
Ph.D. and Postdoctoral Positions in Cybersecurity Research

The **CyberSoul Research Group** headed by Dr. Prashant Anantharaman is recruiting **two fully funded Ph.D. students** (intended start: **Spring/Fall 2027**) and **Postdoctoral Researchers** to work on systems security, software understanding, and cybersecurity research with real-world impact.

Dr. Anantharaman is an Incoming Assistant Professor in the Department of Integrated Information Technology at the University of South Carolina. He holds a Ph.D. from Dartmouth College and has served as a Senior Researcher at Narf Industries, with active research programs funded by **DARPA** and **ARPA-H**.

Research Areas

The CyberSoul Research Group investigates the security of complex software systems by understanding how they were built and how they can break. Areas of interest include:

1. Systems Security, Vulnerability Discovery, and Binary Analysis;
2. Program Analysis and Language-Theoretic Security; and
3. Security of Critical Infrastructure (Healthcare and Power Grids).

We combine principled program analysis, systems research, and applied machine learning to produce research published at top academic and hacker conference venues.

Qualifications

Ph.D. Applicants: We seek motivated and intellectually curious candidates with a bachelor's or master's degree in computer science, computer engineering, or a related field. A background in systems, networking, or security is preferred but not required. Strong candidates from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Postdoctoral Researchers: We invite candidates who have (or will soon complete) a Ph.D. in a relevant field. Preferred experience includes one or more of the following: (i) systems or software security research; (ii) program analysis, binary analysis, or fuzzing; (iii) publications at top venues. Experience with government research programs (DARPA, NSF, DoD, DoE) is a strong plus.

How to Apply

Ph.D. Applicants: Please email the following materials as a single PDF to prashant+apply@sc.edu with the subject line “[*Prospective Ph.D. Student: Your Name*]”: (i) CV; and (ii) transcripts (unofficial copies accepted). Please state the following in the email: your background, research interests, and intended start term.

Postdoctoral Researchers: Please email the following as a single PDF to the same email address as above with the subject line “[*Prospective Postdoc: Your Name*]”: (i) CV; (ii) Maximum 1-page cover letter describing your background, research interests, and timeline, (iii) one to two representative publications; and (iv) contact information (name, affiliation, email, and phone number) for two references.