Shiva Shashank Kusuma

🟢Schedule Call | United States | (940) 758-4074 | shashanktechcs@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/shashankpie | github.com/shashankpie

Cybersecurity researcher with 3 years of experience and dual Master's degrees in Cybersecurity and CS. Proven track record developing open-source security tools (ROP ROCKET), publishing research, and presenting at top-tier conferences (DEF CON, BlackHat).

Education

University of Alabama	*Huntsville, AL*
Master's in **Cybersecurity** – **3.7/4.0** CGPA	Graduated: **May 2025**
Master's in **Computer Science** – 3.6/4.0 CGPA	Graduated: May 2024
SR Engineering College	*India*
Bachelor's in **Computer Science** – 3.15/4.0 CGPA	Aug 2016 – Nov 2020

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, JavaScript (ES6+), HTML, CSS, Assembly Language (x86)
Technologies/Frameworks: React, Next.js, Express.js, REST APIs, AI/LLMs, Prompt Engineering
Tools/Platforms: Git/GitHub, Bash, Windows, Linux, MacOS, VS Code, Version Control, AWS Cloud
Cybersecurity: Reverse Engineering, Software Exploitation, ROP (code-reuse attacks), Windows APIs

Experience

Security Research Assistant   Aug 2022 – May 2025
Verona Labs, UAH   *Huntsville, AL*

- Published multiple research papers as co-author and submitted a novel exploit to Exploit-DB contributing to security research.
- **Co-created** ROP ROCKET (open-source) and presented it as a **co-speaker** at DEF CON 2023 showcasing it globally [link].
- Developed more than 150 working ROP patterns that can exploit Windows along with Process Injection techniques [paper].

Mobile Application Developer Intern   May 2020 – June 2020
UrbanRider   *Hyderabad, India*

- Mastered Flutter within 1 week to deliver production-ready cross-platform app, reducing onboarding time by 75%.
- Built manager app, deploying 15+ features that improved efficiency by 40% and cut deployment cycle from 2 weeks to 3 days.

Projects

Geekyboy | Technologies: Java, Android Studio, WordPress, Firebase   Nov 2017 – April 2019

- Tech related Android app (**50k+** Downloads), Website (**100k+** Stats), **150** Rank in Google Play Store.
- Researched and Implemented ASO gaining huge traffic (2k+ downloads/day) with an average **4.7**/5-star.

AI Research Paper Assistant | Technologies: Python, OpenAI API   Feb 2025

- Developed AI-powered research assistant processing 1000+ arXiv papers daily, reducing manual research time by 80%.
- Integrated summarization generating 200-word abstracts in <5 sec, enabling researchers to review 50+ papers/hour vs 5.

Achievements

- 2x Speaker at **DEF CON** official talk – 2023, 2024 [info: link]
- Co-speaker at BlackHat Arsenal – 2024 [info: link]
- Secured a top 3 position in the 48-hour WittyFeed coding hackathon

Certifications

AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate	Amazon Web Services (AWS)
AWS Certified Security – Specialty	Amazon Web Services (AWS)
AWS Certified AI Practitioner	Amazon Web Services (AWS)