Aisha Olamide

AI Research Engineer | Low-Resource NLP Specialist
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Professional Summary

Dedicated AI Research Engineer with 3+ years of experience specializing in NLP for low-resource languages and multilingual language models. Focused on democratizing AI through development of efficient models for underrepresented languages and contexts. Strong background in data-efficient learning techniques and computational linguistics.

Professional Experience

Research Engineer
GlobalNLP Institute, Toronto, Canada (Aug 2021 - Present)
- Led development of multilingual models supporting 25+ African languages with limited training data. - Designed novel pre-training objectives improving cross-lingual transfer by 35% for low-resource languages. - Created data augmentation techniques for improving model performance with limited examples. - Built evaluation benchmarks for assessing model capabilities across diverse linguistic contexts.

NLP Engineer
LanguageTech Innovations, Montreal, Canada (Jun 2019 - Jul 2021)
- Developed transformer-based models for multilingual text classification and entity recognition. - Implemented machine translation systems for low-resource language pairs. - Created data collection pipelines and annotation guidelines for underrepresented languages. - Collaborated with linguistic experts to ensure cultural and contextual appropriateness.

Research Assistant
University of Toronto NLP Lab, Toronto, Canada (Sep 2017 - May 2019)
- Conducted research on cross-lingual transfer learning techniques. - Developed methods for syntactic parsing in morphologically rich languages. - Created datasets and evaluation metrics for low-resource NLP tasks.

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages:** Python, R, JavaScript
- **ML Frameworks:** PyTorch, HuggingFace Transformers, Spacy
- **Model Architectures:** mT5, XLM-R, BLOOM, AfroLM
- **Data Annotation:** Prodigy, Label Studio, BRAT
- **Linguistics:** Morphological Analysis, Computational Phonology, Syntactic Parsing
- **Data Augmentation:** Back-translation, Rule-based Generation
- **Evaluation Frameworks:** BLEU, BERTScore, ROUGE, Custom Metrics for Low-Resource Evaluation

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Education

Master of Science, Computational Linguistics
University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada (Graduated: May 2019)
- Thesis: "Transfer Learning Approaches for Low-Resource African Languages" - Graduate Research Fellowship recipient

Bachelor of Engineering, Computer Science
University of Lagos, Lagos, Nigeria (Graduated: Jul 2016)
- First Class Honors - Final Year Project: "Automated Text Processing for Yoruba Language"

Research Publications

- Olamide, A., et al. (2022). "Data-Efficient Pre-training for Low-Resource Languages." *ACL.*
- Olamide, A., et al. (2021). "Cross-Lingual Transfer in Multilingual Language Models." *EMNLP.*
- Olamide, A., et al. (2020). "Bridging the Gap: Resources for African NLP." *AfricaNLP Workshop, ICLR.*

Open Source Contributions

- Lead developer of "AfricaLM" - open-source language models for African languages
- Contributor to MASAKHANE - NLP initiative for African languages
- Developed data collection tools for low-resource language documentation

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Community Involvement

- Organizer, AfricaNLP Workshop at ICLR 2022
- Mentor, Black in AI program (2020-present)
- Instructor, AI4D - African Language Dataset Challenge

Languages: English (fluent), Yoruba (native), French (intermediate), Swahili (basic)