

MUSTAPHA ABDULLAHI

Espoo, Finland

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning Systems, Reinforcement Learning, and Large Language Models

EDUCATION

Aalto University

PhD Computer Science

Advisor: **Prof. Bo Zhao**

April 2024 - Present

Espoo, Finland

Queen Mary University of London

*MSc Artificial Intelligence [Computer Vision and Robotics] - **Grade: 80% (Distinction)***

Supervisor: **Prof. Bo Zhao**

Sept. 2022 - Sept. 2023

London, U.K.

Ahmadu Bello University

*BEng Computer Engineering - **CGPA: 4.90/5.00 (First-class)***

Supervisor: **Prof. Habeeb Bello-Salau**

Oct. 2015 - Nov. 2021

Zaria, Nigeria

Federal Government College, Kaduna

West African Secondary School Certificate (W.A.S.S.C.E)

Sept. 2012 - July 2015

Kaduna, Nigeria

MINOR EDUCATION

Mediterranean Machine Learning Summer School (M2L School), Thessaloniki, Greece. **Aug. - Sept. 2023**

The Cornell, Maryland, Max Planck Pre-doctoral Research School (CMMRS), Germany **Aug. 2023**

Reinforcement Learning Summer School (RLSS), Barcelona, Spain **June - July 2023**

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

QuantumBlack AI Labs (McKinsey & Company)

Software Engineer Intern

Oct. 2023 - Jan. 2024

London, U.K.

- Developed a one-click CLI tool for effortless deployment of **Kedro** projects on **Databricks** Platform.
- Implemented essential client study feedback as integral components within software production pipelines.

Play4Work

Chatbot Developer

Feb. 2021 - March 2022

Canada(Remote)

- Collaborated with a team of 5 to design conversation mappings required to build an interactive chatbot.
- Spearheaded a team of 2 to develop a chatbot with over 700 conversation nodes with Google DialogFlow.
- Reduced 60% of the company's workload of candidate's matching and responses processing.

Huawei

Big Data/Cloud Intern

Jan. 2020 - Feb. 2020

Lagos, Nigeria

- Set up and managed FTP Server, WordPress (Windows & Linux), Windows Share Point Server, etc. on Huawei Elastic Cloud Server (ECS).
- Performed Relational Database migration using Cloud Data Migration Tool. Utilised Squoop to migrate data between Apache HDFS, Apache HBase, Apache Hive and MySQL database.
- Performed Data Analysis of Smart IoV solution with over 400,000 data points utilizing HiveQL for offline analysis, Apache HBase for real-time query and retrieval and Spark-SQL to migrate the offline analysis service.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Large-Scale Data & Systems (LSDS), Imperial College London


*Research Intern [Master's Thesis] (Advised by: **Prof. Bo Zhao** & **Prof. Peter Pietzuch**)*

June 2023 - Aug. 2023

London, U.K.

- Evaluated tradeoffs among three distribution policies of MindSpore Distributed RL.

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Mustapha, A.J. 2021. *An Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIOT) based Assistive Smart Glass for the Visually Impaired*. [Poster Presentation]. Department of Computer Engineering, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria. 

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

- Finland Fellowship [for doctoral studies at Aalto University] - Dec. 2023
- AEGEAN Scholarship - Travel Grant to attend M2L School (one of 10 top students) - May 2023
- Best Graduating Engineering Student Award, NSE (Nigerian Society of Engineers) - Dec. 2022
- 2023 Rhodes Scholarship Finalist [West Africa] - Dec. 2022
- Google DeepMind Scholar - Aug. 2022
- QuantumBlack (McKinsey Company)/Office of AI Scholar - Aug. 2022
- i-Scholar Initiative (iSI) Awardee (2022) - May 2022
- Best ICT Competition Instructor, Huawei ICT Competition Sub-Saharan Africa - April 2022
- 1st Place, Dept. of Computer Eng. Final Year Undergraduate Project Exhibition - Oct. 2021
- 3rd Best Engineering Graduate in Nigeria (Awarded by CODET) - Aug. 2021
- NCS (Nigerian Computer Society) Jim Ovia Scholarship Award - Jan. 2021
- Grand Prize Winner, Huawei ICT Competition Global Final - Cloud Track - Nov. 2020
- 1st Place, Huawei ICT Competition Regional Final (Southern Africa) - Cloud Track - Sept. 2020
- 3rd Place, Huawei ICT Competition National Final - Cloud Track - Dec. 2019
- Nigeria Higher Education Foundation Scholar (Class of 2019) - July 2019
- 2nd Runner Up, Professor Ayodele Awojobi Design Competition (PAADC) 3.0 - July 2019
- NNPC/Total National Merit Scholarship Award - July 2018
- China-Nigeria October 1st Scholarship - Feb. 2018
- Federal Government Scholarship Award [Undergraduate Award] - August. 2017
- Agbami Special Medical and Engineering Professionals Scholarship Award - Feb. 2017

