Emmanuel Watila

Engineer & Researcher · Open to Remote Worldwide & Sponsored Relocation
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SUMMARY

Software engineer and now, budding AI safety researcher specializing in empirical evaluation frameworks, model context protocols, and high-performance system architecture. Creator of Krisis (a clinical LLM evaluation framework measuring calibration, abstention, and deferral behavior) and maintainer of open-source data tooling (breadroll).

PUBLICATIONS

"Engineer's View of the Brain: From Noisy Inputs to Internal Activation Perturbation", Preprint, 2026

"Design and Implementation of a Triangle Energy Adaptive Thresholding Scheme for Discrete Wavelet Packet Based Wideband Spectrum Sensing in Cognitive Radio" in FJS, 2026 with P.Y Dibal & S.J Bassi

WRITINGS

"Do LLMs Know When Not to Answer Clinical Queries?" in AI Advances, 2026 – Essay exploring mechanics of LLM abstention on high-stakes medical queries.

"An Engineer's Point of View of the Brain" in Better Programming, 2023 – Exploring cognitive processing models for information extraction and human-like response generation.

"Get Hooked! — Designing Habit-Forming UX" in UX Collective, 2023 – Analysis of behavioral psychology, user engagement mechanics, and ethical considerations in interaction design.

PROJECTS

Krisis · Creator & Maintainer · GitHub May 2026 – Present

- A clinical evaluation framework for LLMs that measures accuracy, abstention, calibration, deferral behavior, runtime, token use, and structured-output reliability across high-stakes medical reasoning tasks.

Cady AI · Developer & Presenter Nov 2025 – Jan 2026

- Built an AI chatbot for clinical inference on Chronic Kidney Disease, processing biomedical markers into percentage-risk estimations with marker attribution; presented at the DeepFunding National Hackathon.

breadroll · Creator & Core Maintainer Aug 2023 – Present

- Open-source TypeScript library for exploratory data analysis on multivariate datasets, powered by the Bun runtime. 77+ GitHub stars · 1,500+ downloads.

EDUCATION

Technical AI Safety · BlueDot Impact July 2026

- Intensive coursework in AI Safety covering model evaluations, scalable oversight, mechanistic interpretability, RLHF, RLAF, alignment and existential risk governance.

B.Eng. Computer Engineering, Satisfactory (2:2) · University of Maiduguri May 2024

- Studied Electronic Engineering, Programming in C/C++, CAdD with Hardware Realization using VHDL, DSP, Automata using MATLAB – **Thesis:** Hybrid Quantum-Classical Neural Networks.

EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow · Mercial AI Safety Oct 2026 – Present

Tackling technical and strategic problems of powerful AI systems safety — global, remote

- Working on the intersection of AI safety. Merging technical, policy, and governance knowledge to help tackle risks of powerful AI systems.

Founder & Engineer · Readlater Sept 2025 – Present

AI-powered read-it-later platform — full-stack solo build, global remote

- Architected an AI-powered content capture platform using Next.js, PostgreSQL, tRPC, including a Chrome Extension (Manifest V3) and a custom MCP server.
- Cut API latency by ~65% (1.5 s → ~450 ms) through targeted query optimisation and efficient data-access patterns.
- Built AI-powered semantic search and summarisation, and defense-in-depth security: HTML sanitisation, row-level security, strict ownership validation, and rate limiting for AI workloads.

Software Engineer · Nigerian Sleep Society — Aug 2025 – Jan 2026
Affiliated with the World Sleep Society — Nigeria, remote

- Built and deployed a monolithic Next.js application combining a public-facing website and a full membership platform. Implemented secure auth and payment integrations.

Front-End Developer · Clipmate AI — June 2024 – Feb 2025
Bookmark-management platform (X, Reddit, & more) — founding team, fully remote

- Led front-end development from zero: Next.js, Firebase, React core/browser APIs, Next.js Route Handlers, and local state with Jotai and Context API.

Developer Intern · Oak Studios — Aug 2022 – Oct 2023
Design-led product studio, Brooklyn, NY — remote internship

- Refactored marketing sites (CollabFund & co) using Jekyll, SCSS, JavaScript, and Siteleaf CMS. Built components for Dropmark Web and shipped a new Dropmark anniversary page.

Software Engineering Intern · Rowy.io — Mar 2023 – May 2023
Open-source low-code backend — remote

- Shipped UX improvements (coloured Select & MultiSelect field chips) merged into the main open-source repo [#1151]. Supported the developer community on GitHub and Discord.

Copywriter · basement.studio — Mar 2022 – Feb 2023
Award-winning design & dev studio, Mar del Plata, Argentina — remote

- Produced website copy, social content, and case studies in close collaboration with design, marketing, and engineering leads.

Front-End Engineer · Truparse — Feb 2021 – June 2022
Software development studio, Lagos, Nigeria — remote

- Owned front-end features across client and internal projects; maintained component libraries to standard. Interfaced with stakeholders to translate requirements into performant implementation.

SKILLS

Research Interests: AI Safety & Alignment, Interpretability, Quantum Machine Learning
AI Safety: Black Box Model Evaluation, Model Interpretability, Supervised Fine-Tuning (LoRA)
Programming Languages: TypeScript (4+ years), Python (1+ years), Haskell (learning)
Frameworks: Next.js, Node.js, Bun.js, Drizzle, tRPC, PyTorch, IBM Qiskit, Captum
Technologies: PostgreSQL, GraphQL, Apollo, RAG, MCP, RunPod, Google Colab, HuggingFace, LaTeX (learning)