

# Shiva Shashank Kusuma

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Dual Master's graduate in Cybersecurity & Computer Science, 2x DEF CON & BlackHat speaker while in college, co-creator of open-source ROP ROCKET tool, and AWS Security Specialty & Solutions Architect certified; (no visa sponsorship required).

## Education

University of Alabama	Huntsville, AL
Master's in <b>Cybersecurity</b> – 3.7/4.0 CGPA	Graduated: <b>May 2025</b>
Master's in <b>Computer Science</b> – 3.6/4.0 CGPA	Graduated: May 2024
SR Engineering College	India
Bachelor's in <b>Computer Science</b> – 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

<b>Research Assistant - Cybersecurity</b>	Aug 2022 – May 2025
Verona Lab, UAH	Huntsville, AL

- **Co-authored** multiple research papers and submitted a novel exploit to Exploit-DB within the first 2 years.
- Co-authored and **co-created** ROP ROCKET ([open-source](#)) and presented it as a **co-speaker** at Defcon 2023 [info: [link](#)].
- Developed more than 150 working ROP patterns that can exploit Windows along with Process Injection techniques [[paper](#)].

<b>Mobile Application Developer Intern</b>	May 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tech related Android app (<b>50k+</b> Downloads), Website (<b>100k+</b> Stats), <b>150</b> Rank in Google Play Store.</li><li>• Researched and Implemented ASO gaining huge traffic (2k+ downloads/day) with an average <b>4.7/5</b>-star.</li></ul>	

AI Research Paper Assistant   Technologies: Python, OpenAI API	Feb 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed AI-powered research assistant processing 1000+ arXiv papers daily, reducing manual research time by 80%.</li><li>• Integrated summarization generating 200-word abstracts in &lt;5 sec, enabling researchers to review 50+ papers/hour vs 5.</li></ul>	

## 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

<b>AWS Certified Solutions Architect</b> – Associate	Amazon Web Services (AWS)
<b>AWS Certified Security</b> – Specialty	Amazon Web Services (AWS)
AWS Certified AI Practitioner	Amazon Web Services (AWS)