# Carnegie Mellon University

## **BRANDONE FONYA**

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### **SUMMARY**

I am a graduate research assistant and a final year Masters student in Engineering Artificial Intelligence under the <u>College of Engineering</u> at Carnegie Mellon University, where I focus on machine learning and computer vision. My research focus is on Deep Learning for computer vision and its applications in medical image analysis, healthcare and autonomous systems.

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EDUCATION	
M.Sc. in Engineering Artificial Intelligence	August 2024-
Carnegie Mellon University	Present
Specialization: Machine learning & Applied Computer Vision	
B.Sc. (Hons) Software Engineering	October 2022-
ICT University	May 2024
CGPA: 3.65 / 4, ranked 1st in department	
HND in Computer Engineering	September
Siantou University Institute	2020- July
Specialization: Software Engineering	2022
Grade: Distinction	
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	
Graduate Research Assistant	June 2025 –
Carnegie Mellon University – Makerere University CHS (Joint Research)	Present
Rwanda, Uganda	
• Conducting research on low-cost, non-invasive tuberculosis screening using deep learning	
models trained on solicited cough sounds. This work aims to enable early Tuberculosis	
(TB) detection in low-resource settings through audio-based classification.	
Graduate IT Associate - Full Stack developer	August 2024 –
Carnegie Mellon University	May 2025
Rwanda, USA	
• Leveraged the MERN stack to develop, manage and enhance the performance and	
scalability of Carnegie Mellon University Africa's job board, migrating existing Java	
backend infrastructures to Node/Express.JS	
• Working with a hybrid team, integrated data visualization and actionable insights into the	
CMU-Africa opportunities job board to enhance decision-making and user engagement	0 + 1 2022
Systems Automation Engineer Intern	October 2023 –
ORION Inter-African Insurance and Reinsurance LTD	February 2024
Cameroon	
Designed and implemented desktop software in Visual Basic to streamline insurance data  world love antimized a support native value and amb addets visualization for insight driver.	
workflows, optimize document retrieval, and embed data visualization for insight-driven operations.	
<ul> <li>Enabled efficient data access and improved decision support through automated processing</li> </ul>	
and visual analytics.	
Founder	December 2022
ESchools LMS	– June 2024
Cameroon	
• Led the development of ESchools LMS, an AI-powered learning management platform	
integrating AI chatbots and automation to support full online learning for students,	
teachers, and administrators in Cameroon through a learning management system.	
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# RESEARCH & PROJECTS

Multi-defense framework against adversarial attacks on deep learning medical imaging models

Carnegie Mellon University (Summer 2025, Research)

Supervisor: Prof. Prasenjit Mitra

- Research to propose a multi-defense framework for deep learning medical imaging models (ResNet18 and VGG16) against PGD and DeepFool adversarial attacks, integrating adversarial training, input preprocessing, and model ensembling.
- Evaluating the framework on the Breast Cancer histopathology dataset to enhance the robustness of deep learning usage in medical image analysis and clinically applicable AI diagnostics.

# **Evaluating Health Facility Distribution and District-Level Disease Prevalence in Rwanda: A Data-driven Approach**

Carnegie Mellon University, (Spring 2025, Research)

Supervisor: Prof. Emily Aiken
Accepted at European Public Health Conference (EPH), 2025

- Analysed healthcare facility distribution in Rwanda, using geospatial analysis and machine learning to address disparities in Malaria, TB, and HIV care.
- Proposed a data-driven model to optimize healthcare resource allocation, enhancing accessibility and health outcomes across sub-Saharan Africa, applicable to other countries.

# Real-Time Sign Language Recognition and Speech Transcription using Deep Learning Carnegie Mellon University, (Spring 2025, Project)

- This project employs a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) trained on the Sign Language MNIST dataset to classify American Sign Language (ASL) hand signs from live video input via Mediapipe.
- The classified gestures are then converted into spoken words using a text-to-speech engine, enabling real-time audio feedback.

# Adaptive Behavioral Planning for Autonomous Vehicles in Unstructured Urban Environments Carnegie Mellon University, (Spring 2025, Project)

- Developed a vision-based system using computer vision (OpenCV, MMDetection, MMAction2) to estimate pedestrian crossing intent in African cities enhancing Autonomous Vehicle safety.
- Proposed an adaptive framework with a PCB algorithm, leveraging the PIE dataset and real-time probabilistic modelling to improve motion prediction in high-uncertainty settings.

### ClimateSmart: Smart agriculture for a greater harvest

ICT University (Spring 2024, Project)

- Developed ClimateSmart, a smart agriculture web application that leverages real-time location and environmental data to recommend optimal farming practices, fertilizer use, and planting seasons.
- Integrates GPT-3.5 pretrained model from OpenAI for AI farm practices and recommendations, tailored guidance to farmers anywhere in the world, based on crop type and farm location, aimed at increasing yields and promote data-driven, climate-resilient agriculture in low-resource settings.

# **MindArt: AI Image Generator**

ICT University (Spring 2024, Project)

- Developed a text-to-image generation application using OpenAI's GPT-3.5 model to convert natural language prompts into AI-generated images.
- Built and deployed a user-friendly web application with a Handlebars.js frontend, integrating privacy safeguards and bias mitigation strategies to promote ethical and inclusive image generation.

#### **Brain Tumor Screening**

ICT University, (Fall 2023, Project)

- Detection of brain tumors in MRI images through a deep Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), implemented in TensorFlow, with datasets from Kaggle.
- Achieved 99.0% model accuracy, surpassing previous benchmarks on kaggle, built a web app which enabled brain tumor detection from uploaded MRI scan images

#### **SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS**

- Skills: Problem solving, collaboration, communication, Software, machine learning, deep learning
- Technologies: Python, C/C++, JavaScript, Java, Git, Jupyter, Matlab, LaTex
- Libraries and frameworks: Pytorch, Tensorflow, NumPy, pandas, Open-CV, CMake, Flask, Scikitlearn, GeoPandas, NodeJS, ExpressJS, ReactJS, React Native, Angular
- Languages: English (Native), French (Advanced)
- Certifications: AWS Cloud foundations, Secure full stack MEAN developer (EC-Council), Project Management (Google), Machine learning Specialization (Stanford)

### **INTERESTS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Interest: Deep Learning, Computer vision, LLMs, Medical Image Analysis, Generative AI
- Achievements: CMU Student Induction best project, B.Sc. department Valedictorian, Cameroon national PremierDev tech award winner 2023, ICT University fellowship of excellence award