

# NKECHI JENNIFER AKWARI

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## EDUCATION

### Ph.D. Computer Science 2022 – 2025 (expected)

University of Cincinnati, College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS), Cincinnati, Ohio

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

**Adviser:** Dr. Seokki Lee

**Coursework:** Advanced Algorithms, Database, Applied AI and ML, Intelligent Data Analysis, Networking, Automata, Cloud Computing, Big Data Analytics

### 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.

**Coursework:** Programming and Algorithms, Data Structures, Operating Systems, Database Systems, Information Theory

### Associate Degree (OND), Computer Science 2013

Yaba College of Technology, Nigeria

Distinction

**Award:** Yaba College of Technology, Special Merit Award for Overall Best Student

**Coursework:** Logic and Linear Algebra, Elementary Probability, Programming in C++, Calculus

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Graduate Research Assistant, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio January 2022 – Present

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

## PUBLICATIONS

Justin Turnau\*, **Nkechi J. Akwari\***, Seokki Lee, Dwarkesh Rajput Accepted DBML 2023  
Provenance-based Explanations for Machine Learning (ML) Models

**Nkechi J. Akwari\***, Justin Turnau, Seokki Lee In submission, 2023  
Unboxing Machine Learning (ML) Model Predictions using Data Provenance

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python, SQL, Java, ApacheSpark, ML Libraries, Tableau, MS Excel, Scrum, Jira

## PROJECT

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

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- weSTEM 2023 Conference Funding Award 2022
- Best Graduating Student in Computer Science, University of Ibadan 2018
- Cyber Security Challenge (CYSEC) NG Inter-Platoon NYSC Hacking Challenge (2nd place winner) 2018
- NACOSS Representative Council Award of Service 2018
- Federal Government of Nigeria Scholarship Awards 2017
- Yaba College of Technology, Special Merit Award for Overall Best Student 2013

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Engineering Summer Camp Counselor, CEAS, University of Cincinnati June 2022 - July 2022

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

### Business Process Analyst and Change Manager, Heritage Bank PLC, Lagos, Nigeria 2020 – 2021

**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; Change Management

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

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

- Led agile teams of up to 20 developers, programmers, analysts, testers, and network specialists to ensure project milestones were completed on time, on budget, and with the desired results.
- Collaborated towards the development of new software applications as well as modifications to existing software, ensuring that goals and performance expectations are met in line with customer requirements.
- Functional and Non-Functional Testing; User Acceptance and Pilot Test Activity; User Training and Project Sign-off

**Web Administrator | Community Manager**, Premier Medical Systems, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria 2018 – 2019

**Industry:** Health Technology

- Introduced innovations that improved user interactions by 55% in the online community; Data-driven business analysis and targeted sales.
- Led projects that improved the indigenous Drupal website's look and feel, thereby improving user engagement.

**Software Developer (Internship)**, CWG Group, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria 2016 – 2017

- Collaborated with the team on software development and back-end database maintenance

## TEACHING (VOLUNTEER)

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**Tutor**, University of Ibadan, Nigeria 2015 – 2017

- Organized tutorials on Information Management Systems, Compiling Techniques, and Database Systems covering coursework and practicals and conducted mock exams

**Tutor**, Yaba College of Technology 2013

- Organized tutorials on Computer Applications for Urban and Regional Planning students prior to the examination

## CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING

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- Become a SQL Developer, LinkedIn Learning 2022
- ITIL Foundation Level AXELOS 2021
- Project Management Essentials Certified 2020
- Certified Secured Computer User (CSCU) 2018
- Google Africa Scholarship Front End Course 2018

## LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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SWENext Club Counselor December 2022 - present

SWENext Invent It, Build It (IIBI) Volunteer @SWE22 October 2022

Content Developer - Magazine, University of Cincinnati Nigerian Students Association July 2022 - present

Treasurer, EECS Graduate Student Association, University of Cincinnati January 2022 – present

Career and Scholarship Counselor, SoftSeven Initiative January 2020 – present

The One Habitat, @The1Habitat

- Social Media Manager|Graphic Designer May 2019 – Dec 2021
- Counselor May 2019 – present

Lead, Singles Fellowship, True Worshipers International Ministries January 2019 – July 2021

National Association of Computer Science Students (NACOSS) Legislative Representative 2016 - 2017

## CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

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- Society of Women Engineers Conference WE22 October 2022
- 39th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) July 2022
- Cyber Summer School July 2022
- ACM SIGMOD/PODS International Conference on Management of Data June 2022
- EDBT/ICDT 2022 Joint Conference March 2022

## CONFERENCE REVIEWING

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- Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment 2022

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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- Society of Women Engineers (SWE) 2022 - present
- IEEE Computer Society 2022 - present
- IEEE Women in Engineering 2022 - present