

# Chimaobi Okite

*Ph.D. Student*

*Computer Science and Engineering*

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<https://chimaobi-okite.github.io/>

## RESEARCH THEME

I am mostly interested in AI Alignment: per-user alignment(personalization), alignment to user groups (eg cultures) and general alignment to the 3Hs (Helpfulness, Harmlessness, and Honesty). I study robust life-long personalization of AI agents – seeking ways to better adapt LLMs to user features (implicit, explicit, latent) in a dynamic fashion without compromising safety and factuality.

## EDUCATION

**Ph. D, Computer Science and Engineering,**

2024 – 2029

*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.*

**B. Eng Electrical and Electronic Engineering** (*Electronic and Computer Engineering Option*)

2017 – 2023

*Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nigeria*

*CGPA – 4.80/5.00 (First Class Honours)*

*Class Rank: 1/200+ (Best Graduating Student Electronic and computer Engineering)*

## RESEARCH/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Research Assistant**

Aug 2024–present

*University of Michigan — Advised by Professors Joyce Chai and Rada Mihalcea*

- Benchmarking LLM Robustness in personalization
- Research on dynamic reasoning in LLM agents

**Graduate Student Instructor**

Fall' 2025

*CSE 595: Natural Language Processing*

**AI/Backend Engineer**

Oct 2023 - Jul 2024

*African AI Foundation, Nigeria*

- Built AI agents and web backend services for EagleEye (an AI-powered product that helps in business workflow automation and management) used by 13 different firms in Nigeria including Banks and manufacturing companies.

**Machine Learning Engineer, Intern**

Dec 2021 - May 2022

*Wragby Business Solutions, Nigeria*

- Built models for fraud detection
- Built models for customer retention for a client company increasing their customer retention rate by over 30%.
- Conducted initial research and built a baseline recommendation for Dancom (a telecom client company)

## CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

[P1] Benchmarking and Improving LLM Robustness for Personalized Generation

**Chimaobi Okite**, Naihao Deng, Kiran Bodipati, Huaidian Hou, Joyce Chai, Rada Mihalcea.

Findings of EMNLP, 2025.

## TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

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Programming Languages: Python, Java, C++  
Tools and Technologies: Git, SQLAlchemy, Streamlit, Gradio, Alembic, HuggingFace, Docker, Weights & Biases, MLFlow, Azure  
Frameworks: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Fastai, FastAPI, Django

## HONORS, AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS

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- Bernard A Galler Fellowship (University of Michigan), 2024
- Best Graduating Student in Electronics and Computer Engineering, Electrical Electronics Engineering Department, FUTO, 2023
- Resourceful Student Award, Electrical Electronics Engineering Department, FUTO, 2023.
- Petroleum Trust Development Fund (PTDF) Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient, 2018
- The Petroleum Industry Christian Fellowship International (PICFI) Undergraduate Scholarship, 2018.
- Third Runner-Up, Mathematics Association of Nigeria Maths Competition, State Level, 2016.

## SERVICE & VOLUNTEERING

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**Reviewer**, COLM PragLM Workshop 2025

**Open-Source Contributor**, *Networkx*. Duration: Jun 2022 - Nov 2022 (6 months)

**Microsoft Learn Student Ambassador**. 2022 - 2024

**Chairman, Independent Student Electoral Commission (ISEC)**, *Society of Electrical Electronics Engineering Students, FUTO*. 2022/2023

## SELECTED SIDE PROJECTS

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**Election\_API** - *FastAPI, Alembic, PostgreSQL, SQLAlchemy, Heroku* [https://github.com/chimaobi-okite/election\\_api](https://github.com/chimaobi-okite/election_api)

Backend API used for the 2021/2022 Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO) Society of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Students (SEEES) elections.

**FUTO\_Academia** - *FastAPI, Alembic, PostgreSQL, SQLAlchemy, HuggingFace, Sentence Transformers*  
[https://github.com/chimaobi-okite/smart\\_school](https://github.com/chimaobi-okite/smart_school) <https://futo-academia.vercel.app/>

This was my final year project. It is a school management system with functionalities to give/take assessments and automatically grade these assessments. Uses an NLP model to grade short answer questions

**News Categorization** - *HuggingFace, Gradio, Pytorch, Sci-kit learn*

<https://github.com/chimaobi-okite/NLP-Projects-Competitions/tree/main/NewsCategorization> - project to investigate the performance of traditional ML models in text categorization compared to deep learning and transformer-based approaches