Armstrong Aboah, Ph.D.

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Google Scholar Citation: 252

Education

- **University of Missouri** — Columbia, USA
  Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) — *January 2020 - December 2022*
  Research Areas: *Naturalistic Driving, Transportation Safety, Anomaly Detection, Internet of Things, NLP, Autonomous Vehicle*
- **Tennessee Technological University** — Tennessee, USA
  Master of Science (MSc) — *August 2018 - December 2019*
  Research Areas: *Transportation Planning, Transportation Safety, Ridesharing, Demand Modelling*
- **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology** — Kumasi, Ghana
  Bachelor of Science (BSc.) — *September 2013 - July 2017*
  Research Areas: *Structure Health Monitoring, Structure Design and Failure, Earthquake Analysis, Self-Compacting Concrete*

Research Interest

- **Transportation Planning**:
- **Medical Image Analysis**:
- **Human Factors and Ergonomics**:
- **Intelligent Transportation Systems**:
- **Autonomous and Connected Vehicles**:
- **Big Data Analytics in Transportation**:
- **Travel demand modeling and forecasting**:
- **Transportation and Traffic Safety Research**:
- **Public Transportation**:
- **Congestion Management**:
- **Digital Twins and Smart Cities**:
- **Pavement and Asset Management**:

Teaching Interest

- **Transportation Planning**:
- **Highway Design**:
- **Statics**:
- **Travel Demand Modeling**:
- **Traffic Safety**:
- **Pavement Design**:

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

• **Assistant Professor**:	North Dakota State University	February 2024-Present
• **Assistant Research Professor**:	University of Arizona	August 2023-January 20224
• **Research Associate**:	Northwestern University	January 2023-August 2023

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

• **Reviewer**:	ASCE Journal of Transportation Engineering Part A	August 2022-Present
• **Reviewer**:	Transportation Research Board	January 2020-Present
• **Reviewer**:	Transportation Research Record	January 2020-Present
• **Reviewer**:	IET Image Processing	January 2021-Present

Courses Instructed

- **University of Arizona** — Tucson, AZ, USA
  CE363-Fall 2023: Transportation Engineering and Pavement Design — *August 2023 - Present*
- **University of Missouri** — Columbia, MO, USA
  CV-ENG-3100-01: Transportation Engineering — *Fall 2022*
- **Tennessee Tech University** — Cookeville, TN, USA
  CEE3610: Transportation Planning — *Fall 2019*
- **Kwame Nkrumah University of S&T** — Kumasi, Ghana
  AutoCAD — *July 2017 - August 2018*

Refereed Publications (* Student Supervised)

J-19. Kelvin Kwakye*, **Armstrong Aboah**, Younho Seong, Sun Yi (2023). Classification of human driver distraction using 3D convolutional neural networks. **Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting.**

J-18. **Aboah, Armstrong**, Ulas Bagci, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2023). DeepSegmenter: Temporal Action Localization for Detecting Anomalies in Untrimmed Naturalistic Driving Videos. **In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPRw)**.
Impact Factor: 45.17

J-17. Kelvin Kwakye*, Younho Seong, Sun Yi, **Aboah, Armstrong** (2023). DriveSAM: Cognitive Perspective on Driving Maneuvers Based on Drivers' Attention Using Eye Gaze Data. **1st International Conference on Smart Mobility and Vehicle Electrification**

J-16. **Aboah, A.**, Adu-Gyamfi Yaw, Anuj Sharma et al. (2023): "Driver Maneuver Detection and Analysis using Time Series Segmentation and Classification", **ASCE Journal of Transportation Research Part A.**
Impact Factor: 2.19

J-15. **Aboah, Armstrong**, Michael Boeding, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2022). Mobile Sensing for Multipurpose Applications in Transportation. **Journal of Big Data Analytics in Transportation.**
Impact Factor: 1.23

J-14. **Aboah, A.**, & Adu-Gyamfi, Y. (2020). Smartphone-Based Pavement Roughness Estimation Using Deep Learning with Entity Embedding. **Advances in Data Science and Adaptive Analysis, 12(03n04), 2050007.**
Impact Factor: 0.8

