

Thea U. Kjeldsmark

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Education

University of California, Irvine

PhD in Computer Science, GPA: 3.99/4.0

Master of Science in Computer Science

Irvine, USA

Expected Jun 2030

Sep 2025

IT University of Copenhagen

Bachelor of Science in Software Development, GPA: 10.79/12.0 (3.9/4.0 US GPA)

Copenhagen, Denmark

Jun 2023

Research Experience

University of California, Irvine

Graduate Student Researcher, Advisor: Prof. Habiba Farrukh

Irvine, USA

Jan 2024 – Current

- Conducted a large-scale study of 9,574 XR app listings across 7 app stores, uncovering widespread security, privacy, and safety disclosure inconsistencies.
- Built an ML pipeline, training DeBERTa/Roberta classifiers and an LLM-based labeling system, to surface safety and privacy concerns across 1.26M user reviews.
- Analyzed energy attacks and privacy policy gaps for batteryless devices.

ETH Zurich, Advanced Software Technologies Lab

Research Fellow (20 selected from 2,500+ applicants), Advisor: Prof. Zhendong Su

Zurich, Switzerland

Jul 2024 – Aug 2024

- Extended a grammar-based bug-finding tool (ET) to support any programming language and more complex grammar rules by integrating ANTLR-based parsing and an improved grammar translator.
- Ran the tool across 2 SMT solvers and 6 JavaScript engines, comparing outputs to uncover 14 new bugs.

Publications

Thea U. Kjeldsmark, Xiaokuan Zhang, Habiba Farrukh. One App, Many Realities: A Cross-Store Study of Security and Privacy Disclosures in XR Apps. *Network and Distributed System Security (NDSS)*, 2027. *To appear*.

Thea U. Kjeldsmark, Hui Zhuang, Habiba Farrukh, Muslum Ozgur Ozmen. Intermittent Power, Continuous Protection: Security and Privacy for Batteryless Devices in IoT. *Sensors Security & Privacy Workshop*, 2025.

Posters

Expanding the Scope of Grammar-Based Enumerative Testing. *Principles of Programming Languages (POPL)*, Student Research Competition, 2025.

Empowering Cybersecurity Education: Designing a CTF Platform Using Kubernetes. *Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) Conference*, 2024.

Industry Experience

Microsoft

Software Engineer Intern

Dublin, Ireland

Jun 2023 – Aug 2023

- Improved the flow and UI of student inline email verification in Office checkout using C# and TypeScript.

Microsoft

Software Engineer Intern

Dublin, Ireland

Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

- Built a Microsoft Teams app visualizing M365 file accessibility with integrated SSO/Azure AD authorization policies.

J.P. Morgan

Software Engineer Intern

Glasgow, UK

Jun 2021 – Aug 2021

- Designed and implemented a Java framework for translating user-inputted GraphQL queries into SPARQL queries.

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, Java, Go, C#, SQL, JavaScript, TypeScript

Tools & Techniques: Fuzzing, Differential Testing, Static Analysis, Text Classification, Prompt Engineering, ANTLR, Git, Docker, Kubernetes

Teaching Experience

University of California, Irvine

Teaching Assistant

Computer Networks

Fall 2026

Computer Science Keystone Project

Winter & Spring 2026

Economic Principles

Spring 2025

Microeconomics for Management in the Digital Age

Winter 2025

Programming and Data Analysis for Business (Python)

Fall 2024

Capstone Professional Writing and Communication for Computer Science Careers

Spring 2024

IT University of Copenhagen

Teaching Assistant

Study Lab (Algorithms & Data Structures, Web Programming, Java Project)

Spring 2023

Distributed Systems (Go)

Fall 2022

Introductory Programming (Java)

Fall 2021

Awards

Fellowships & Scholarships

UCI Computer Science Department Research Fellowship

2025

Thanks to Scandinavia Scholar (selected by *Fulbright Denmark*)

2023-2025

Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) Conference Scholarship and Travel Stipend

2024 & 2025

ISC2 Graduate Cybersecurity Scholarship

2024

Grants from Danish Foundations (William Demant, Augustinus, Nordea, and Louis-Hansen)

2023 & 2024

Certificates

Mentoring Excellence Certificate Program, University of California Irvine

2024

Service and Outreach

Service Positions

Mentor, UCI Undergraduate Research Discovery Program

Jan 2026 – Jun 2026

Program Coordinator, UCI Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS)

Sep 2024 – Jun 2025

Peer Mentor, UCI Graduate International Connection Program

Apr 2024 – Sep 2024

Conference Service

Program Committee Member, Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) Conference 2027

2026

Student Volunteer, Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) Conference

Apr 2025

Student Volunteer, Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL)

Jan 2025