AZEEZ IDRIS

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OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

Product-focused Data Scientist finishing a PhD in Computer Science and extensive experience in AI/ML, combining technical expertise with strategic product development. Proven track record of delivering data-driven solutions and leading cross-functional teams to drive innovation

EDUCATION.

Ph.D. Computer Science **| 3.73/4.0 | Iowa State University**   **2019 – Present**
MSc Computer Science **| 4.73/5.0 | Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja**   **2018 – 2019**
BSc Computer Science **| 4.62/5.0 | Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria**   **2010 – 2015**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist II | Microsoft, *Redmond, Washington State*   **March 2023 – Present**
- ❖ Develop enhanced user experience and security through curating defensive blocklists and other safety measures
- ❖ Managed stakeholder relationships to align technical implementation for AI Stickers, AI Themes, and Trending News
- ❖ Involved in the Personas project delivering 24% CTR increase through data-driven optimization
- ❖ Collaborated with product teams to define requirements and success metrics

Data Scientist | Microsoft, *Redmond, Washington State*   **May 2022 – Aug 2022**
- ❖ Developed Natural Language processing pipeline for data collection to train article title generation models
- ❖ Implemented end-to-end rule-based and deep-learning article title generation models

Ph.D. Research | IBM, *Yorktown Heights, New York*   **May 2021 – Aug 2021**
- ❖ Using Natural Language processing, executed a research agenda to connect underrepresented minorities with job opportunities which led to submitting a paper at the AAAI conference
- ❖ Created, cleaned, and annotated a dataset of more than 6000 technology job postings
- ❖ Developed a machine learning model that classifies various components of a job posting

Data Scientist | Syngenta, *Slater, Iowa*   **May 2020 – Aug 2020**
- ❖ Developed end-to-end computer vision algorithms for Object Detection and Instance Segmentation using Pytorch to accurately detect in-field corn ears by training with 2,000 images and 10,000 corn ears segments
- ❖ Utilized AWS S3 and Google Cloud to train and deploy 2 deep learning models with > 70% precision
- ❖ Designed a soybean root disease classifier to be adopted in a company-wide production pipeline

Software Engineering | Goldman Sachs, *Hong Kong*   **Jun 2019 – Aug 2019**
- ❖ Designed and Implemented a new reconciliation module for our department using SpringBoot.
- ❖ Wrote code to measure and latency of systems in under 1,000 lines of code.
- ❖ Developed technical depth and a better understanding of finance within investment banking.

Software Developer/Consultant | *FlexiSAF EduSoft Ltd* | *Abuja, Nigeria*   **Jan 2015 – Present**
- ❖ Worked with customers to understand feature requirements and develop appropriate solutions
- ❖ Planned and reviewed team and organization OKRs (Objectives and Key Results) with team of more than 50
- ❖ Designed and implemented a heuristics algorithm for the timetable software within 5,000 lines of Java code.
- ❖ Collaborating using git and bitbucket, wrote code to rank applicants based on educational grades

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LEADERSHIP/VOLUNTEER SERVICE

OnePint Foundation | Software Developer, *Abuja, Nigeria*   **2018 – Present**
- ❖ At OnePint, I helped design an app that connects patients with blood donors.
- ❖ Implemented REST (Representational State Transfer) endpoints for requesting and donating blood.

TECHNICAL ARTICLES PUBLISHED

- ❖ *Java 8 History: Interfaces* - Redhat -https://dzone.com/articles/interfaces-in-java-8
- ❖ *Why Software Documentation Is The Next Big Thing* - DZone - https://red.ht/2MJRpi4

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Introduction To TensorFlow For AI, Machine Learning and Deep Learning **| DeepLearning.ai | 2019**
- ❖ Learned best practices of how to build neural networks using Tensorflow

***Machine Learning* | Stanford University | Coursera | 2018**
- ❖ Learned the fundamental concepts of Machine Learning

***Oracle Certified Associate, Java SE 7 Programmer* | Oracle | 2015**
- ❖ Certified strong foundational understanding of the Java programming language