

Robert Cocker

Dallas-Fort Worth, TX | [Email](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [GitHub](#) | [Discord](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

AI security researcher and data scientist with an interdisciplinary background spanning cybersecurity, responsible AI, machine learning, and systems engineering. Experienced in security research, data governance, mainframe and cloud hybrid environments, and open-source security tooling. Proficient in Python, C/C++, Rust, and SQL, with hands-on work in MLOps, CI/CD pipelines, and multi-domain research spanning security, privacy, and neural modeling.

EDUCATION

Dakota State University

M.S. Cyber Defense (in progress)

University of Texas at Arlington

B.S. Data Science, Psychology Concentration, Biology Minor

Lincoln College of Technology

A.S. Automotive and Diesel Technology

Tarrant County College

General Studies

Dallas College

General Studies

EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist

2025 – 2026

Handshake AI

- Pioneer AI and GenAI technologies in collaboration with industry professionals and universities to bridge the gap between academia and large corporations.

Undergraduate Researcher

2024 – 2026

University of Texas at Arlington

- Conducted security research at the campus security lab focused on disinformation, misinformation, and information risk to the public.
- Contributed to psychology research supporting government-funded grants and doctoral dissertation work, helping pioneer the department's research program.
- Conducted research spanning health informatics, bioinformatics, advanced AI, machine learning, deep learning, space systems, and LoRa-based mesh networking.
- Supported Unix and Linux OS research through a student organization that shipped an Arch Linux-based distribution for the university.

Mainframe System Administrator

2022 – 2023

International Business Machines (IBM)

- Completed a database administrator apprenticeship track through Franklin Apprenticeships on z/OS mainframe systems.
- Administered data governance and database operations across mainframe and cloud hybrid environments, with focus on OLTP, OLAP, and batch job processing.
- Operated IBM enterprise technologies across mainframe and cloud hybrid infrastructure.

Student Assistant

2023 – 2023

UTA Libraries

- Curated data for library archives supporting the university's digital preservation initiative.
- Managed data annotation and metadata to support institutional knowledge preservation.

Amazon Flex Driver

2018 – 2021

Amazon.com Inc

- Delivered Amazon products across the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area.

Fleet Technician

2009 – 2017

Enterprise Holdings Inc

- Maintained fleet of rental vehicles for one of the largest major airport hubs in North America.

Order Fulfillment Associate

2006 – 2007

GameStop Corp

- Prepared products for supply chain delivery at one of four major operation hubs in North America.

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, Rust, SQL, Go, Mojo, Zig, R, SAS, MATLAB, COBOL, Fortran**Cybersecurity & AI Security:** AI security research, MLOps, CI/CD pipelines, open-source security tooling, disinformation/misinformation analysis**Data Science & ML:** Scikit-learn, Keras, TensorFlow, Pandas, NumPy, Jupyter, Matplotlib, Seaborn**Cloud & Infrastructure:** Docker, Podman, Kubernetes, Google Cloud, AWS, Apache technologies**Operating Systems:** Unix, Linux, Windows**Data Analysis:** Exploratory data analysis (EDA), Hypothesis testing, Experimental design, Quantitative analysis, Qualitative analysis, Synthetic data**Data Visualization:** Power BI, Tableau, Streamlit, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Microsoft 365**Soft Skills:** Collaboration, Problem solving, Technical and non-technical communication**PROJECTS**

Mojo

- Conducted early research and development on the Mojo programming language's ABI architecture for next-generation AI, prior to the official version 1.0 release.
- Drove early MLOps adoption within the Mojo ecosystem to support AI security research and development.
- Contributed to community-preserved open-source work following Qualcomm's 2026 acquisition.

The FreeBSD Project

- Developed a CI/CD pipeline for open-source software on GitHub to bridge gaps in the Berkeley Software Distribution (BSD) ecosystem.
- Launched a web page introducing the FreeBSD project and BSD ecosystem to hobbyists, students, working professionals, and programmers new to the Unix standard.
- Drove community R&D for the BSD ecosystem.

ACTIVITIES & LEADERSHIP

Professional Memberships

- Computer Club
- UT Arlington Alumni Association

CERTIFICATIONS

- IBM Data Science Professional Certificate