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Allan Wirth

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Security Researcher · Systems Architect · Software Developer

Experience

Oct '23 – Present	<p>Mercari – <i>Tokyo, Japan</i> <i>Platform Security Engineer → Manager of AI and Platform Security</i></p> <p>Setting the direction for the Platform Security team to continuously improve the supply chain and cloud security posture of the Mercari group. Focus areas include hardening of CI/CD pipelines (GitHub Actions, Container Scanning, Container Image Signing), GitHub and Google Cloud.</p> <p>For AI Security, focusing on adapting frameworks such as OWASP LLM Top 10 and Google's Secure AI Framework to minimize risk for an organization that is quickly adopting AI across nearly every part of the business.</p> <p>Currently managing 6 engineers of varying seniority and helping them develop their careers with a priority on providing growth opportunities.</p> <p>Winner of the "Move Fast" internal award for conception and execution of the AI Security team in July 2025.</p>
July '19 – Present	<p>Bug Bounty Researcher – <i>Virtual Individual</i></p> <p>Bugbounty researcher with lifetime bounty awards exceeding \$200k USD. Research focus on language analysis and remote code execution.</p> <p>Invited hacker at HackerOne August 2019 on-site event in Los Angeles, Meta Bug Bounty Researcher Conference 2025 in Tokyo, HackerOne Clear Bug Bounty Hunter and many private programs.</p>
Aug '21 – Aug '23	<p>Woven by Toyota – <i>Tokyo, Japan</i> <i>Application Security Engineer → Senior Application Security Engineer</i></p> <p>Collaborated with product teams to integrate security into their development process, including providing advice and reviews of both designs and implementations of the backend systems supporting autonomous vehicles.</p> <p>As a tech lead, formalized the services and processes of the Application Security team to ensure consistent high quality and reduce friction for developers.</p>
Dec '19 – July '21	<p>Amazon – <i>Tokyo, Japan</i> <i>Software Development Engineer – Search Resilience</i></p> <p>Designed, developed and deployed systems for automated chaos and load testing in production of the search engine for Amazon's consumer websites using AWS.</p> <p>Served as a "Security Certifier" reviewing the security of applications handling critical data before release to production.</p>
May '15 – Jun '19 Summer '14	<p>Akamai – <i>Cambridge, Massachusetts</i> <i>Security Researcher → Senior Security Researcher → Security Architect</i> <i>InfoSec Intern</i></p> <p>Advised product, developer and executive teams on security risks from the architectural level to the implementation level. Participated in design reviews of new cloud products and systems.</p> <p>Embedded into development teams to provide implementation expertise and guidance for particularly sensitive pieces of code, including Linux sandboxing and Web APIs.</p> <p>Designed, implemented and shipped internal tools to address unique security challenges, including formal analysis tooling for internal DSLs.</p> <p>Led and advised security incident response teams. Triageed and managed remediation and communication for security issues reported by external researchers.</p>

	Mentored junior staff about design and security paradigms in a proprietary cloud stack.
Class of '17	<p>Boston University – <i>Boston, Massachusetts</i> <i>M.S. and B.A. in Computer Science</i></p> <p>Graduate coursework included Cryptography, Operating Systems, Compilers, Formal Methods and Network Security.</p> <p>Active member of student-run hacker space BUILDS (Boston University Information Lab and Design Space), including as President and Vice President.</p> <p>Participated in and organized high-profile computer security capture the flag (CTF) competitions. Lead a CTF team to NYU Poly CSAW CTF finals twice, placing 3rd in 2012 and 6th in 2013. Administered BostonKeyParty CTF, a DEFCON CTF prequalifier, for five years, from 2012 to 2017.</p>
Summer '13	<p>Microsoft – <i>Redmond, Washington</i> <i>Software Development Engineering Intern</i></p> <p>Developed static and dynamic program analyses for automatic screening of third-party software via modifications to the native Windows JavaScript runtime.</p>
May '12 – Jun '13	<p>Skycore LLC – <i>Boston, Massachusetts</i> <i>Intern → Software Developer</i></p> <p>Worked on a legacy PHP monolith application – implementing new features, improving performance, and rearchitecting to reduce coupling to allow horizontal scaling.</p>
Jan '13 – May '13	<p>Boston University Security Group – <i>Boston, Massachusetts</i> <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant</i></p> <p>Developed software for surveying the Domain Name System to study the relationship between DNSSEC deployment and government domain censorship.</p>
Summer '11	<p>Wellesley Public Schools Technology Department – <i>Wellesley, Massachusetts</i> <i>Temporary Clerk (Internship Program)</i></p> <p>Performed various summer maintenance and deployment tasks for local school district's IT department.</p>
Class of '11	<p>Wellesley High School – <i>Wellesley, Massachusetts</i> <i>High School Diploma</i></p>

Qualifications

- Professional experience developing software in Python, Go, Java, JavaScript, Kotlin, C++, TypeScript, various SQL dialects, Bash, C# and PHP. Hobby experience with Rust and Haskell.
- Japanese Language Proficiency Test level N2 (Dec '23)
- Citizen of the United States of America and Permanent Resident of Japan.