

Dylen Greenenwald

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Research Interests

I am interested in addressing practical problems in the domains of web privacy, network security, and systems security. I specialize in studying tracking mechanisms and digital identity – in particular, those that enable user profiling and the consequent sale of their data. I achieve these ends by measuring the prevalence of data collection tactics and building strong defensive systems against them. My current work centers on web and mobile device privacy, though I am increasingly interested in hardening network protocols over which the web is built. In general, my research aims to preserve privacy without compromising utility on the web.

Education

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Ph.D. in Computer Science (<i>in progress</i>)	Aug 2024 – Present
University of Illinois Chicago B.S. in Computer Science, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Aug 2022 – May 2024
College of Lake County A.S. in General Studies	Aug 2019 – Dec 2021

Academic Experience

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign <i>Teaching Assistant</i> <u>Courses</u> : Computer Security I	Urbana, IL Aug 2025 – Present
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign <i>Research Assistant</i>	Urbana, IL Aug 2024 – Present
University of Utah <i>Research Assistant</i>	Salt Lake City, UT May 2024 – Aug 2024
University of Illinois Chicago <i>Research Assistant</i>	Chicago, IL Aug 2023 – May 2024

University of Illinois Chicago

Teaching Assistant

Chicago, IL
Jan 2023 – May 2024

Courses:

Discrete Mathematics
Program Design
Machine Organization
Systems Programming

Project Vision

Tutor

Chicago, IL
Jan 2023 – May 2023

Code Ninjas

Programming Instructor

Libertyville, IL
Dec 2022 – Dec 2023

Industry Experience

Nvisia

DevSecOps Intern

Chicago, IL
Dec 2023

Publications

Jason Liu, Muhammad Adil Inam, Akul Goyal, **Dylen Greenenwald**, Saurav Chittal, and Adam Bates. "How to Effectively Trace Provenance On Windows Endpoint Detection & Response Telemetry." In the Proceedings of the Workshop on Attack Provenance, Reasoning, and Investigation for Security in the Monitored Environment (PRISM). San Diego, CA, USA. February 23, 2026. *Best Paper Award Runner Up*.

Projects

Emerging Targeted Advertisement Profiling Mechanisms

We analyzed targeted ad signals on the web with attention to browser fingerprints and identity provider platforms. I conducted a large-scale comparative analysis on fingerprinting techniques employed by popular websites.

Certificate Transparency Ecosystem Evaluation

Certificate Transparency enables domain owners to verify that all TLS certificates issued under their domain are current and authorized. This framework bears some major limitations due to its scale and distributed design. We measured publication delay across several week-long intervals in 2024. We found that, on average, publication delay was negligible. However, during periods of log operator congestion, publication delays stretched into days, weeks, or even months in some rare cases. While our measurements and analysis were not comprehensive, they established insight that motivated the improvement of the Certificate Transparency ecosystem.

Large-Scale 2FA Usability Analysis

We analyzed millions of two factor authentication log events from two major universities to gain an empirical understanding of the usability challenges imposed by Duo's 2FA product. Our preliminary results showed that users authentication requests often timed out before verifying their second factor. Moreover, repeated attempts in rapid succession were relatively common throughout the dataset. These findings indicate a strong likelihood that users had difficulty integrating this additional layer of security into their ordinary occupational operations.

Personal Website

A web application serving as a hub for my CV, research, interests, and personal blog. Built using Nuxt4, Tailwind CSS, and deployed with Cloudflare Pages.

Selected Courses

Advanced Web Security
Advanced Computer Security
Advanced Operating Systems
Endpoint Threat Detection & Investigation
Secure Web Application Development

References

Prof. Nikita Borisov

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University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
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Prof. Adam Bates

Associate Professor, Computer Science
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Email: batesa@illinois.edu

Prof. Jason Polakis

Associate Professor, Computer Science
University of Illinois Chicago
Email: polakis@uic.edu

Prof. Chris Kanich

Associate Professor, Computer Science
University of Illinois Chicago
Email: ckanich@uic.edu

Dr. Bernard Dickens

Independent Developer, ErgoDark
Email: bd3@cs.uchicago.edu