

# ABUBAKAR SADIQ SHITTU

Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom

✉ [a.s.shittu2@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:a.s.shittu2@newcastle.ac.uk)

✉ [sadiqshittu001@gmail.com](mailto:sadiqshittu001@gmail.com)

🌐 <https://sadiqshittu.github.io>

in [LinkedIn](#)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Usable Security and Privacy

## EDUCATION

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**University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

*Ph.D. Computer Science*

**Starting Jan. 2025**

*Knoxville, USA.*

**Newcastle University**

*M.Sc. Advanced Computer Science (Term 1 and 2: 77.4%)*

*Advisor: Professor Thomas Gross*

**Sept. 2023 - Aug. 2024**

*Newcastle, United Kingdom.*

**Fountain University Osogbo**

*B.Sc. Computer Science (First Class Honours)*

*Supervisor: Dr. Lawal Mohammed*

**March 2018 - Apr. 2021**

*Osogbo, Nigeria.*

**Federal Polytechnic Bida**

*National Diploma (associate degree) in Computer Science*

**Nov. 2015 - Sept. 2017**

*Bida, Nigeria.*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & PROJECTS

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**Secure Chat System**

**March 2024**

*MSc Module: Research and Group Project in Security and Resilience*

*Newcastle, United Kingdom.*

- Participated in an 8-member team project focused on developing a secure chat system that allow text and file exchange.
- Engaged in threat modelling and security policy development to identify potential adversaries, and define their capabilities and motivations to ensure the chat system's security .
- Implemented a chat system leveraging the Spring Boot and Spring Security frameworks in Java, employing WebSocket for encrypted message exchanges between clients and servers.

**Predictive Analysis Of Weather Trends**

**December 2023**

*MSc Module: Machine Learning*

*Newcastle, United Kingdom.*

- Conducted an analysis of weather data collected over 12 months using a Raspberry Pi computer, aiming to predict weather conditions at intervals ranging from 5 minutes to 12 hours.
- Explored various forecasting models, including Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA), and Moving Average, based on their strengths and suitability for time series data.
- Derived an optimised model architecture for the LSTM neural network, achieving an R-squared score of 0.9827.

**Real-time Face Detection and Recognition**

**June. 2020 - Nov. 2020**

*BSc Project, Fountain University Osogbo*

*Osogbo, Nigeria.*

- Conducted a review on face detection and recognition systems, examining strengths, weaknesses, and application areas.
- Presented the progress and outcomes of the project to audiences ranging from 10 to 40 individuals, including lecturers and peers.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**10 Academy**

**Aug 2022 - Jan. 2023**


*Careers Tutor (Supervisor: Arun Sharma )*

*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.*

- Designed and led 3-hours per week career development lectures for web3, data science, and machine learning trainees, demonstrating skills in curriculum planning, content delivery, and audience engagement.
- Graded and provided detailed feedback on career exercises to over 30 trainees, enhancing preparation for job search phase post-training completion.
- Delivered holistic job search support to alumni, encompassing tailored reviews of resumes and cover letters, and personalized interview coaching, which enhanced their candidacy.

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] Shittu, A. S., and Abdulsalami, B. (2023). *Software Defect Prediction Using Machine Learning Approach: A Contemporary Review*. *TechRxiv Preprint*. <https://doi.org/10.36227/techrxiv.23648907.v1>. 

## AWARDS & FUNDING (Total: \$213,503)

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- **2025 EECS Graduate Assitantship**, University of Tennessee Knoxville : (valued at \$66,318)
- Funding to attend the Summer School on real-world crypto and privacy 2024. (valued at \$1,185)
- **2023 Chevening Scholarship** : Total costs for a master's degree at Newcastle University, covering visa application fees, tuition, living expenses, and travel allowances. (**Approximately \$60,000**)
- **2023 Commonwealth Shared Scholarship**: Full funding for a Master of Science in Financial Technology at the University of Stirling. (**Approximately \$60,000**)(*Declined in favor of Chevening Scholarship.*)
- **100% Scholarship** : Funding for Master of Science in Computer Engineering at Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey. - 2022 (*Award declined*)(valued at \$12,000)
- **AIT Partial Scholarship 2022** , towards a master's in Data Science & Artificial Intelligence at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. (**Approximately \$14,000**)(*Award declined*)
- **2019 Most Outstanding Student Award**, College of Natural and Applied Science, Fountain University Osogbo.

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Student Ambassador

Oct. 2023 - Present

Newcastle University.

Newcastle, United Kingdom

- Involved in university events and marketing initiatives, including leading Open Days, guiding campus tours, and participating in focus groups aimed at enhancing the student experience.

### Administrative Assistant

Oct. 2021 - Oct. 2022

Directorate of Admissions, Examination and Records, Kaduna State University.

Kaduna, Nigeria

- Inspected undergraduate examination procedures, ensuring adherence to academic standards and upholding the integrity of the assessment environment.
- Coordinated student complaints and appeals for admissions and exams.
- Catalogued important documents and guided new students through the registration process.

### Information Technology Helpdesk Intern

March 2019 - Aug. 2019

Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.

Abuja, Nigeria

- Served as the primary technical support contact for a network of over 100 computer users, resolving an average of 5 queries per day.
- Explained technical details in understandable terms for all support interactions.
- Achieved a high satisfaction rate through diligent follow-ups, ensuring resolution of user issues.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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- Black in AI, **Member**
- Society for Multidisciplinary and Advanced Research Techniques in Africa, **Member**

## SKILLS AND HOBBIES

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**Operating System:** Linux, Windows

**Static Analysis Tools:** SonarQube

**Hobbies:** Watching and playing football, playing FIFA, talks about computer security and listening to afrobeat music.