

Adriaan van Niekerk

📍 Cape Town, South Africa ✉ adriaanvanniekerk2@gmail.com ☎ 078 804 0822 🔗 LinkedIn

Profile

Early-career Cybersecurity Professional with a BEng in Computer Engineering and hands-on experience in SOC operations, threat detection, and system hardening. Skilled in cloud platforms, network defence, and incident response, supported by practical homelab projects that simulate real-world attack and defence scenarios.

Certified in CompTIA Security+, ISC2 CC, Cisco CCNA R&S, Google Cybersecurity Certificate, and Microsoft Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900). Experienced in data analysis with Qlik and system administration, providing a strong technical base for securing modern cloud and hybrid environments.

Portfolio showcasing cloud-focused cybersecurity projects and homelab environments: adriaan-van-niekerk-portfolio.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com 📄

Skills

Programming & Scripting

Python (automation, log analysis), Bash, SQL, C++, Java

Security Tools & Platforms

SIEM(Splunk, Wazuh), EDR(Sysmon), Wireshark, Burp Suite, Metasploit, Nmap, Linux CLI, Windows CLI

Cloud & Infrastructure Security

Microsoft Azure (Fundamentals – AZ-900), AWS (portfolio projects), Virtualisation (VirtualBox), System Administration

Cybersecurity Concepts

Threat Detection & Incident Response, IDS/IPS, Vulnerability Management, IAM (Active Directory, Authentication & Authorisation), System Hardening, Access Control

Networks & Protocols

TCP/IP, VLANs, Routing & Switching, Firewalls & ACLs

Cryptography

Encryption (AES), Hashing (SHA-512)

Degrees

Bachelor of Engineering (BEng.) Computer Engineering, University of Pretoria	12/2023
---	---------

Certifications

Data Analysis Short Course, University of Cape Town	09/2025
Security+, CompTIA	09/2025
Microsoft Certified Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900), Microsoft	08/2025
CC Certified in Cybersecurity, ISC2	01/2025
CCNA R&S (All four modules), Cisco Networking Academy	07/2021
National Senior Certificate, Goudveld Secondary School	12/2018

Certificates

Security Engineer, TryHackMe	09/2025
SOC Level 1, TryHackMe	08/2025
Google Cybersecurity, Coursera	06/2025
Cyber Security 101, TryHackMe	05/2025

Practical Projects

Threat Simulation & Telemetry Collection Homelab

Built an isolated virtual lab to simulate cyberattacks and collect telemetry without risking the host system. Configured a Windows 10 VM as a monitored endpoint and a Kali Linux VM as the attack box. Generated and executed a reverse shell payload using Metasploit to simulate post-exploitation behaviour. Integrated Sysmon with Splunk to collect and visualise detailed process and network activity. Demonstrated end-to-end detection of suspicious behaviour, including payload execution, command-line activity, and network sessions.
(<https://github.com/Adriaan1256/malware-telemetry-lab> [↗](#))

Live SOC Monitoring (LetsDefend, TryHackMe)

Triaged real-time alerts, investigated phishing and brute-force attempts, escalated incidents with supporting evidence.

Defensive Security Labs (TryHackMe)

Applied IDS/IPS, log analysis, and EDR in lab scenarios.

Offensive Security (TryHackMe)

Conducted basic pen-testing using Metasploit, Nmap, and Burp Suite.

System & Network Labs

Analysed traffic with Wireshark; explored Active Directory and Linux/Windows CLI tools.

Cryptography

Implemented AES, DES, SHA-512, and stream ciphers in Python from first principles.

Smart Energy Meter (Final Year Project)

Designed with AI-based clustering and frequency analysis using microcontrollers.

Work Experience

KAL Group Ltd, Business Intelligence (BI) Developer

06/2024 – present

- Designed and developed interactive dashboards and business reports using **Qlik**, supporting departments including Sales, Finance, and Inventory across multiple divisions and branches.
- Collaborated with stakeholders through a **Jira-based ticketing system**, ensuring prompt and reliable delivery of analytics solutions tailored to user requirements.
- Maintained and enhanced the organisation's **data warehouse**, gaining hands-on experience in data warehouse management, modelling, and optimisation.
- Interpreted user specifications to develop and maintain QlikView modules, enhancing data accessibility and operational insight.
- Researched emerging technologies to propose improvements in reporting and analytics processes.
- Applied business logic and best practices to develop solutions with real business impact, demonstrating strong analytical judgement and achievement orientation.

Fouritron, Computer Engineer

02/2024 – 04/2024

- Delivered technical support and device maintenance for company electronics, ensuring seamless operations and uptime.
- Translated complex technical concepts into **clear, non-technical language** for client understanding and decision-making.
- Applied networking knowledge and basic electrical design skills to support small-scale technical projects.
- Gained experience in client-facing situations, improving communication and consultation capabilities.

Fouritron, Engineer Trainee

11/2022 – 12/2023

- Shadowed a consulting electrical engineer daily, learning effective **client interaction skills and professional meeting etiquette**.
- Assisted with hardware diagnostics, technical troubleshooting, and project documentation.
- Developed foundational skills in electronic systems, circuit design, and **network communication** protocols.