ZICHAO ZHANG

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RESEARCH INTEREST

I apply formal methods tools to construct, test, and verify secure systems. I am particularly interested in compositional verification and bridging security guarantees across different levels of the software development stack. My recent work focuses on trusted execution environments and cryptographic protocols.

EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA

Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering

2019 - Present

Advisors: Limin Jia and Corina Păsăreanu

Pennsylvania State University

State College, PA

B.S. (Hons) in Computer Engineering

2015 - 2018

GPA: 3.97 / 4.0

EMPLOYMENT

Applied Scientist Intern, Amazon Web Services (Privacy & Security Automation) New York, NY

Mentor: Subarno Banerjee

Summer 2024

Topic: Guided symbolic execution for automatic dataflow triaging

Graduate Research Assistant, Carnegie Mellon CyLab

Pittsburgh, PA

Advisors: Limin Jia and Corina Păsăreanu

2019 - Present

PUBLICATIONS

- ProInspector: Uncovering Logical Bugs in Protocol Implementations. Zichao Zhang, Limin Jia, and Corina Păsăreanu. In European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P), 2024.
- Towards End-to-End Verified TEEs via Verified Interface Conformance and Certified Compilers. Farzaneh Derakhshan, Zichao Zhang, Amit Vasudevan, and Limin Jia. In Computer Security Foundations Symposium (CSF), 2023.
- Learning Assumptions for Verifying Cryptographic Protocols Compositionally. Zichao Zhang, Arthur Azevedo de Amorim, Limin Jia, and Corina Păsăreanu. In Formal Aspects of Component Software (FACS), 2021.
- Automating Compositional Analysis of Authentication Protocols. Zichao Zhang, Arthur Azevedo de Amorim, Limin Jia, and Corina Păsăreanu. In Formal Methods in Computer Aided Design (FMCAD), 2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Information Security, Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2021, Spring 2023

Teaching Assistant for Prof. Limin Jia and Prof. Hanan Hibshi

Microprocessors and Embedded Systems, Penn State University

Fall 2018

Teaching Assistant for Prof. Kyusun Choi

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Artifact Evaluation Committee member for Principles of Programming Languages 2023 (POPL 2023), Jan. 2023.
- Student volunteer for Computer Security Foundations Symposium 2020 (CSF 2020), Jun. 2020.