J-13. Shoman, M., **Aboah, A.**, & Adu-Gyamfi, Y. (2020). Deep learning framework for predicting bus delays on multiple routes using heterogenous datasets. **Journal of Big Data Analytics in Transportation, 2(3), 275-290.**
Impact Factor: 1.23

J-12. Bin Wang*, Hongyi Pan, **Armstrong Aboah**, et al.(2024). GazeGNN: A Gaze-Guided Graph Neural Network for Chest X-Ray Classification. **Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision.**

J-11. Bin Wang*, **Armstrong Aboah**, Zheyuan Zhang, Hongyi Pan, Ulas Bagci (2023). GazeSAM: Interactive Image Segmentation with Eye Gaze and Segment Anything Model. **NeuRIPS 2023 Workshop on Gaze Meets ML.**

J-10. **Aboah, Armstrong**, Bin Wang, Ulas Bagci, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2023). Real-time Multi-Class Helmet Violation Detection Using Few-Shot Data Sampling Technique and YOLOv8. **In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPRw)**.
Impact Factor: 45.17

J-9. **Aboah, A.**, Shoman, M., Morehead, A., Duan, Y., Daud, A., & Adu-Gyamfi, Y. (2022). A Region-Based Deep Learning Approach to Automated Retail Checkout. **In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (pp. 3210-3215) (CVPRw)**.
Impact Factor: 45.17

J-8. **Aboah, Armstrong**, Elizabeth Arthur, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2021). A New Benchmark Dataset For Pavement Distress Detection And Severity Analysis. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB)**

J-7. Maged Shoman,**Aboah, Armstrong**, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2021). Evaluation of Connected Vehicles Data for Congestion and Incident Detection. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB)**

J-6. Maged Shoman,**Aboah, Armstrong**, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2021). Development and Visualization of Winter Severity Impact using Multisource Data. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB)**

J-5. **Aboah, A.**(2021): Vision-based system for traffic anomaly detection using deep learning and decision trees. **In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshop (pp. 4207-4212) (CVPRw)**.
Impact Factor: 45.17

J-4. Abdulateef Ajibola Daud, **Aboah, Armstrong** (2024). Edge Computing-Enabled Road Condition Monitoring: System Development and Evaluation. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB Accepted)**

J-3. Neema Jakisa Owor*, **Aboah, Armstrong** (2024). Image2PCI – A Multitask Learning Framework for Estimating Pavement Condition Indices Directly from Images. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB Accepted)**

J-2. Linlin Zhang, Xiang Yu, **Aboah, Armstrong** (2024). 3D Object Detection and High-Resolution Traffic Parameters Extraction Using Low-Resolution LiDAR Data Transportation Research Board. **Transportation Research Board. (TRB Accepted)**

J-1. Bin Wang*, **Aboah, Armstrong**,Ulas Bagci. " GazeGNN: A Gaze-Guided Graph Neural Network for Disease Classification". **International Conference on Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention (MICCAI)**.

Conference Presentation

P-6. Pavement Distress Detection Using YOLOv5. (DSPS 2023)

P-5. Region-Based Deep Learning Approach to Automated Retail Checkout. (CVPR 2022)

P-4. Vision-based system for traffic anomaly detection using deep learning and decision trees. (CVPR 2021).

P-3. A New Benchmark Dataset For Pavement Distress Detection And Severity Analysis (TRB 2021)

P-2. Evaluation of Connected Vehicles Data for Congestion and Incident Detection(TRB 2021)

P-1. Development and Visualization of Winter Severity Impact using Multisource Data (TRB 2021)

Papers Under Review

R-2. **Aboah, Armstrong**, Michael Boeding, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2022). Mobile Sensing for Multipurpose Applications in Transportation. Journal of Big Data Analytics in Transportation.
Impact Factor: 1.23

R-1. Ashkan Behzadian, Tanner Wambui Muturi, **Aboah, Armstrong**, Yaw Adu-Gyamfi (2022). The 1st Data Science for Pavements Challenge.

