Dakshitha Navodya Perera

CYBERSECURITY ENGINEER · SECURITY OPERATIONS · PENETRATION TESTING · REVERSE ENGINEERING

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Cybersecurity engineer with nearly four years of experience building and operating the security and IT function of a Singapore-based software company. Hands-on across web application and API penetration testing, secure code review, endpoint management, infrastructure hardening, and automation. Published reverse-engineering work on Android applications and Windows malware, alongside security/ML projects. BSc in Cyber Security from Edith Cowan University, ECU Gold Medal for Cyber Security 2022. Currently pursuing OSCP.

EXPERIENCE

IT Operations & Security Specialist

Oct 2022 – Present

The Software Practice Pte Ltd · Singapore (Remote)

APPLICATION SECURITY & PENETRATION TESTING

- Perform pre-release and post-change penetration tests across web applications, APIs, and administrative interfaces; produce risk-rated reports with proof of concept and remediation guidance, then retest fixes.
- Conduct secure code and application-security reviews covering authentication, authorisation, session and access control, input validation, secrets handling, and third-party dependencies against OWASP guidance.
- Integrated SonarQube into GitLab CI pipelines to surface code-quality and security issues before merge; partner with developers to track findings through remediation.

INTERNAL SECURITY ASSESSMENTS

- Assess internal company resources - servers, self-hosted services, cloud accounts (AWS, Azure, GCP), endpoints, identity, and network - for misconfiguration, weak access control, exposed services, and missing patches.
- Run recurring vulnerability scanning, user access reviews, and hardening checks; rank findings by risk and drive them to completion with the owning teams.
- Supported DPTM (Data Protection Trustmark) compliance, authored security policies, and delivered security awareness training to all staff.

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING (SHADOW ENGINEER)

- Work as a shadow software engineer alongside the development team - picking up development tasks, reviewing merge requests, and raising security requirements at design and code stage instead of after release.
- Developed and deployed custom Win32 applications through Microsoft Intune to detect missing security updates and outdated IDE plugins, notify users, and update third-party developer tooling not covered by standard Intune policies.
- Built an internal Access Management application (C#, TypeScript, Python, Go, Nuxt.js, Tailwind CSS, Firebase) to centralise access requests, approvals, and offboarding.
- Automated operational workflows through Git, YouTrack, SonarQube, and Pritunl API integrations, reducing repetitive administration and improving process consistency.

IT & SECURITY OPERATIONS

- Built the company's IT and security infrastructure from the ground up and continue to operate it end to end for a fully remote software organisation.
- Deployed Microsoft Intune organisation-wide, bringing corporate endpoints under centrally managed security policy, disk encryption, application deployment, and patch compliance.
- Designed and operate secure remote access with Pritunl VPN, backed by centralised logging and monitoring across all services.
- Administer self-hosted GitLab, YouTrack, Bitwarden, and mail servers - including hardening, patching, backups, and periodic access reviews.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

SECURITY OPS VPN and secure remote access, endpoint management, patch and vulnerability management, security policy and awareness training

`Microsoft Intune` `Pritunl` `ELK Stack` `Splunk` `QRadar`

OFFENSIVE	Web application testing (SQL injection, XSS, LFI/RFI), Active Directory enumeration, lateral movement and persistence, buffer overflows, AV evasion, OSINT `Burp Suite` `Nmap` `Wireshark` `Impacket` `Hashcat` `Gobuster` `Kali` `BlackArch`
REVERSE ENG.	Android APK and Windows binary analysis; static, dynamic, and sandbox-assisted techniques; manifest, DEX, data-flow, cryptography, storage, and network-security review; basic x86 assembly `JADX` `Apktool` `IDA Pro` `Ghidra` `Radare2` `OllyDbg` `Frida`
CLOUD & INFRA	Cloud account administration, containerisation, virtualisation, Linux and Windows administration `AWS` `Azure` `GCP` `Docker` `Kubernetes` `VMware` `VirtualBox` `Arch` `Gentoo` `Debian`
PROGRAMMING	Scripting and automation, application development, relational databases, version control `Python` `Bash` `Powershell` `C#` `C/C++` `Kotlin` `TypeScript` `MySQL` `Git`
MACHINE LEARNING	Model training and evaluation, NLP and transformer models `NumPy` `Pandas` `PyTorch` `TensorFlow` `scikit-learn`

SELECTED PROJECTS

Election Prediction from Social Media Content `AI / NLP` 2022

- Built a modular research pipeline that collects public social-media content with TypeScript/Puppeteer, normalises multilingual data, and applies NLP classification and sentiment analysis.
- Designed engagement-weighted influence scoring and integrated Python/Flask processing with persisted data and a dashboard.

`github.com/d42kw01f/s0m3m0` · `huggingface.co/d42kw01f`

Sinhala and Tamil RoBERTa Language Model `AI / NLP` 2021

- Pre-trained a Sinhala RoBERTa model using masked language modelling on the OSCAR Sinhala corpus and published it on Hugging Face.

`huggingface.co/d42kw01f/Sinhala-RoBERTa` · `huggingface.co/d42kw01f/Tamil-RoBERTa`

Malicious File Detection with Machine Learning `AI` 2022

- Compared binary logistic regression, elastic-net regression, and random forest models for malicious-file classification; the random forest achieved 87.51% accuracy, 90.45% sensitivity, and 84.59% specificity.

Reverse Engineering

WINDOWS MALWARE ANALYSIS

- Performed static, dynamic, and sandbox-assisted analysis of a 32-bit Windows spyware sample; documented cryptographic hashes, data-collection behaviour, network activity, sandbox observations, and antivirus detection context in a public GitHub report.

ANDROID

- Reverse-engineered archived Android APKs in an authorised personal lab, focusing on application structure, code and data flows, local storage, cryptography, logging, and network-security controls.
- Published redacted reverse-engineering case studies of archived Android applications, documenting application structure, data flows, local storage, cryptography, logging, and network-security controls.

`d42kw01f.com/writeups.html`

EDUCATION

BSc in Cyber Security - Edith Cowan University, Australia 2019 – Feb 2022

- ECU Gold Medal for Cyber Security 2022 · WAM 84.38 · GPA 3.84 / 4.0
- Relevant coursework: Software Reverse Engineering, Ethical Hacking and Defence, Network Security Fundamentals.

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFILES

- OffSec OSCP - currently pursuing
- C/C++ Programming - Esoft Metro Campus, Colombo
- Languages: English (fluent)