Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner

Present Address
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United States of America

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INTERESTS

I'm interested in tackling hard problems by analyzing, designing, building and evaluating software systems. My current research focuses on building secure systems. In particular, techniques protecting data confidentiality and integrity of sensitive data at rest, in-flight or in-memory.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate co-advised by Peter Druschel & Deepak Garg 2010 – 2019

Max Planck Institute for Software Systems, Saarbruecken, Germany

Ph.D. Candidate mentored by Holger Hermanns 2009 – 2010

Saarland University, Graduate School, Saarbruecken, Germany

Bachelor of Science in Applied Computer Science 2006 – 2009

Baden-Württemberg Cooperative State University Stuttgart (DHBW Stuttgart) with IBM Germany

Thesis: "Distributed Complex Query Processing for Informix Dynamic Server"

GPA: 1.5 (scale 1.0 to 5.0), First Class, Top 10%

SKILLS

C, Java, Distributed Systems, Operating Systems, Secure System Design, Storage Systems, Trusted Computing, SSD/Flash Memory, Linux, Memory Safety and Isolation

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS ERIM: Secure, Efficient in-process isolation with Protection keys (MPK) [USENIX Security'19] Isolating sensitive state and data can increase the security and robustness of many applications. Examples include protecting cryptographic keys against exploits like OpenSSL's Heartbleed bug or protecting a language runtime from native libraries written in unsafe languages. ERIM, a novel technique that provides hardware-enforced isolation with low overhead on x86 CPUs, even at high switching rates.

Guardat: Enforcing data policies at the storage layer [EuroSys'15]

In today's systems, policies protecting stored data and mechanisms for their enforcement are spread across many software components, increasing the risk of violation due to bugs, vulnerabilities and misconfigurations. Using Guardat, users, developers and administrators specify file protection policies declaratively, concisely and separate from code, and Guardat enforces these policies by mediating I/O in the storage layer.

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist at Intel Labs

April'19 – now

Intel Labs, Hillsboro, OR

Research and improve security technologies. Build prototypes and provide guidance to their technology transfer. Current focus lies in building secure, accountable machine learning training and Function-as-a-Service prototypes, and memory protection techniques.

Research Software Engineering Intern

Summer 2014

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Research opportunities to overcome performance and flexibility issues with Trusted Platform Modules (TPM) using Intel's new Software Guard Extension (SGX). Build and evaluate a prototype implementation. Mentor: Ronald Aigner (Principal Research Engineer)

Software Engineering Intern/Bachelor Thesis

2006 - 2009

IBM, Boeblingen, Germany & Austin, Texas, USA

Analyzed, designed and implemented prototypes. From optimizing distributed queries in Informix Dynamic Servers (IDS) to providing new programming models for heterogeneous processor architectures like the Cell/BE.

Publications

ERIM: Secure, Efficient In-process Isolation with Memory Protection Keys

Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Eslam Elnikety, Nuno O. Duarte, Michael Sammler, Peter Druschel,

Deepak Garg

Usenix Security 2019

Distinguished Paper Award and Internet Defense Prize 2019

Techniques to Protect Confidentiality and Integrity of Persistent and In-Memory Data

Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner

PhD Thesis 2019

PESOS: Policy Enhanced Secure Object Store

Robert Krahn, Bohdan Trach, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Thomas Knauth, Pramod Bhatotia, Christof Fetzer

ACM EuroSys 2018

Light-Weight Contexts: An OS Abstraction for Safety and Performance

James Litton, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Eslam Elnikety, Deepak Garg, Bobby Bhattacharjee, Peter Druschel

Usenix OSDI 2016

Thoth: Comprehensive Policy Compliance in Data Retrieval Systems

Eslam Elnikety, Aastha Mehta, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Deepak Garg, Peter Druschel

Usenix Security 2016

Guardat: Enforcing data policies at the storage layer

Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Eslam Elnikety, Aastha Mehta, Peter Druschel, Deepak Garg, Rodrigo Rodrigues, Johannes Gehrke, Ansley Post

ACM EuroSys 2015

Protecting Data Integrity with Storage Leases

Anjo Vahldiek, Eslam Elnikety, Ansley Post, Peter Druschel, Rodrigo Rodrigues Technical Report 2011-08, MPI-SWS, 2011 & granted patent

A Verified Dependable Wireless Safety Critical Hard Real-Time Design

Hernan Baro Graf, Holger Hermanns, Juhi Kulshrestha, Jens Peter, Anjo Vahldiek, Aravind Vasudevan

IEEE WoWMoM 2011

Evaluation of an Optimization for Object Tracking – Feedback-Based Head-Tracking

Anjo Vahldiek, Ansgar Schneider, Stefan Schubert, Dirk Reichard

Fifth Annual Meeting on Information Technology and Computer Science of the Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University, 2009

Talks

Automatically Securing Linux Application Containers in Untrusted Clouds

Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Dmitrii Kuvaiskii

Linux Security Summit, Refereed Presentation, 2020

ERIM: Secure, Efficient In-process Isolation with Memory Protection Keys

Usenix Security, 2019

Enforcing Confidentiality and Integrity Policies over untrusted Applications Intel Labs, 2016

Guardat: Enforcing data policies at the Storage layer

EuroSvs, 2015

Microsoft Research, 2014

Trusted Storage

Fast WiP, 2012

WiP/Posters Thoth: Efficiently enforcing data confidentiality and integrity in large-scale distributed data

processing systems

Eslam Elnikety, Anjo Vahldiek, Aastha Mehta, Deepak Garg, Peter Druschel

ACM SOSP'13 Work in progress

Trusted Storage

Anjo Vahldiek, Eslam Elnikety, Ansley Post, Peter Druschel, Deepak Garg, Johannes Gehrke,

Rodrigo Rodrigues

Usenix FAST'12 Work in progress

Teaching	TA for Distributed Systems	Winter 2014
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TA for Operating Systems Summer 2011

HonorsUSENIX and Facebook Internet Defense Prize2019& AwardsUsenix Security Distinguished Paper Award2019

Max Planck Society, PhD Scholarship 2010 - 2016

Saarland University, Graduate School PhD Scholarship 2009
IBM International Internship Scholarship 2007

Recent Middleware'20 Doctoral Workshop PC **Activities &** OSDI'20 Artifact Evaluation co-Chair

Service EuroSys'20 ShadowPC

Usenix Security'20 Artifact Evaluation Committee Member

SOCC'19 Poster PC

SOSP'19 Artifact Evaluation Committee Member

External reviewer EuroSys'18 External reviewer HotOS'17 External reviewer OSDI'16

Co-Develop WelcomeHelp.de Refugee Volunteer Tool

Student Admission Volunteer MPI-SWS

General Student Meeting Coordinator MPI-SWS