WASIU AJAO

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Software developer with over 3 years of experience and a hacker mindset, focused on tackling complex problems in low-level systems, cryptography, and decentralized technologies. Passionate about building secure, scalable applications with expertise in Rust, Solidity, and blockchain integrations. Skilled in leveraging cryptographic primitives, zero-knowledge proofs, and smart contract development. Strong background in backend engineering, decentralized systems, and open-source contributions.

CORE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Programming Languages: Rust, Solidity/Vyper, Python, JavaScript (ES6/ES7), TypeScript, Go
- Frameworks & Libraries: Anchor, React, ExpressJS, TailwindCSS, Actix-Web
- Development Tools: GCP/AWS, Kubernetes, Docker, Nix, Unix-systems, Git / GitHub / GitLab, Foundry/Hardhat
- Blockchain & Cryptography: Smart Contracts, zk-SNARKs, Ethereum Scaling, Solana Development
- Software Development: Backend Engineering, API Design, Microservices, DevOps, Security
- Collaboration & Methodologies: Agile Development, Open-Source Contributions, Technical Documentation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Open Source Contributor – Privacy, Scaling & Exploration
Dec 2024 – Present | Remote

- Contributed to privacy and ZK research projects, improving cryptographic implementations. Researched and implemented advanced cryptographic techniques, including zero-knowledge proofs (ZKPs), to enhance privacy-focused blockchain applications. Worked on optimizing proof generation and verification mechanisms for efficient on-chain and off-chain computations.
- Developed and optimized Solidity and TypeScript libraries for Ethereum scaling solutions. Built and refined smart contracts and supporting libraries for Layer 2 solutions, such as rollups and validity proofs, to improve Ethereum's transaction throughput and cost-efficiency. Implemented gas-optimized Solidity code and TypeScript utilities for interacting with zk-based scaling protocols.
- Wrote technical documentation and tests to enhance project maintainability. Created in-depth documentation, code samples, and test cases to improve developer experience and project sustainability. Ensured clarity in protocol specifications and library usage, helping contributors onboard efficiently.

Open Source Contributor – RustCrypto
Dec 2024 – Jan 2025 | Remote

- Implemented the MD6 hash function in Rust, optimizing for performance and security. Developed a Rust implementation of the MD6 cryptographic hash function, ensuring correctness, efficiency, and security compliance. Optimized memory usage and computational performance to meet cryptographic standards.
- Contributed to cryptographic libraries, improving hashing, ciphers, and digital signatures. Enhanced existing RustCrypto libraries by fixing vulnerabilities, improving efficiency, and adding new cryptographic functionalities. Worked on various primitives, including symmetric encryption, hashing algorithms, and digital signature schemes.
- Wrote documentation and tests to ensure correctness and safety in cryptographic primitives. Designed and executed comprehensive unit and integration tests to validate cryptographic implementations. Documented API usage and security considerations to ensure best practices and prevent common pitfalls in cryptographic development.

FullStack Intern (TypeScript and Python) – CodeTree
Jan 2025 – April 2025 | Remote

- Contributed to building and customizing internal tools and e-commerce solutions using platforms like Shopify and Retool.
- Used TypeScript and Python to extend no-code platforms, automate workflows, and create reusable components.
- Collaborated closely with cross-functional teams to translate client needs into scalable product features.

- Gained hands-on experience in integrating APIs, managing state, and debugging user-facing applications.

Open Source Contributor – OnlyDust
Feb 2025 – Present | Remote
- Engaged with the OnlyDust platform to discover and contribute to various open-source projects across multiple ecosystems.
- Completed quests that involved tasks such as enhancing documentation, implementing new features, and fixing bugs, thereby improving project functionality and user experience.
- Collaborated with project maintainers and the developer community to review code, discuss issues, and refine project practices.
- Gained practical experience in open-source collaboration, Git workflows, and community-driven development.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics
University of Ilorin, Ilorin *Nov 2019 – Aug 2024*

PROJECTS

Sukura – Privacy-Focused Transaction Mixer
Jan 2025 – March 2025
- Built a privacy-focused transaction mixer for Solana using Groth16 zkSNARKs.
- Developed smart contracts with Anchor and implemented ZK circuits in Circom for anonymous transactions.
- Designed and built the frontend, integrating wallet connections and transaction workflows.

DeBook – Decentralized Book Platform
Jan 2025 – February 2025
- Built a decentralized book storage website, enabling censorship-resistant access to digital books.
- Integrated Cere blockchain to ensure secure and permanent book storage.
- Developed the frontend for a smooth user experience, including book uploads and retrieval.

ZK Subset Sum Game – Zero Knowledge Puzzle Game
Jan 2024
- Built an interactive subset sum game leveraging zero-knowledge proofs (ZKPs) for private validation.
- Implemented Circom circuits to prove a valid subset sum without revealing the numbers used.
- Developed the frontend for smooth user interaction and proof verification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Open-Source Contributions**: Actively contribute to cryptographic and blockchain projects.
- **Technical Writing:** Writes documentation for various open-source projects.
- **Certifications & Workshops:** Engaged in blockchain security and cryptographic research communities.