Visal Dam

IT Support Analyst, Aspiring Cybersecurity Professional

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Address: Melbourne, VIC
Portfolio | **LinkedIn** | **GitHub** | **Staff Profile**

CAREER PROFILE

Results-driven self-motivated Cybersecurity graduate. Skilled in designing and evaluating secure systems through hands-on IaC, DevOps, and security projects, as well as published, university-funded research. Experienced with security monitoring, compliance automation, incident triage and response, SIEM-based log analysis, and machine learning, with applied knowledge of MITRE ATT&CK, Cyber Kill Chain, NIST, and Essential 8. Holds multiple technical certifications such as CSCU, CHFI, and SC-900. Proven communicator through university teaching and mentoring roles.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Terraform, Rego (OPA), Bash, PowerShell, SQL, KQL, Java, JavaScript, C/C++, R.
Tools: Mininet (SDN), ONOS (SDN), Docker, Tenable Nessus, Wireshark, Suricata, Autopsy, Splunk, MS 365, MS XDR, sklearn, VirtualBox, LaTeX (Overleaf), Burp Suite, Metasploit, Volatility, Active Directory (AD), Windows, Linux.
Cloud: GCP (IaC, PaC), AWS (foundational).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

IT Support Analyst (Service Desk & On-Site Support) *Dec/2025 – present*
Information Technology Services, Box Hill Institute, Australia

- Administer AD security policies, permissions, privileges, and identity controls, supporting prevention and detection of unauthorized access.
- Respond to security incidents and alerts, providing IT support and remediation via telephone, live chat, email, and in-person, championing cross-functional Cybersecurity awareness and user-end security.
- Collaborate with senior IT engineers to deploy hardware, software, and firmware patches and upgrades across campuses.

Lead Security Engineer – Policy Deployment Engine (for cloud environments) *Mar/2025 – Oct/2025*
School of IT, Deakin University, Australia

- Designed and maintained a security Policy-as-Code (PaC) framework in Rego, enabling preventive security controls covering 100+ GCP services.
- Authored competency tests and documented technical designs and operations, as well as automated GCP service allocation using Microsoft Power Automate to enable the development of security policies at a reduced assignment time (from 1+ days to instantaneous).
- Reviewed raised policies to ensure high standards and align conformity project-wide (60 members).

Associate Teaching Fellow *Mar/2025 – Oct/2025*
School of IT, Deakin University, Australia

- Tutor for SIT102 (Intro to Programming), SIT192 (Discrete Maths), and SIT292 (Linear Algebra).
- Marked and provided feedback on university-level assessment tasks (1000+ to date).
- Supervised active learning workshops and seminars for 500+ students each trimester, achieving 100% student satisfaction.

Undergraduate Researcher *Nov/2024 – Feb/2025*
Deakin Cyber Research and Innovation Centre, Deakin University, Australia

- Conceived PRISM-Prov, a novel security framework for Software-defined Networks (SDNs) using security-aware data provenance and security policies to enhance data transparency.
- Implemented a proof-of-concept in Python for the ONOS controller, alongside threat-led security evaluation simulating real-world attack scenarios to assess detection effectiveness and system resilience.
- Research poster showcased at the *28th International Symposium on Research in Attacks, Intrusions and Defenses* (*RAID 2025*).
- Results were published in *Computers & Security* (Q1): https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cose.2025.104677

Writing & Maths Mentor *Feb/2024 – Oct/2025*
Student Success, Deakin University, Australia

- Provided support across academic writing and mathematics, with 60+ one-on-one mentoring sessions conducted to date collectively.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Cybersecurity *Mar/2023 – Nov/2025*
Deakin University, Burwood (Melbourne, Australia)

- **Specialization(s)**: Network Security, Cloud Security, Machine Learning.
- **Achievements**: High Distinction average (WAM = 91), Deakin STEM & International Scholarships (2023), Deakin Cyber Research Bursary (2024), Deakin Mathematics Yearbook article publication (2024), Deakin IT Academy membership (2025), Paper publication in *Computers & Security* (2025).

PROJECTS (full list and writeups can be found at https://visal-dam.github.io/portfolio-selected_projects)

Real-time Detection of RVC-based Deepfake Audio
Objective: use Machine Learning to detect AI-synthetized speech.
Solution: evaluated several classification models against a custom dataset of real and synthesized speech, processing audio as 1-second blocks, achieving an accuracy of 95% with XGBoost at 5-7 blocks per second.

Malware Detection Engine
Objective: use Machine Learning to detect malware.
Solution: automated the collection of static and dynamic features using Python and APIMiner from malicious and benign executables; resulting dataset used to train, test, and evaluate four classification models.

DDoS Mitigation in SDNs
Objective: increase network standing time in SDNs under a DDoS attack.
Solution: utilized empty switch flow tables to offload DDoS traffic using Python and the REST API, on Mininet and ONOS; increased standing time by a factor of ≈4.6.

CERTIFICATIONS

Microsoft Certified: Security, Compliance, and Identity Fundamentals (SC-900) | Microsoft

Certified Computer Hacking Forensics Investigator (CHFI) | EC-Council

Certified Secure Computer User (CSCU) | EC-Council

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Head Student Volunteer *Dec/2023 – present*
With A Mission

- Lead a biweekly food drive for 100+ students at Deakin Residential Services.
- Guide the collection, storage, setup, and distribution of donated goods, namely grocery items, sanitary products, and ready-to-eat meals.

Networking & Community Team *Oct/2024 – Oct/2025*
Deakin University Cybersecurity Association (DUCA)

- Facilitated smooth collaboration with *Red Bull Australia*, securing 20+ cases of drinks for members at weekly events. Increased club membership by 200% via active promotion over two trimesters.
- Delivered talks and presentations to members on Cybersecurity certifications and legal frameworks (Essential 8, 2024 Australian Cyber Bill, and ISO 27001).

REFERENCES

Referees available upon request.