

Ubaid Azam

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[Google Scholar](#) | [GitHub](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

RESEARCH PROFILE

Final-year PhD researcher in Computer Science at the University of Southampton working on **trustworthy machine learning for low-resource and safety-critical domains**: Bayesian uncertainty quantification, explainability, and privacy-preserving deployment. Primary researcher on a competitively awarded Alan Turing Institute grant (PICASO), contributor to the United Nations AI Trust and Safety Re-Imagination Programme, and winner of University of Southampton Director's Awards for Public Engagement and Knowledge Exchange.

EDUCATION

University of Southampton, United Kingdom PhD, Computer Science. Thesis: Trustworthy NLP for Low-Resource Domains.	Sep 2023 – Present
Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan MS, Computer Science; CGPA 3.59 / 4.0	Jul 2019 – May 2021
University of Gujrat, Pakistan BS (Hons.) Software Engineering; CGPA 3.90 / 4.0, Gold Medalist	Sep 2014 – Sep 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- Towards Explainable Hate Speech Detection in Roman Urdu.
U. Azam, H. Rizwan, F. Ullah, A. Faheem, F. Kamiran, A. Karim. *IJCNN* 2026.
- Lightweight Cross-Lingual Federated Prompt Tuning for Low-Resource Languages. ↗
U. Azam, I. Razzak, S. Jameel. *LREC* 2026.
- BAKER: Bayesian Kernel Uncertainty in Domain-Specific Document Modelling. ↗
U. Azam, I. Razzak, S. Vishwakarma, H. Hacid, D. Zhang, S. Jameel. *WSDM* 2025.
- Uncertainty Modelling in Under-Represented Languages with Bayesian Deep Gaussian Processes. ↗
U. Azam, I. Razzak, S. Vishwakarma, S. Jameel. *COLING* 2025.
- Would You Trust an AI Doctor? Building Reliable Medical Predictions. ↗
U. Azam, I. Razzak, S. Vishwakarma, H. Hacid, D. Zhang, S. Jameel. *WISE* 2024.
- Detecting Cybercrimes in Accordance with Pakistani Law. ↗
F. Ullah, A. Faheem, **U. Azam**, M.S. Ayub, F. Kamiran, A. Karim. *LREC-COLING* 2024.
- Comparing Prompt-Based and Standard Fine-Tuning for Urdu Text Classification. ↗
F. Ullah, **U. Azam**, A. Faheem, F. Kamiran, A. Karim. *EMNLP* 2023.
- Exploring Data Augmentation Strategies for Hate Speech Detection in Roman Urdu. ↗
U. Azam, H. Rizwan, A. Karim. *LREC* 2022.

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES & GRANTS

Alan Turing Institute Grant: PICASO <i>Knowledge Graphs and Ontologies</i>	Dec 2025 – Present
• Primary researcher on this competitively awarded grant, <i>PICASO: Probabilistic Conceptual Spaces Sensemaking under Uncertainty</i>. • Developing Bayesian knowledge representations combining geometric deep learning and scalable probabilistic inference. • Modelling vagueness, ambiguity, and confidence to improve AI sensemaking and decision-making.	

United Nations AI Trust and Safety Re-Imagination Programme ↗

Sep 2025 – Jan 2026

- Led research team **TrustWeave** developing trustworthy AI solutions for under-represented languages.
- Collaborated with global experts across technical, legal, and policy domains.
- Presented work to UN mentors and partner organisations ([featured by UNDP Digital](#) ↗).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, [The University of Lahore](#)

Feb 2022 – Jul 2023

- Taught BS-level courses including Introduction to Machine Learning, Software Engineering, and Software Project Management.
- Delivered lectures to cohorts ranging from 50 to 200 students.

Research Assistant, [Lahore University of Management Sciences](#)

Jul 2021 – Jul 2023

- Worked on GPT-2 for data generation in low-resource languages.
- Contributed to multiple ML and NLP research projects.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, [LUMS, Topics in Data Mining](#)

Sep 2021 – Dec 2021

- Assisted in preparing lesson plans for graduate and postgraduate students.
- Presented research papers to the class.

College Teaching Intern, [Govt. Graduate College of Science](#)

Nov 2018 – Aug 2019

- Taught students at BS level; maintained and invigilated classes.

HONOURS & AWARDS

- **Winner**, Doctoral College Director's Award for Public Engagement & Outreach and Knowledge Exchange & Enterprise, University of Southampton (2026).
- **Winner**, research publication recognition, Doctoral College Director's Awards, University of Southampton (2026).
- Nominated, Doctoral College Director's Award for Citizenship and Community, University of Southampton (2025 & 2026, two consecutive years).
- Gold Medalist, BS (Hons.) Software Engineering.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, C++, Java, SQL
ML / DL	PyTorch, TensorFlow, Hugging Face, GPyTorch (probabilistic ML)
Areas	NLP, Bayesian / probabilistic deep learning, Gaussian processes, knowledge graphs, trustworthy & responsible AI
Tools	LaTeX, Git, Linux

SERVICE & OUTREACH

- Invited speaker, Learning & Reasoning Seminar, Cardiff University (Computer Science), Apr 2026.
- Lab Demonstrator for Machine Learning and Deep Learning modules, University of Southampton (2024 – Present).
- Reviewer, CIKM and IEEE IJCNN.
- Taught at the AI and Society International Summer School, University of Southampton (2025).
- Mentor for Master's students, University of Southampton (2024, 2025, 2026).
- Helped organise the ECS PhD recruitment event, University of Southampton (2025); managed logistics and applicant queries.