JOSHUA (HAWON) CHO

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Ann Arbor, MI (2022-2026)

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Majors: Computer Science / Statistics

hawonc@umich.edu

- Honors and Awards: Deloitte CTC Finalist, NHTSA CyberAuto 2024 CTF Winner, MITRE eCTF 3rd
- Activities: WolvSec Cyber Security Club, UofM ICPC, Korean-American Scientists/Engineers Association
- Coursework: Data Structures/Algorithms, Operating Systems, Distributed Systems, Computer Organization, Computer Security, Election Cybersecurity, Linear Algebra, Statistics & AI, Applied Regression

WORK EXPERIENCE

Incoming Vulnerability Research Intern | Battelle Z

- Incoming for Fall 2025

Security Engineering Intern | Millennium Management

- Supported the Data Security team within the Infrastructure Technology department
- Engineered a standardized OAuth 2.1 authorization plugin package for internally developed MCP servers
- Created **PoCs of vulnerabilities** and ratings for LLMs supporting a rollout of **AI coding** agent platforms
- Wrote a .NET Core microservice to serve signed **HTTPS client certificates** to internal clients with encrypted credentials integrating with apps such as KeyFactor, ServiceNow, and Azure Key Vault

Software Engineering Intern | Northrop Grumman Space Systems Dulles, VA (SU 2024)

- Conducted standardized tests with various models, achieving a 27% increase in code and branch coverage. - Processed over 500,000 lines of code and 10,000 test cases to create a comprehensive dataset with the purpose
- of enhancing transfer learning and fine-tuning of pre-trained models.
- Collaborated with Security Engineers to mitigate known ML vulnerabilities, resulting in a 80% detection rate.
- Further details restricted by NDA

Product Development Intern | Block Harbor Cybersecurity

- Increased physical connected vehicles/test benches by 3x, reduced communication delay from 17ms to 2ms
- Merged newly written code with pre-existing OSS in C and Python order to link up CAN network traffic and Automotive Ethernet from a physical vehicle to end users around the world
- Fixed 20+ bugs based on user feedback, improving platform stability and UX for over **1000 active users**.

Projects

PLAIN

- Engineered a full-stack **Electron-based desktop application** for interactive 3D aircraft model visualization, leveraging **Three.js**, **GLTF** loaders, and modular rendering pipelines
- Structured Electron's **multi-process architecture** to bridge native capabilities with a rendering engine

Paxos-Based Sharded Key-Value Store

- Designed a GoLang fault-tolerant, sharded key/value store using Paxos-based consensus within replica groups and a separate Paxos-replicated shard master to coordinate dynamic reconfiguration.
- Implemented shard transfer/deduplication to ensure **single-copy semantics** and fault-tolerant reconfiguration

WolvCTF

- Wrote cybersecurity challenges for WolvSec CTF with **1500+ participants** attempting and solving the challenges designed and implemented through Docker, Kubernetes, GCloud Hosting, and CTFtime
- Developed multiple AI/ML challenges, involving sentiment analysis, model trainings, and hash collisions.

PassLess

- Led the development process of a **cryptographically** secure web-based Password Manager
- Implemented Client-Side Encryption with WebAuthn and PBKDF2, utilizing MySQL as the database.

SKILLS

Languages - C++, Python, Rust, Go, C, JavaScript/TypeScript, C#, SQL, Shell, Assembly, R Technologies - Dev Tools: Git, AWS/GCP/Azure, Kubernetes, Terraform, WireGuard, WireShark, VM/Hypervisors Fullstack: React, Node. js, Flask, OpenAPI, Nginx, Swift, Cypress. js, Swagger. js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB ML: PyTorch, TensorFlow, NumPy, Keras, Pandas, LightGBM, Ollama, MCPs

Certifications - Security+ 601CE

Columbus, OH (FA 2025)

New York, NY (SU 2025)

Troy, MI (SU 2023-WN 2024)

(March 2025)

(Jan 2025)

(March 2023/2024/2025)

(September 2023)