

# Henok Biadgign Ademtew

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## Education

- **Kotebe University of Education** *Sept 2019 – July 2023*  
*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*  
*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*

## Publications

- [1] A Case Against Implicit Standards: Homophone Normalization in Machine Translation for Languages that use the Ge'ez Script. *EMNLP Main, 2025*
- [2] CAMMT: Benchmarking Culturally Aware Multimodal Machine Translation. *EMNLP Findings, 2025*
- [3] All Languages Matter: Evaluating LMMs on Culturally Diverse 100 Languages. *CVPR 2025*
- [4] ProverbEval: Exploring LLM Evaluation Challenges for Low-resource Language Understanding. *NAACL 2025, Findings*
- [5] CVQA: Culturally-diverse Multilingual Visual Question Answering Benchmark. *NeurIPS Datasets and Benchmarks Track, 2024*
- [6] Many-Shot In-Context Learning: A Solution or Just an Enhancement for Low-Resource NLP?. *Black In AI workshop, NeurIPS, 2024*
- [7] AGE: Amharic, Ge'ez, and English Parallel Dataset. *LoResMT Workshop, ACL 2024*

## Work Experience

- **Vella AI** *Nov 2024 – July 2025*  
*San Francisco, CA (Remote)*  
*ML Engineer*
  - Worked on model quantization and optimizing inference time to run ML models on mobile devices.
  - Fine-tuned different models for category classification.
  - Explored ONNX and MediaPipe to run LLMs on web GPUs.
- **Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute** *Dec 2023 – Nov 2024*  
*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*  
*ML Engineer*
  - Led the work on pretraining and fine-tuning large language models.
  - Developed models for low resource machine translation.
  - Curated multilingual data from web pages for training.
- **iCog ACC** *Feb 2023 – May 2023*  
*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*  
*Software Engineering Intern*
  - Responsible for migrating a complex legacy MEAN (MongoDB, Express.js, Angular, Node.js) project
  - Worked on developing and updating technical documentation
- **Qene Games** *June 2022 – January 2023*  
*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*  
*Software Engineering Intern*
  - Implemented full-stack projects that were merged and launched to production
  - Wrote testing scripts and performed UI/UX work for different parts of the system
  - Followed SDLC best practices to produce rapid iterations for different products
- **AddisCoder** *July 2019 – August 2019*  
*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*  
*Teaching Assistant*
  - Worked with Professor Jelani Nelson (UC Berkeley), Professor Boaz Barak (Harvard), and Dr. Timnit Gebru (DAIR) to reinforce data structures and algorithms concepts in a 5-week summer camp
  - Taught concepts such as optimization, dynamic programming, and complexity theory for high school students

## Awards & Honors

- Awarded \$1,700 USD, [Google Travel Grant](#)
- Community Champion at [Cohere AI](#)
- MLH Top 50 Hacker, 2023, [Full Story](#)
- Meta Global Challenge, 2023 – 17<sup>th</sup> place out of 3,000 globally
- NASA Space Apps Challenge, 2020 – Won the People's Choice Award
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Teacher's Hack, [project link](#)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hack and Craft, [project link](#)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – A Hack A Day 2, [project link](#)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Peace out hacks, [project link](#)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Wild hacks, [project link](#)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – YeeHaw Hacks, [project link](#)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Icog Makers Robotics Competition 2019
- Best Use of Cohere AI – Workathon, [project link](#)

## Service & Activities

- **Workshop Organizer** – [AfricaNLP @ACL](#), 2025
- **Teaching Assistant** – [African Computer Vision Summer School \(ACVSS\)](#), 2024, 2025
- **Program Committee** – Deep Learning Indaba, 2024
- **Reviewer** – [AfricaNLP @ICLR](#), 2024
- **Community Lead** – [Cohere for AI](#), 2024
- **Reviewer** – [Tiny Papers @ICLR](#), 2024
- **Speaker** – [Understanding LLMs @DevFest Addis](#), 2023
- **Speaker** – [Hackathons and Open Source Community @DevOpsDays Chattanooga](#), 2022
- **Student Volunteer** – [ICML](#), 2022 (Virtual)

## Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages:** Python, JavaScript, C/C++, Go (limited experience)
- **Machine Learning:** PyTorch, JAX (limited experience), TensorFlow, SciPy, Scikit-Learn, NumPy, Pandas, ONNX, tflite, MediaPipe, vLLM, Matplotlib
- **Software & Tools:** SQL, Next.js, Node.js, React.js, FastAPI, Flask, Docker, Kubernetes