

NUREDIN ALI

Pronouns: He/His

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[Website](#) ◊ [Google Scholar](#)

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota

August 2022 - present

PhD student; Computer Science.

Mekelle University

September 2016 - December 2020

Bachelor of Science; Information Systems.

Cumulative GPA: 3.96/4.0 (Top 2%)

(Statistics, Discrete Mathematics, Introduction to AI, Data Mining, Expert Systems etc)

WORKSHOP PAPERS

[Machine Learning Models Evaluation and Feature Importance Analysis on Non Performing Loans Dataset](#)

Israel Goytom, **Nuredin Ali**, Rufael Fekadu, Anteneh Getachew, Yishak Tadele

Problem Pitch accepted to Machine Learning for Development (ML4D) workshop at NeurIPS 2021.

[Banknote Recognition for Visually Impaired People \(Case of Ethiopian note\)](#)

Nuredin Ali

Poster accepted to Machine Learning for Development (ML4D) workshop at NeurIPS 2021.

[Exploring Transfer Learning on Face Recognition of Dark Skinned, Low Quality and Low Resource Face Data](#)

Nuredin Ali

Poster accepted to Black in AI workshop at NeurIPS 2020.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2020 First place winner of Blackathon. A hackathon organized by Black American researchers. (Around 30 individual grouped in 7 team competitors from around the globe)

2019 Selected to [Engineering for developing communities](#). (Top 10 from more than 600 highly competitive applicants) (1.6% acceptance rate)

2015 Top 10 Best Students of the year award. From total of 650 students of the High School. (1.5% rate)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Chapa

June 2021 - Present

Machine Learning, Researcher

- Worked on a research project to mitigate the non-performing loans of private banks in Ethiopia using Machine Learning.
- Prepared a report by analysing transactions and tweets for the donation platform of one of the grandest projects of the country, the great Ethiopian renaissance dam (GERD).
- We worked with Python libraries such as Scikit learn, used Tensorflow/Keras and Pytorch frameworks, with a team of three researchers.

- Mentored University interns on a the non-performing loans research project.
- Currently, exploring machine learning techniques for credit scoring and fraud detection.

Lesan.ai

January 2019 - Present

Machine Learning, Intern

- Worked on model evaluation. After extensive evaluation of the model I found that the translation model has domain specific errors.
- Worked on domain adaptation of the translation model. Specially, solving the models' poor performance on translating sports news.
- Implemented Python Scrapy for scraping data.
- Scraped data of different languages from web pages for training and evaluating the model.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

IT Essentials, ICT Agency of Setit Humera

July-August 2018

Lecturer

- Taught a class of 40 students:
 - In this course, with the collaboration of ICT Agency of Setit Humera, I taught selected high school and college students of the city.
 - Mainly targeted on giving the essential IT skills which introduced the students to computer programming.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Head of ICT department, School association, Mekelle University

January 2019 - Present

- **Led** and **organized** a group of students to provide trending IT fields like Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.
- Communicated with the association peer-leaders to provide lectures on IT skills, to provide IT support to students, managed different tasks of the association.

Engineering for Developing Communities, Mekelle

July - August 2019

Summer Research Program

- International Summer Program offered in collaboration of Technion University of Israel and Mekelle Institute of Technology (MIT).
 - A holistic program to understand, brainstorm, analyze, and implement problem solving community projects.
 - Developed project concepts and maintain optimal workflow by communicating with community.
 - Worked with colleagues to design projects by cooperating with different organizations to support our community.
 - Currently, developing a community project.

Member of University Parliament

September 2017 - December 2020

Students Representative of Information Systems Department

- Closely supervised the facilities of around 5000 students of the Main campus.

- Closely supervised the University Management such as Head of school of computing, Lecturers of school of computing and others.
- Held monthly meeting to discuss on monthly reports and how the facilities such as food, libraries, and classes are being provided to our students.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 35 (NeurIPS 2021)
selected as a volunteer.

The inaugural ACM conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO '21)

In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 34 (NeurIPS 2020)
Participated as a volunteer.

Black in AI (BAI) workshop In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 33 (NeurIPS 2019)

Participation on 3D animation blender workshop organized by Ethiopian institute of Technology (EIT-M) school of electrical computer engineering.

COMPLETED ONLINE COURSES

Deep Learning Specialization <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Introduction to TensorFlow for Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Deep Neural Networks with PyTorch <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Convolutional Neural Networks in TensorFlow <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Programming for Everybody (Getting Started with Python) <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Python Data Structures <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Using Python to Access Web Data <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Enterprise System Management and Security <i>Coursera</i>	Verification
Foundations: Data, Data, Everywhere <i>Coursera</i>	Verification

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Database coordinator and fundraiser October 2019 - September 2020
Fkreseb Charitable Organization

Cooperating and registering of fresh students through E-student September - October 2019
Mekelle University

Cafeteria Committee (For two months in WAR time) October 2019 - December 2020
Main Campus, Mekelle University

Served as a member of Peace Forum September 2019 - December 2020
Mekelle University

Served as a member of anti-corruption office September 2019 - December 2020
Mekelle University