

Toluwani Samuel Aremu

AI Safety | Trustworthy AI | Responsible AI

[Certifications](#) • [Email](#) • [GitHub](#) • [Google Scholar](#) • [LinkedIn](#) • [Website](#)

KEY COMPETENCIES

- **Skills:** Research, Mathematics, Statistics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Data Science, Project Management, Programming, Writing.
- **Tools:** Python, PyTorch, Lightning, TensorFlow, Keras, Jax, Scikit-learn, NumPy, Matplotlib, Visual Studio Code, PyCharm, Jupyter, etc.
- **Research Interests:** Generative AI, Safe and Trustworthy AI.

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Machine Learning, **Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI), UAE.** (AUG 2023 – PRESENT)
- Master of Science (MSc) in Machine Learning, **Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI), UAE.** (JAN 2021 – DEC 2022)
- Master of Science (MSc) in Computer Science, **University of Ibadan (UI), Nigeria.** (MAY 2018 – MAY 2020)
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Computer Science, **Adeleke University, Nigeria.** (OCT 2012 – JUL 2016)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Doctoral Researcher, Trustworthy-ML Lab, MBZUAI.** (AUG 2023 – PRESENT)
 - **Research Areas:** Generative AI Security, Watermarking, Alignment, Adversarial Robustness, Policy.
- **Research Assistant, MCR-Lab, MBZUAI.** (FEB 2023 – AUG 2023)
 - **Research Areas:** Generative AI, AI in Smart Cities, AI Applications.
- **Graduate Student Researcher, SPriNT-AI Lab, MBZUAI.** (FEB 2023 – AUG 2023)
 - **Research Areas:** Homomorphic Encryption, Secure Multi-Party Computation, Private Inference, Privacy-Preserving ML.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (* denotes equal contribution)

- Diaa, A., **Aremu, T.**, & Lukas, N. (2025). Optimizing adaptive attacks against content watermarks for language models. *The Forty-second International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*[Spotlight].
- **Aremu, T.**, Akinwehinmi, O., Nwagu, C., Ahmed, S., Orji, R., Amo, P., & Saddik, A. (2025). On the reliability of Large Language Models to misinformed and demographically informed prompts. *AI Magazine (AAAI)*, 46(1), e12208.
- Nwadike, M., Iklavov, Z., **Aremu, T.**, Hiraoka, T., Bojkovic, V., Heinzerling, B., Alqaubeh, H., Takač, M., & Inui, K. (2025). RECALL: Library-Like Behavior In Language Models is Enhanced by Self-Referencing Causal Cycles. *The 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*.
- Fares, S.*, Ziu, K.*, **Aremu, T.***, Durasov, N., Takač, M., Fua, P., Nandakumar, K., & Laptev, I. (2024). Mirrorcheck: Efficient adversarial defense for vision-language models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.09250*.
- Tastan, N., Fares, S., **Aremu, T.**, Horvath, S., & Nandakumar, K. (2024). Redefining contributions: shapley-driven federated learning. *In Proceedings of the Thirty-Third International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence* (pp. 5009-5017).
- **Aremu, T.**, & Nandakumar, K. (2023). Polykervnets: Activation-free neural networks for efficient private inference. *In 2023 IEEE Conference on Secure and Trustworthy Machine Learning (SaTML)* (pp. 593-604). IEEE.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Applied Scientist (Intern), G42 (M42 HealthCare), UAE.** (FEB 2023 – APR 2023)
 - Developed an end-to-end pipeline for efficiently downloading and preprocessing the [NHANES](#) dataset, ensuring streamlined data preparation.
 - Integrated AutoML capabilities to automate analysis, training, and evaluation of statistical models while allowing flexibility for custom configurations.
 - Engineered a feature which generates a comprehensive [TRIPOD](#) report post-evaluation, providing structured insights for model assessment and transparency.
- **Data Analyst, State Government of Osun, Nigeria.** (JAN 2018 – DEC 2018)
 - Carried out exploratory data analysis (EDA) on survey data gotten from the State's workers.
 - Used insights from the analysis helped in the Government's decision-making processes, improving workers' satisfaction and increasing the half year internal revenue by 27.7%.
- **IT Support Engineer, Government of Ekiti State, Nigeria.** (NOV 2016 – NOV 2017)
 - Installed, configured, and maintained softwares, computer systems and workstations for the State's Ministry of Finance.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- **Projects**
 - **Accent Speech Recognition, MBZUAI.** (AUG 2021 – DEC 2021)
 - o Implemented VQ-VAE to disentangle style and content features in the latent space of ASR systems.
 - o Accuracy on accented speech improved by 3.8%.
 - **Racial Bias Mitigation in Self-Supervised Face Recognition Architecture, MBZUAI.** (JAN 2021 – MAY 2021)
 - o Implemented various preprocessing and model-centric methods such as downsampling, GANs, weighted sampling, etc, to reduce racial biases in detecting faces.
 - o Improved face recognition of people of color in SIM-CLR by up to 20%.
 - **Gender Bias Mitigation in Word Embeddings, MBZUAI.** (JAN 2021 – MAY 2021)
 - o Investigated several data-centric methods proposed to mitigate gender bias in GloVe.
 - o Concluded that most of these methods often lead to new forms of biases in NLP systems they are used in.
- **Teaching**
 - Teaching Assistant, Mathematical Foundations of AI (MTH701), **MBZUAI.** (AUG 2024 – DEC 2024)
 - Teaching Assistant, Object Oriented Programming (OOP), **University of Ibadan.** (JAN 2019 – MAY 2019)
- **Talks/Presentations**
 - "Literature Review and Research Methodologies", presented at **LyngualLabs, Nigeria.** (MAY 2025)

