AHMED ALABOODI

DovOps Engineer / Cybersecurity Engineer / Cloud & Network Security

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Profile

DevOps & Cloud Security Engineer with 7+ years of progressive experience securing enterprise networks, applications, and cloud environments across academic, corporate, and global remote settings. Combines deep networking knowledge with modern cybersecurity practices to protect critical systems, ensure compliance, and deliver resilient, business-aligned solutions. Known for technical precision, adaptability, and a collaborative, solutions-driven mindset.

Experience

3/2024 - 03/2025
Purdue University
(Remote)

DevOps security Engineer

- Built and operated automated CI/CD pipelines with security gates (linting, SAST/DAST, secrets scanning, license checks), reducing release defects and lead time to prod.
- Authored Infrastructure as Code (IaC) modules to provision standardized, compliant environments across platforms; eliminated config drift and manual change risk.
- Led system audits and vulnerability assessments; prioritized remediation, hardened configurations, and closed high-risk findings within defined SLAs.
- Implemented centralized logging/monitoring and access control (least privilege, just-in-time access), improving detection and audit readiness.
- Embedded DevSecOps practices early in the SDLC through developer enablement, secure patterns, and policy-as-code.

12/2022 - 02/2024
Georgia State University
Atlanta, USA

Cloud Security Engineer

- Designed and deployed cloud-native applications with identity, access, and encryption by default (MFA, RBAC, key management, data-in-transit/at-rest).
- Led security design reviews and threat modeling for services and full-stack apps; drove targeted fixes that reduced critical vulns across releases.
- Ran attack simulations (DDoS, auth bypass, privilege escalation) and tabletop exercises to validate response plans and improve control effectiveness.
- Performed recurring vulnerability scanning and patch management across workloads; tracked closure and risk posture in dashboards.
- Centralized secrets management with policy-driven rotation, scoped service access, and audit trails to eliminate embedded credentials.

06/2017 - 11/2022
EarthLink - Baghdad, Iraq (Remote)

Sr. Network security Engineer

- Deployed secure enterprise networks supporting over 500 users, with redundant failover systems.
- Conducted security audits that reduced risk exposure by 45% across three operational zones.
- Integrated next-gen firewalls, SIEM tools, and intrusion detection systems into the core infrastructure.
- Led incident response drills and threat-hunting operations to improve team preparedness.
- Provided technical support and training to junior engineers and staff members.
- Installed software updates on servers, routers, firewalls, and other network devices

05/2012 - 01/2017
LATN Language Services
Atlanta, USA

Certified Legal & Medical Interpreter

- Interpreted in over 800 legal and medical sessions, ensuring compliance with HIPAA standards.
- Supported multilingual communication during critical healthcare and court proceedings.
- Translated sensitive medical data with 100% accuracy, improving patient trust and treatment outcomes.

U.S. Department of Army - Baghdad, Iraq
Jul 2005 -Sep 2009

U.S. Military Interpreter
Served as a frontline interpreter supporting U.S. Army intelligence, policing, and civil-military operations in high-threat areas. Delivered accurate translation for senior officers during patrols, investigations, and diplomatic missions. Wounded in an IED attack but returned to duty, continuing operations despite ongoing threats. Trusted for cultural insight, discretion, and unwavering commitment under pressure.

Hands-On Projects

- ***Machine Learning in Cybersecurity*** - Python, scikit-learn, Pandas (2025)
  Designed, trained, and deployed advanced classification models on real-world threat-intelligence datasets to automate detection workflows, improving identification accuracy and reducing mean time to detect threats.

- ***Phishing Simulation Site***-Security Research Project (2024)
  (HTML, CSS, JS, PHP) Developed a phishing simulation tool for awareness training, mimicking real-world attack vectors to educate users on credential theft. Logged interactions for analysis and improved defensive posture.

- ***Baby Bud - Baby Care Alert & Tracker System*** - Full-Stack Safety Tracker (2023, Team of 2)
  Python, Firebase, Google Maps API, Tkinter
  Built a GUI-based baby safety app with real-time GPS tracking, Firebase Auth, Firestore storage, and cloud alerts. Integrated Google Maps API, audio/image handling, and check-in/out features in a single end-to-end system.

- ***Dynamic Fifteen Puzzle Game*** (2022)
  (HTML, CSS, JavaScript)
  Designed and developed a browser-based Fifteen Puzzle Game featuring tile shuffling, animated movements, a cheat-solve algorithm, win detection, and customizable levels. Integrated dynamic background music, sound effects, and player score tracking, with support for multiple puzzle sizes and themes. Deployed and tested the game on GSU's Codd server with interactive user feedback and bug tracking.

- ***API Security*** (2024) - Tested API endpoints for vulnerabilities and enforced secure authentication and authorization protocols.

- ***Database Security*** (2021) - Protected SQL systems by implementing inference attack countermeasures and access control layers.

- ***Malware Analysis*** (2025) - Reverse Engineering & Behavioural Testing
  Reverse-engineered malware samples in sandboxed environments to observe behaviour, extract indicators of compromise (IOCs), and assess payload functionality. Identified evasion techniques and used static and dynamic analysis tools to enhance detection strategies.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

09/2024 - 12/2026
Atlanta, GA
M.S. in Cybersecurity
Georgia Institute of Technology

02/2018 - 12/2023
Atlanta, GA
B.S. in Computer Science
Georgia State University

02/2015 - 01/2017
Lawrenceville, GA
A.A.S. in Information Technology
Gwinnett Technical College

Certifications

- Cybersecurity Certificate (1-Year Program at GSU)
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) - Expires 2027
- Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) - Expires 2027
- CCNP Security - Expires 2027
- CompTIA A+ - Expires 2027
- CompTIA Security+ - Expires 2027
- CompTIA Linux+ - Expires 2028
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate – Expires 2028
- Certified Legal & Medical Interpreter

Core Skills & Technical Expertise

- CI/CD Security | GitHub Actions | Jenkins | IaC (Terraform, CloudFormation)
- Docker | Kubernetes | Linux Administration
- Cloud Security | IAM | Secrets Management | VPC | API Gateway | EC2 | S3 | EKS/ECS
- Agile | Full-Stack Development
- SIEM | Splunk | MITRE ATT&CK | CloudWatch
- Network Security | Risk Assessment | Incident Response
- Python | Bash | Java | PHP | HTML/CSS
- SOC Operations | Threat Hunting | Log Correlation
- Secure SDLC | Threat Modeling | Policy-as-Code
- Vulnerability Scanning | SAST/DAST | OWASP | Encryption
- HIPAA | ISO 27001 | NIST | PCI-DSS Compliance
- Malware Analysis | Endpoint Security | Access Control
- Data Protection | Secrets Rotation | Security Policies