TALKS

- Kedro Databricks Deploy**, QuantumBlack AI Labs, London, U.K. **Dec. 2023**
Beyond Building Machine Learning Models , Data Science Nigeria, Nigeria **June 2021**

PROJECTS

- Evolving AlexNet CNN Maize Plant Disease Classification** **July 2021 to Oct. 2021**
- Collaborated to propose a modified Binary Particle Swarm Optimisation (BPSO) algorithm to optimise the structure of the fully connected (FC) layers of CNNs.
 - Developed a Tensorflow code implementation of AlexNet model
 - Collaborated to derive an optimised model architecture achieving an improved accuracy of 98.3%.

- iGlass** **April 2020 - Oct. 2021**
- A smart assistive device for the visually impaired for reading out text, object detection, scene description, etc. using Raspberry Pi, AWS Rekognition, and Google Cloud AI.
 - Spearheaded the development of iGlass prototype.

- CompengBot** **March 2021 to April 2021**
- A fast and efficient chatbot to answer queries of students and the general public related to the computer engineering department. Deployed on the departmental website and Telegram page.
 - Easy and improved access to information about department and school.
 - Quick access to details about courses and lecturers contact.

- Transfer Learning for Classification of Cat, Dog and Pandas** **Dec. 2020**
- Used densenet-161 as feature extractor and achieved an accuracy of 97.3%.


VOLUNTEERING

- Arewa Data Science Academy** **Feb. 2023 - Present**
Machine Learning Mentor *Nigeria*

- 2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)** **May 2023**
Volunteer *London, U.K.*

- Kada Hive Innovation and Tech Hub** **May 2022**
Robotics Instructor - Play Tech Kids Programme *Kaduna, Nigeria*

- Data Science Nigeria** **June 2021**
Data Science Tutor *Zaria, Nigeria*

- Assisted participants in setting up data science software and packages.
- Supported the lead tutor in introducing participants to machine learning tools (such as numpy, pandas and scikit-learn).
- Participation Certificate. 

- Ahmadu Bello University** **Feb. 2018 – April 2021**
Tutor - Control Engineering (COEN303, COEN407, COEN507) *Zaria, Nigeria*

- Computer Engineering, Ahmadu Bello University** **Aug. 2019**
Instructor - Python Bootcamp for Kids *Zaria, Nigeria*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, Scala, C++, MATLAB, L^AT_EX, ROS

ML Frameworks: PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Kedro, Apache-Spark, Scikit-Learn, XGBoost

Cloud Services: GCP, AWS, Databricks Platform, Huawei Cloud Platform

Operating System: Linux (Ubuntu, Cent OS 7.*), Windows

Big Data Tools: Hadoop, Apache Spark, Apache Hive, Hbase, MySQL, Huawei MapReduce Service, Gremlin

Microprocessors: Raspberry pi (zero, 3), Arduino, ESP32, ESP8266

Soft Skills: Leadership, Problem solving, Team Player, Time Management, Interpersonal Skills

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Black in AI, member
- Black in Robotics, member
- Nigerian Computer Society (NCS), member
- Data Science Nigeria, member
- Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), Graduate Member

HOBBIES

Watching anime; playing football; talks about AI and the future