Obianuju Okafor

obianuju.c.okafor@gmail.com
Website: https://obianujuokafor.github.io
GitHub: https://github.com/obianujuokafor
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/obianuju-okafor-37a425137/

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) - Computer Science   Jan. 2018 – May 2022
University of North Texas – Denton, TX   GPA: 4.0/4.0

Master of Science - Computer Science   Jan. 2018 – Dec. 2019
University of North Texas – Denton, TX   cGPA: 4.0/4.0

Bachelor of Science - Software Engineering   Feb. 2013 - Jan. 2017
Eastern Mediterranean University – Famagusta, CY   cGPA: 3.9/4.0

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming/Scripting Languages: **Python, JavaScript, Java, PHP,** CSS, HTML, C, C++.
Software: Eclipse, Visual Studio, PyCharm, Android Studio, Atom, GitHub, GIT, XAMPP, Photoshop, Figma, Microsoft Office, MATLAB, MySQL, Postgresql**,** MongoDB, AWS Cloud, Docker, Heroku, UserZoom, SurveyMonkey, Anaconda.
Data Analytics: Tensorflow, PyTorch, Keras, Scikit-learn, NLTK, SpaCy, Pandas, Numpy, Jupyter Notebook, Google Colab.
Relevant Courses: Analysis of Algorithms, Data Structures, Programming Languages, Software Engineering, Human Computer Interaction, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Data Mining.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist Intern (Incoming)   Sep. 2021 – Nov. 2021
IBM – Remote
- Working with the ML/AI team to design and build a transparent and interactive automated machine learning system called AutoAI, using approaches such as meta-learning and parallelism.
- Conducting an experiment to compare the performance of AutoAI to other state-of-the-art systems.
- Writing and submitting a research paper to relevant conferences such as NeurIPS.
- Working on a patent relating to our approach to developing AutoAI.

UX Research and Development Intern   Jun. 2021 – Aug. 2021
Salesforce – Remote
- Worked with the UX R&D team to implement a deep learning UX tool called Einstein Designer, that uses machine learning to automate the generation of marketing banners.
- Designed and conducted mixed-method user studies on the Einstein Designer prototype using UserZoom and SurveyMonkey.
- Performed statistical analysis on the data from the user study.
- Contributed to a patent relating to the Einstein Designer tool.

Teaching Fellow   Jun. 2020 – Dec. 2020
University of North Texas – Denton, TX
- Teaching fellow for the Software Engineering CSCE 3444 course, where I administered lectures, assignments and exams to the students.
- Oversaw a group project to be undertaken by the students throughout the course.
- Held regular office hours to answer any questions the students might have and give feedback if necessary.

Research Assistant   Jan. 2018 – May 2021
University of North Texas – Denton, TX
- Worked on a research project that involves incorporating accessibility into the block-based programming environment Blockly, via screen reader support, keyboard shortcuts, and speech recognition.
- Conducted usability studies and A/B tests on the new accessible version of Blockly.
- Read, analyzed and wrote research publications in my research area.
- Attended seminars, conferences and other meetings as necessary.

Software Engineer Intern   May. 2019 – Aug. 2019
Macy's Tech – San Francisco, CA
- Worked alongside engineers on the machine learning team to implement a chatbot for Macy's website using Rasa framework.
- Created, tested and trained datasets to generate models to feed into the chat bot, using TensorFlow.
- Integrated Google Voice speech recognition system into our chat bot to convert speech to text.
- Created a Jupyter notebook extension to automate the process of deploying notebooks to our Machine Learning platform.
- Attended daily stand-up meetings where we spoke about our progress.

Front End Developer   Feb. 2017 - Aug. 2017
Piggy Vest - Lagos, NG
- Joined the customer experience team and worked alongside front-end engineers to design and implement a user-friendly android application for saving money called Piggy Vest, using Java.
- Worked with the requirements engineering team to understand end-user requirements, then translated that into pragmatic and effective technical solutions.
- Using JSON and REST API, I connected the database of the mobile application to the database of the web application.
- Wrote and conducted unit and systems tests to diagnose and debug issues in the production environment.
- Maintained the system using an FTP application called FileZilla to modify files on the server.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Obianuju Okafor and Stephanie Ludi. Helping Students with Cerebral Palsy Program via Voice-Enabled Block-based Programming. 2021. *ASSETS Conference: Doctoral Consortium*. Virtual.
- Aboubakar Mountapmbeme, Obianuju Okafor, Stephanie Ludi. Addressing Accessibility Barriers in Programming for People with Visual Impairments: A Literature Review. 2021. *ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing.* (Under review).
- Obianuju Okafor and Stephanie Ludi. Comparative Analysis of Accessibility Testing Tools and their Limitations in RIAs. 2020*. Richard Tapia Conference: Poster*. Virtual.
- Obianuju Okafor, Aboubakar Mountapmbeme, Stephanie Ludi. Accessible Blockly as a Programming Platform for People with Visual Impairments. 2020. *Richard Tapia Conference: Poster*. Virtual.
- Obianuju Okafor, Aboubakar Mountapmbeme, Stephanie Ludi. Accessible Blockly as a Programming Platform for Users with Visual Impairments and Sighted Users. 2019. *CRA-WP Conference: Poster*. Chicago, IL, USA.

AWARDS

- Top Graduating Student, Software Engineering Department, Eastern Mediterranean University (Fall 2016).
- Dean's list, Computer Science Department, University of North Texas (Spring 2018 - Present).
- Facebook Grace Hopper Scholar (September 2019).
- Quip Diversity Scholar (August 2020).
- NCWIT Collegiate Award Finalist (December 2020).