

# Evan Johnson

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## EDUCATION

**University of California San Diego**, La Jolla, CA  
Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science  
Advisor: Deian Stefan and Stefan Savage

**University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana**, Urbana, Illinois  
B.S. Computer Engineering (2019)

## PUBLICATIONS

[Private delegated computations using strong isolation](#) Mathias Brossard, Guilhem Bryant, Basma El Gaabouri, Xinxin Fan, Alexandre Ferreira, Edmund Grimley-Evans, Christopher Haster, Evan Johnson, Derek Miller, Fan Mo, Dominic P Mulligan, Nick Spinale, Eric Van Hensbergen, Hugo JM Vincent, Shale Xiong  
*IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computing*

[WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime](#) Evan Johnson, Evan Laufer, Zijie Zhao, Dan Gohman, Shravan Narayan, Stefan Savage, Deian Stefan, and Fraser Brown  
*IEEE S&P 23*

[Going beyond the Limits of SFI: Flexible and Secure Hardware-Assisted In-Process Isolation with HFI](#) Shravan Narayan, Tal Garfinkel, Mohammadkazem Taram, Joey Rudek, Daniel Moghimi, Evan Johnson, Chris Fallin, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Michael LeMay, Ravi Sahita, Dean Tullsen, and Deian Stefan  
*ASPLOS 23*

[Segue & ColorGuard: Optimizing SFI Performance and Scalability on Modern x86](#) Shravan Narayan, Tal Garfinkel, Evan Johnson, David Thien, Joey Rudek, Michael LeMay, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Dean Tullsen, and Deian Stefan.  
*PLAS 2023*

[FaJITa: Verifying Optimizations on Just-In-Time Programs](#) David Thien, Michael Smith, Evan Johnson, Sorin Lerner, Hovav Shacham, Deian Stefan, and Fraser Brown  
*PriSC 2023*

[MSWasm: Soundly Enforcing Memory-Safe Execution of Unsafe Code](#) Alexandra E. Michael, Anitha Gollamudi, Jay Bosamiya, Evan Johnson, Aidan Denlinger, Craig Disselkoen, Conrad Watt, Bryan Parno, Marco Patrignani, Marco Vassena, and Deian Stefan  
*POPL 2023*

[Isolation without Taxation: Near Zero Cost Transitions for WebAssembly and SFI](#) Matthew Kolosick, Shravan Narayan, Evan Johnson, Conrad Watt, Michael LeMay, Deepak Garg, Ranjit Jhala, and Deian Stefan  
*POPL 2022*

[Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm](#)

Evan Johnson, David Thien, Yousef Alhessi, Shravan Narayan, Fraser Brown, Sorin Lerner, Tyler McMullen, Stefan Savage, and Deian Stefan  
*Network and Distributed System Security Symposium (NDSS) 2021*

[Swivel: Hardening WebAssembly against Spectre](#)

Shravan Narayan, Craig Disselkoen, Daniel Moghimi, Sunjay Cauligi, Evan Johnson, Zhao Gang, Anjo Vahldiek-Oberwagner, Ravi Sahita, Hovav Shacham, Dean Tullsen, and Deian Stefan  
*USENIX Security Symposium 2021*

[Jetset: Targeted Firmware Rehosting for Embedded Systems](#)

Evan Johnson, Maxwell Bland, YiFei Zhou, Joshua Mason, Stephen Checkoway, Stefan Savage and Kirill Levchenko  
*USENIX Security Symposium 2021*

[Reinam: Reinforcement learning for input-grammar inference](#)

Zhengkai Wu, Evan Johnson, Wei Yang, Osbert Bastani, Dawn Song, Jian Peng, and Tao Xie  
*ESEC/FSE 2019*

## Awards

[Distinguished paper](#) - IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (S&P), 2023. *WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime*

[Invited Article](#) - IEEE Micro Top Picks. *Going beyond the Limits of SFI: Flexible and Secure Hardware-Assisted In-Process Isolation with HFI*

[Finalist](#) - Intel Hardware Security Award. *Going beyond the Limits of SFI: Flexible and Secure Hardware-Assisted In-Process Isolation with HFI*

[Recognized contributor](#) to the Bytecode Alliance's formal verification efforts.

[Finalist](#) - Applied Research Competition, CSAW 2021. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.*

## Service

**Foundations of Computer Security 2024** - PC Member

**Usenix Security 2023** - Artifact evaluation committee

**Usenix Security 2023** - Student reviewer of papers

**HotOS 2023** - Student reviewer of papers

## Talks

At IEEE S&P 2023. *WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime*. May 2023

At the Center for Networked Systems' Research Review. *WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime*. May 2023

At the Dagstuhl Seminar on Foundations of WebAssembly. *WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime*. Mar 2023

At New England Systems Verification Day at MIT. *WaVe: a verifiably secure WebAssembly sandboxing runtime*. Oct 2022

At the Applied Research Competition, CSAW 2021. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Nov 2021

At Stanford security seminar. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Oct 2021

At USENIX Security 2021. *Jetset: Targeted Firmware Rehosting for Embedded Systems.* Aug 2021

At CMU graduate security class. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Apr 2021

At ARM corp. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Apr 2021

At NDSS 2021. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Feb 2021

At the Center for Networked Systems' Research Review. *Trust but verify: SFI safety for native-compiled Wasm.* Oct 2020

## TEACHING

**Co-taught**, CSE 291: Building Secure Systems with Rust **Fall 2024**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, CSE 127: Computer Security **Fall 2021**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, CSE 127: Computer Security **Fall 2020**