

OGHENYOMA AKONI

Portfolio | Github: [Yoma01](#) | Mobile: 972-282-0769 | Email: oghenyoma.akoni@gmail.com | LinkedIn: [Oghenyoma Akoni](#)

EDUCATION

University of Southern California - Viterbi School of Engineering

Los Angeles, CA

Master of Science, Computer Science- Artificial Intelligence

December 2025

The University of Texas at Dallas

Dallas, TX

Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering

May 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The University of Southern California - DILL LAB

Los Angeles, CA

AI Researcher

January 2025 - March 2026

- Developed Responsible AI evaluation methodologies using adversarial prompting, fairness metrics, and behavioral analysis to assess bias across frontier language models.
- Engineered adversarial prompt sets and analyzed log-probability distributions and reasoning patterns to evaluate safety alignment and guardrail effectiveness.
- Applied counterfactual fine-tuning techniques that reduced dialect-related disparities and improved model fairness outcomes.
- Co-authored **ACM FAccT 2026** research identifying fairness risks in frontier AI systems, supporting research coordination across interdisciplinary collaborators and informing responsible deployment practices.

([Paper](#) | [Poster](#))

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CRITmetic | AI Literacy & EdTech

Los Angeles, CA

AI Product Manager

May 2024 - January 2025

- Led the end-to-end product lifecycle for an AI literacy program spanning VR and web experiences, from product requirements and roadmap development through school pilots.
- Conducted user research and usability testing with students and educators, translating insights into curriculum and product iterations across platforms.
- Defined and tracked product KPIs for engagement, comprehension, and satisfaction, driving data-informed improvements and a **20%+ increase** in learner satisfaction.
- Developed go-to-market strategy across **12 target schools**, shaping product positioning and outreach to drive adoption.

Guest 365 Inc

Dallas, TX

Technical Product Manager

May 2023 - December 2023

- Led the centralization of fragmented booking operations, consolidating reservations from multiple platforms into a single unified system.
- Owned end-to-end Smoobu API integration, architecting data sync across reservation, revenue, and tax systems to ensure consistency across the business.
- Automated manual booking workflows, cutting **processing time by 40%** and eliminating duplicate reservations.
- Built booking and funnel performance tracking to surface customer drop-off points, prioritizing platform fixes that increased booking completion rates **by 15%**.

Microsoft

Fargo, ND

Support Engineer - Dynamics Clients pod

August 2022 - March 2023

- Resolved complex technical issues for enterprise Dynamics 365 customers, maintaining a **95% case resolution rate** and maintaining high customer satisfaction.
- Maintained technical documentation and support playbooks that streamlined troubleshooting efficiency and accelerated issue resolution.
- Partnered with engineering teams to resolve critical defects, improving product reliability and reducing customer escalations.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Certifications: Certified Associate Project Management (**PMI CAPM**), Professional Scrum Master I (**PSM I**), Artificial Intelligence Governance Practitioner (**AIGP**), HTB Academy AI Red Teamer, AI Security & Governance, PrivacyOps (Data Privacy & Compliance)

Programming Languages: C, C++, Python, Java, R, SQL, Kotlin, PHP

Data/ML: NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow, PyTorch, OpenCV, Matplotlib, Seaborn, LangChain

Tools: Jira, Azure, Figma, GCP, Tableau, Android Studio, UNITY, MongoDB, MySQL, KQL, Ms Projects, Fiddler Trace, Github

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PROJECTS

AI Policy & Legislation Tracker ([Tracker](#))

January 2026

- Built an AI policy tracker covering all 50 U.S. states, categorizing legislation by policy area, risk, regulatory approach, and implementation status.
- Analyzed legislation against the **EU AI Act**, **NIST AI RMF**, and **UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI**, comparing approaches to risk, transparency, accountability, and oversight.
- Identified regulatory trends and policy gaps across jurisdictions, translating legislative data into comparative insights and visualizations.

Responsible Recommendation Systems for Vulnerable Users

January 2024 - December 2024

- Evaluated recommendation systems across **TikTok**, **Instagram**, and **Twitter/X**, examining how existing safeguards address risks to children and other vulnerable users.
- Analyzed how algorithmic recommendations can amplify harmful or sensitive content, assessing gaps in platform protections, transparency, and user control.
- Developed responsible recommendation-system practices to strengthen user safeguards, transparency, and protections for vulnerable communities.

Caltech ML Safety Reading Group & BlueDot AI Governance Program

Los Angeles, CA

AI Safety Fellowship Participant

January 2025 - December 2026

- Participated in AI safety and governance reading groups, contributing to community discussions on alignment, interpretability, scalable oversight, and frontier AI risks.