SOHANA AKTER

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SUMMARY

PhD Student in Computer Science with more than **four years** of professional **full-stack Android Development** experience (Java and Kotlin), specializing in real-time communication systems. Academic research focuses on Human-Computer Interaction (**HCI**), **Digital Privacy**, **Accessibility** and the ethical use of **Generative AI**.

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, The Univerisity of Texas at San Antonio — **August 2024 - Present**

- Conducted an exploratory qualitative user study with 20 Blind and Low-Vision (BLV) participants to investigate their privacy concerns, barriers to privacy, and coping strategies on instant messaging platforms. Authored a paper on this which is currently under review.
- Focusing on an interdisciplinary research in HCI and Generative AI; exploring their impact on mental health and Digital Privacy

Software Engineer, TigerIT Bangladesh Ltd — **April 2022 - July 2024**

- Developed and maintained core features for three production Android applications (CommChat Messenger, EVR BRTA, NID Wallet), leveraging **Java** and **Kotlin** frameworks.
- Engineered critical features, including adding reactions to messages and message threading, by utilizing **Android Architecture Components** (**Room Database, LiveData, ViewModel, and Coroutines**)
- Integrated a feature for a government project enabling a handheld device to write data to an RFID tag , which accelerated the national number plate distribution process.

Software Engineer, REVE Systems Ltd — **April 2020 - March 2022**

- Built a library to handle full-duplex websocket messages, which was utilized by the team's entire collection of Android apps for server communication.
- Implemented the End-to-End (E2E) encryption protocol to ensure a secure messaging system.
- Contributed to VoIP solutions (Alaap) by integrating APIs for online payment and developing features like a newsfeed by integrating **RSS feeds**.

SKILLS

Android Development, Android Architecture Components (Room Database, SQLite, LiveData, ViewModel, Coroutines), ML Kit (face detection)	JAVA, Kotlin, Python, C, C++, LaTeX, Overleaf Algorithm, Data Structure, Problem Solving	Qualitative Research, HCI, GENAI, Digital Privacy, Accessibility, Sentiment Analysis, NLP, Support Vector Machine (SVM),Decision Tree Classifier, K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at San Antonio — **August 2024 - Present**
PhD in Computer Science, GPA: 4.00/4.00 (As of Fall 2025)

Khulna University of Engineering & Technology — **March 2016 - March 2020**
B. Sc in Computer Science and Engineering (GPA: 3.61/4.00)

HONORS & ACCOLADES

- Dean's award obtaining 3.78/4.00 in 4th year.
- 21st in National Girls Programming Contest, 2018
- Khulna Division Champion in NSU Inter University Girl's Programming Contest, 2018