security, and access control mechanisms across bioinformatics systems and clinical informatics platforms to ensure patient data confidentiality, integrity, and security.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SKPP AND TNI SECURITY KERNEL

- Conducted a detailed evaluation of SKPP and TNI security kernel requirements, focusing on identifying risk factors and ensuring alignment with TCSEC standards during security audits.
- Developed subversion mitigation strategies and compared system architectures, emphasizing risk reduction through domain separation, least privilege, and strong configuration management to enhance audit outcomes and maintain system integrity.

ACTIVITIES

- Led and mentored a team to deliver cybersecurity awareness talks to 5 organizations with 200+ participants in total.
- Directed a team of organizers as a Communications, Marketing, and Editorial Head for TEDx VIIT for 1000+ students.