

# NKECHI JENNIFER AKWARI

Cincinnati, Ohio | akwarinj@mail.uc.edu | <https://jennifernakinwale.netlify.app>

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. Computer Science** 2022 - 2025 (expected)

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio

**Research Areas:** Databases, Data Provenance, Machine Learning

**Adviser:** Dr. Seokki Lee

**Bachelor of Science, Computer Science** 2018

University of Ibadan, Oyo, Nigeria

First Class Honors

**Award:** Best Graduating Student in Computer Science

**Thesis:** Design and Implementation of an Academic Advisory System

**Adviser:** Dr. Onifade, O.F.W.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Database and Machine Learning Researcher** January 2022 – Present

University of Cincinnati, Ohio

- Working with the Databases group on research focused on databases and data provenance, their benefits to machine learning pipelines, and its decision-making process

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Engineering Summer Camp Counselor**, University of Cincinnati, Ohio June - July 2022

- Guided campers through engineering practices via hands-on science and engineering activities and capstone projects

**Business Process Analyst and Change Manager** 2020 – 2021

Heritage Bank PLC, Lagos, Nigeria

**Industry:** Financial Institution; Projects Domain: Web, Mobile, API

- Engaged in requirement elicitation, data analysis, data visualization, and documentation to guide business in improving processes, products, and services and inform business decisions; Worked with Cross-Functional Teams; User Story and Workflow Build; Testing; Change Management

**Technical Project Manager**, AppZone Limited, Lagos, Nigeria 2019 – 2020

**Industry:** FinTech; Projects Domain: Web, Mobile

- Led agile teams of up to 20 programmers, analysts, testers, and network specialists to ensure project milestones were completed on time, on budget, and with the desired results.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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Python, SQL, Java, Machine Learning, Apache Spark, MS Azure, Tableau, MS Excel, Scrum

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Turnau, J., Akwari, N., Lee, S., & Rajput, D. (2023, April). Provenance-based Explanations for Machine Learning (ML) Models. In *2023 IEEE 39th International Conference on Data Engineering Workshops (ICDEW)* (pp. 40-43). IEEE.

## PROJECT

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- Kaggle - Exploratory Data Analysis; Stroke Prediction Using 6 ML models  
(<https://www.kaggle.com/code/nkechiyeree/simple-eda-stroke-prediction-using-6-ml-models>)
- Github - <https://github.com/jennifernakinwale?tab=repositories>

## CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

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- Microsoft Certified: Azure AI Fundamentals 2023
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Data Fundamentals 2023
- Become a SQL Developer, LinkedIn Learning 2022
- ITIL® Foundation Certificate in IT Service Management 2021
- Project Management Essentials Certified 2020

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- Women Tech Global Conference (WTGC) Scholar 2023
- IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE) NSF Travel Award 2023
- Best Graduating Student in Computer Science, University of Ibadan 2018
- Federal Government of Nigeria Scholarship Awards 2017
- Yaba College of Technology, Special Merit Award for Overall Best Student 2013

## CONFERENCE PEER-REVIEWING

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- Reviewer, Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM) 2023
- Reviewer, Very Large Data Bases (VLDB) Conference 2022, 2023
- Reviewer, Scientific and Statistical Database Management Conference 2022, 2023

## CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

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- IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE 2023),  
International Workshop on Databases and Machine Learning (DBML) April 2023
- NVIDIA GTC Developer Conference March 2023
- Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Conference WE22 October 2022
- 39th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) July 2022
- ACM SIGMOD/PODS International Conference on Management of Data June 2022

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

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- Teller-Elect, Society of Women Engineering (SWE) July 2023 - June 2024
- IEEEExtreme17 Global Strategy Team Member June 2023
- Mentor Judge, Technovation Girls May - June 2023
- Reviewer, Research Poster, UC Undergraduate Scholarly Showcase April 2023
- STEM Judge, State and District Science Day, Ohio Academy of Science March-April 2023
- Mentor, SWENext Invent It, Build It (IIBI) October 2022

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)