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Academic and Research Experience

- 2025 – ...  **Visiting Lecturer**
African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) Cameroon.
- 2023 – ...  **Advanced Research Fellow**
Imperial College London, UK
-  **Google DeepMind Academic Fellow**
Imperial College London, UK
-  **Visiting Lecturer**
York St John University, UK
- 2020 – 2023  **NLP Researcher, INESC TEC Porto, Portugal**
INESC TEC Porto, Portugal
- 2012 – ...  **Lecturer,**
Department of Computer Science, Bayero University, Kano–Nigeria.
- 2010 – 2012  **Lecturer,**
Department of Computer Science, Saadatu Rimi College of Education, Kano State–Nigeria

Education

- 2023  **Ph.D. in Computer Science, University of Porto, Portugal.**
Thesis Title: *Domain-Specific and Context-Aware Approaches to Sentiment Analysis.*
Supervisor: [Pavel Brazdil](#)
- 2013  **M.Sc. in Computer Science, University of Manchester, UK.**
Dissertation Title: *Error-Correcting Codes in Wireless Communication.*
Supervisor: *Barry Cheetham*
- 2009  **B.Sc. in Computer Science, Bayero University, Kano.**

Research Interest

















-  **Computational Social Science:** Sentiment Analysis, Hate Speech Detection, Emotion Analysis
-  **Low-Resource Languages:** Dataset Creation, Data Annotation, LLM Evaluation, and Adaptation
-  **Multilingual NLP:** Enhancing Models for Underrepresented Languages and Cultures

Grants and Awards

Grants

- 2023  Principal-Investigator: Nigerian AI Research Grant for Automatic Offensive Language Detection for Nigerian Languages (5,000,000 Naira)
- 2022  Principal-Investigator: Artificial Intelligence for Education Innovation Research Network in Africa (40,000 USD)
 -  Principal-Investigator: Lacuna Fund 2021 Language Datasets Award: Development of Hate Speech Dataset for African Languages (147,000 USD)
 -  Co-Investigator: Lacuna Fund Grant for Developing Nigerian Speech Corpus (120,000 USD)
- 2021  Principal-Investigator: Lacuna Fund 2020 Language Datasets Award: Development of Sentiment Analysis Dataset for African Languages (60,000 USD)
 -  Principal-Investigator: Lacuna Fund Grant for SemEval Shared Task (8,500 USD)
- 2023  Co-PI: Google Research exploreCSR award (18,000 USD)
 -  Co-PI: Google Research TensorFlow award (10,000 USD)
- 2022  Principal Investigator: Oracle OCI Award (50,000 USD)
 -  Co-PI: Google Research exploreCSR award (18,000 USD)
 -  Co-PI: TensorFlow award (10,000 USD)

Awards

- 2024  Google DeepMind Academic Fellow at Imperial College London, UK
 -  Honourable Mention: Best Paper Award for the SemEval Task Description Paper on Semantic Textual Relatedness.
- 2023  Area Chair Award at IJCNLP-AACL for the MasakhaNEWS Paper
 -  Best Paper Award, AfricaNLP workshop 2023, Kigali Rwanda.
 -  IRCAl, Global Top 100 list 2022, international list of AI solutions for reaching the 17 SDGs.
- 2022  Google Africa Travel Award. (3,000 USD)
 -  RStudio Conference Travel Award. (1,500 USD)
 -  EMNLP Conference Travel Award. (1,500 USD)
 -  Faculty of Science, UPorto, PhD Scholarship Award. (52,000 EURO)
- 2021  Best Paper Award at the AfricaNLP Workshop @EACL for the MasakhaNER Paper
- 2022  Jiangsu University(JSU), China, PhD scholarship, Award (Declined).
- 2018  Nigerian TetFund Ph.D. Scholarship Award.
 -  NITDA MSc Scholarship Award (25,000 USD).
 -  Black in AI Travel Award to NeurIPS 2022, Value of Award (1,100 USD)
 -  Kano State Govt-Nigeria , Postgraduate Scholarship to Study MSc in Computer Science.
 -  Second Best Computer Science Graduating Student Award, Bayero University, Kano-Nigeria

Teaching Experience

- Artificial Intelligence Concept: Lecturer, York St John University, London Campus (2024)
- Machine Learning: Lecturer, York St John University, London Campus (2024)
- Machine Learning: Teaching Assistant, Imperial College London (2024)
- Natural Language Processing: Teaching Assistant, Imperial College London (2025)
- Deep Learning: Lead Teaching Assistant, NeuroMatch Academy (2023)
- Python Programming: Lecturer, Bayero University, Kano (2017)
- Data Structures and Algorithms: Lecturer, Bayero University, Kano (2016)
- Data Mining: Lecturer, Bayero University, Kano (2016)

Teaching Certificates

- 2019 **Teaching in Higher Education, University of Porto, Portugal.**
Certificate for teaching in higher education.
- 2020 **Certified Instructor, The Carpentries.**
Certified instructor in teaching foundational computational and data skills to researchers using R and Python programming languages.

Leadership and Community Involvement in Data Science

- 2022 **Co-founder, Arewa Data Science: <https://arewadatascience.github.io>**
A community for empowering marginalized students to reach their full potential in data science.
- Co-founder, HausaNLP: <https://hausanlp.github.io>**
HausaNLP is an open-source community dedicated to advancing natural language processing in the Hausa language, which is the second most widely spoken language in Africa.
- Active Member of MasakhaneNLP and Black in AI Community.**

Volunteer Service

- Area Chair: ACL Rolling Review (ARR)
- Reviewer: ACL, EMNLP, NAACL, COLING, LREC, AfricaNLP
- Organizer: AfricaNLP, SemEval Shared Tasks

Academic Service

Service to the University

- Imperial College, Grant Review Member
- Senate Member, Bayero University, Kano
- Faculty Examination Lead, Bayero University, Kano
- BSc Computer Science with Economics course Leader