JAWAD MAHDI

Offensive Security Researcher | Penetration Tester
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SUMMARY

Offensive Security Researcher with 3+ years of authorized testing across web applications, APIs, mobile applications, networks, and identity environments. Experience includes penetration testing, tenant-level Microsoft 365 security administration, confidential security research under nondisclosure obligations, and rewarded vulnerability disclosures.

SKILLS

Penetration Testing: Web applications, APIs, mobile applications, networks, Active Directory, vulnerability assessment, red teaming
Security Tools: Burp Suite Pro, Nmap, Metasploit, Nuclei, Katana, Wireshark, OpenVAS, Kali Linux
Engineering & Methods: Python, Bash, C/C++, TypeScript, React, Electron, Node.js, Django, Docker, MongoDB, PostgreSQL, Elasticsearch, Model Context Protocol (MCP), OWASP Top 10, MITRE ATT&CK, CVSS, OSINT

EXPERIENCE

Microsoft 365 & Security Administrator (Contract)
Confidential Maritime Company | Malaysia | Jan 2025 - Dec 2025
- Managed Microsoft 365, Microsoft Entra ID, and Microsoft Defender with tenant-wide administrative privileges, maintaining identity, access, security configuration, and day-to-day platform administration.

Penetration Tester Intern
Disclosify Limited | Apr 2025 - Aug 2025
- Performed web application and API penetration tests from reconnaissance and exploitation through validation, reporting, and remediation guidance.
- Built security automation for reconnaissance and analysis; documented SQL injection, XSS, and misconfigurations with reproducible evidence and CVSS severity scoring.

Confidential Security Researcher
Confidential security environment | Organization withheld | 2021 - 2023
- Supported authorized security research in a sensitive environment; the organization, mission, systems, scope, methods, findings, and outcomes remain confidential.

Bug Bounty Researcher (Independent)
Synack Red Team, HackerOne, Bugcrowd | Jan 2020 - Jan 2024
- Conducted authorized testing across web, API, mobile, and network targets; reported SQL injection, remote code execution, XSS, and IDOR findings.
- Earned bounty awards and acknowledgements from the U.S. Department of Defense, Apple, Dell, Coca-Cola, and Cambridge University; collaborated with triage teams through remediation.

PROJECTS

EntityLens | Local-First OSINT & Security Research Workspace
- Built a React/TypeScript/Electron workspace for structured evidence, resumable analysis, interactive visualization, controlled exports, and read-only AI integration through MCP.

Nuclei-Forge | Open-Source Security Scanning Platform
- Built a Dockerized Nuclei platform for private templates, queued and scheduled scans, managed targets, finding review, JWT authentication, RBAC, audit logging, and execution safeguards.

ScanOps | Open-Source Network Security Operations Platform
- Developed a Django platform for controlled network scanning with centralized assets, scheduling, live monitoring, historical findings, reporting, and role-aware administration.

Credential Breach Monitoring System | Capstone Project
- Built a Django/PostgreSQL/Elasticsearch application and Python ingestion pipeline to correlate exposed credentials with domains and generate investigation-ready reports.

MJZ Autonomous Pentest Agent | AI-Assisted Security Platform
- Designed and developed a local-first AI-assisted platform for authorized web/API testing, source and Git-history analysis, deterministic scope controls, isolated workflows, evidence-backed validation, and reproducible reporting.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons) | Taylor's University / University of Bristol (Dual Certificate Award) | CGPA: 3.69 | Feb 2023 - Feb 2026 | 30% Scholarship

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Red Team Professional (CRTP) | Web Application Penetration Tester eXtreme (eWPTX) | Certified Professional Penetration Tester (eCPPT)
Certified AppSec Pentester (CAPen) | Certified API Security Analyst (CASA) | Certified Security Code Review Beginners (CSCRB)
Certified Cybersecurity Educator Professional (CCEP) | Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate | Basic Python for Analytics Professional | Java Foundations

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Four national team championships: Cyber Security Challenge (2018), Inter-University Cyber Drill (2021), National CyberDrill (2022), and SUST SWE TECHNOVENT CTF (2023).
- Four national runner-up finishes: JU CTF (2019), Cyber Security Challenge (2019), National Cyber Drill (2020), and CyberSummit Hackathon (2021).
- International results: 94th of 4,740 teams and 9,900 players at Cyber Apocalypse CTF (2021); 13th nationally (Top 15) among university participants across Malaysia at Curtin Malaysia CTF (2023), competing solo under the registration label Team Elliot.
- Bounty awards and acknowledgements from the U.S. Department of Defense, Apple, Cambridge University, Coca-Cola, and Dell.
- Dean's List honoree, with semester GPA as high as 4.00.