

Abubakar Sadiq Ismail

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Summary

Software Engineer with a strong foundation in backend systems and Bitcoin Core development. Experienced in writing performant code, contributing to open-source projects, and building APIs for consumer products. Passionate about decentralized systems with a keen interest in learning cryptographic protocols.

Education

Modibbo Adama University of Technology — *B.Tech. Computer Science - Oct 2024* · CGPA: 4.6/5.0

Nigerian Association of Computing Students – Outstanding Performance Award

Experience

Btrust — *Bitcoin Core Developer (Open Source Cohort)*

Lagos, Nigeria · Mar 2025 – Present

- Reviewed and tested pull requests for Bitcoin Core's Cluster Mempool and mining interface components.
- Submitted PR improving mining interfaces and documentation of the `Assume` keyword.
- Hosted a PR Review Club session for a `checkblock` interface addition.

Chaincode Labs — *Bitcoin Core Developer (Intern)*

New York, NY · Nov 2023 – Feb 2025

- Researched and resolved Bitcoin Core's double coinbase reservation bug, potentially improving miner rewards by 0.1%.
- Contributed to Bitcoin core node fee estimation improvements projects; enabled post block assembly package fee rate analysis.
- Participated in peer-reviewed contributions to Cluster Mempool and Mining Interface components PRs.

Btrust Builders — *Bitcoin Core Developer (Starter Grant)*

Lagos, Nigeria · Dec 2023 – Oct 2024

- Added error reporting enhancements and weight limits in transaction funding RPCs.
- Open a PR that adds a startup option that serves as a safeguards to prevent creating mistakenly creating insane fee transactions.
- Collaborated on Cluster Mempool reviews and tests.

Chaincode Labs — *Bitcoin Core Developer (Independent Contractor)*

New York, NY · Jun 2023 – Nov 2023

- Fixed stale fee estimate issue by ensuring hourly data flushing.
- Updated mempool interaction with fee estimator for non-blocking faster block propagation via async fee estimator updates.
- Enhanced `descriptorprocesspsbt` RPC to return hex-encoded transactions on completion.
- Reviewed critical PRs in mempool and wallet components.

Btrust Builders — *Software Engineering Fellow**Lagos, Nigeria · Jan 2023 – Jul 2023*

- Developed a Bitcoin block explorer with NestJS, Electrs, and React.
- Built **satPay** – a Lightning payment platform for businesses with LND + MongoDB.
- Published `private-tx` npm library for Bitcoin privacy analysis.
- Contributed to LNDK (Rust) by enabling config management with `configure_me` crate.

Etijar Financial Technologies — *Backend Engineer**Abuja, Nigeria · Feb 2022 – Dec 2022*

- Built microservices + API Gateway using NestJS, MongoDB, and RabbitMQ.
- Deployed on Docker/DigitalOcean.

Google Developer Student Club, MAUTECH — *Lead Organizer**Yola, Nigeria · Jul 2021 – Jul 2022*

- Led technical events, hackathons, and training sessions.
- Mentored student teams in Google Solution Challenge targeting UNSDGs.

Mentors Innovation Hub — *Backend Developer**Yola, Nigeria · May 2021 – Jan 2022*

- Built REST APIs for agricultural investment and e-commerce platforms.
- Integrated payment via Paystack, WooCommerce, and MySQL ORM.

NutsCoders Tech — *Software Development Intern**Yola, Nigeria · Jan 2020 – Mar 2021*

- Implemented emergency alert system for wearables using Node.js, MongoDB, [Pusher.js](#).
- Developed financial transaction backend with multi-gateway support and cron-based automation.

Skills**Languages:** C++, Python, JavaScript/TypeScript**Frameworks:** Node.js, NestJS, Express, React**Tools:** Git, Docker, RabbitMQ, Redis, Sentry, New Relic, Postman**Databases:** MySQL, MongoDB**Blockchain:** Bitcoin Core, Cryptography, Lightning Network, Cryptographic Primitives**Others:** API Design, Testing (Jest), Containerization, DSA