- "Optimizing Adaptive Attacks against Content Watermarks for Language Models", presented at **ICLR-WMARK, Singapore**. (APR 2025)
 - "SSIVD-Net: A Novel Salient Super Image Classification and Detection Technique", presented at **SAI, UK**. (JUN 2024)
 - "PolyKervNets: Activation-free Neural Networks For Efficient Private Inference", presented at **IEEE SaTML, USA**. (FEB 2023)
 - "Ethical Perspectives of AI", presented at the **Department of Material Sciences, University of Denver, USA**. (JUL 2022)
 - **Reviewing**
 - **Conferences:** [NeurIPS](#) | [ICLR](#) | [ICML](#) | [AISTATS](#) | [AAAI](#) | [DLI](#)
 - **Workshops:** [HRAIM@NeurIPS](#) | [SafeGenAI@NeurIPS](#) | [WMark@ICLR](#)
 - **Journals:** [IEEE Access](#) | [OSJ](#) | [CHBAH](#) | [AI Magazine](#)
 - **Leadership/Volunteering**
 - Volunteering Member, "**EVOLVE-MBZUAI**". (AUG 2024 – PRESENT)
 - Co-founding Member, "**Spruce Up Your Space**". (AUG 2024 – PRESENT)
 - Associate Editor, **ML Department Research Blog**. (JAN 2024 – PRESENT)
 - Student Editor, **MBZUAI Research Blog**. (JAN 2024 – PRESENT)
 - Mentor, **AI Research/Graduate School Mentorship for Africans**. (JAN 2021 – PRESENT)
-

HONORS & AWARDS

- MBZUAI Conference Travel Scholarship. (APR 2025)
 - MBZUAI PhD Fully Funded Fellowship. (AUG 2023)
 - MBZUAI MSc Fully Funded Fellowship. (JAN 2021)
 - UAE Golden Visa for Talented Persons/Specialists in Science. (OCT 2022)
 - MBZUAI Award of Appreciation for Iconic Representation and Student Hospitality. (AUG 2022)
 - ProjectSet Innovation Challenge for Entrepreneurship (ICE-22). (MAY 2022)
 - Top 100, DeepLearning.AI Data-Centric AI Competition. (AUG 2021)
 - NYSC-FRSC Award for the Most Creative Corp Member. (OCT 2017)
 - 2015 AUE-NACOSS Award for the Best Programmer. (JUL 2015)
-

REFERENCES

- Dr. Nils Lukas - **Assistant Professor, MBZUAI** - nils.lukas@mbzuai.ac.ae
- Dr. Karthik Nandakumar - **Associate Professor, University of Michigan** | **MBZUAI** - karthik.nandakumar@mbzuai.ac.ae
- Prof. Kun Zhang - **Professor, MBZUAI** | **Carnegie Mellon University** - kun.zhang@mbzuai.ac.ae
- Prof. Abdulmotaleb El Saddik - **Distinguished Professor, UOttawa** - elsaddik@ottawa.ca