Proposal Writing and Funded Research Grants

G-4. Sponsor: SMART GRANT - US DOT
Title: "Advancing Arterial Analytics for Improved Traffic Management: A Regional Partnership Approach"
Beneficiary: MCDOT
Contribution: Proposal Writer and Co-PI
Period: 2023 (Pending)

G-3. Sponsor: U.S. DOT Intersection Safety Challenge
Title: "Design and Development of a Low-Cost Digital Twin Real-Time Intersection Safety Monitoring and Prediction System"
Contribution: Proposal Writer and Co-PI
Period: 2023 (Pending)

G-2. Sponsor: Federal Highway Administration
Title: "MIMIC – Multidisciplinary Initiative on Methods to Integrate and Create Artificial Realistic Data"
Amount:$1,073,255
Contribution: 2%
Duration: 2020 - 2022

G-1. Sponsor: City of Kansas City Missouri
Title: "Modernization of KCMOs Asphalt Pavement Evaluation and Maintenance Programs using Machine Learning and Innovative Materials"
Amount:$59,932
Contribution: Proposal Writer
Duration: 2020 - 2022

Supervised Students

Ph.D.

G-1. Blessing Agyei Kyem

G-2. Eugene Denteh

G-3. Joshua Asamoah

Masters

G-1. Daud Abdulateef (Co-advised with Adu-Gyamfi Yaw)

G-2. Neema Owor (Co-advised with Adu-Gyamfi Yaw)

Honors and Awards

- Won first place in the ITS Heartland Annual Conference poster competition 2022 - January, 2022.
  Amount : $800.00
- Won first place in the ITS Heartland Annual Conference poster competition 2021 - November, 2021.
  Amount : $800.00
- Led a team that placed 4th in the 2022 AI city challenge organized by IEEE.
- Led a team that placed 5th in the 2021 AI city challenge organized by IEEE.
- Won second place in CMITE Students poster presentation.
- Best Teaching Assistant - Ghana Engineering Student Association Awards (2017/2018 Academic Year)
- Outstanding Departmental President - Ghana Engineering Student Association Awards (2016/2017 Academic Year)
- Excellent Student Award - College of Engineering Provost Award (2016/2017 Academic Year)
- Excellent Student Award - College of Engineering Provost Award (2015/2016 Academic Year).
- Excellent Student Award - College of Engineering Provost Award (2014/2015 Academic Year).

Research Projects

- **Traffic Anomaly Detection (Computer vision)**: In this project, we developed a framework for detecting traffic anomalies in video data. The proposed methodology relies on an augmented annotation pipeline that pre-annotates the training dataset using an object detection model trained on the COCO dataset. Annotations are subsequently used to build a vehicle detection model using the YOLOv5 network. Next, we estimate the background of each traffic video by computing the median of frames randomly sampled from a uniform distribution over a thirty-second period. Vehicle detections on extracted backgrounds are classified as anomaly candidates. Factors such as vehicle detection size, likelihood, and road feature masks were used to construct a decision tree to eliminate false anomalies. The start and end of an anomaly were computed by superimposing detections from anomaly candidates and their foreground detections.
- **Pavement Roughness Estimation-IRI (Deep Learning)**: The primary objective of this project was to develop a model to quickly and accurately determine the IRI values of road sections at a cheaper cost. In this project, I developed a smartphone app to collect road surface data at a cheaper cost. Also, I utilized other variables such as speed and gyroscope information in addition to the vertical acceleration information to increase the accuracy of determining IRI values of road sections.
- **Traffic Signal Performance Evaluation for Vulnerable Road Users (Machine Learning)**: This project has 2 main objectives: 1) to categorize pedestrians into subcategories in order to address their safety requirements at intersections; 2) to estimate the time required to cross an intersection and determine whether the pedestrian can safely cross within the pedestrian signal time allotted at intersections. The objectives were accomplished using data collected from three Ouster digital LiDAR sensors installed at an intersection in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The data was collected over a period of 3 hours. The datasets contain pedestrian and signal phase data. The LiDAR dataset included information about the physical characteristics of pedestrians such as their speeds, positions, directions, and size. The study defined heuristics to subclassify the pedestrian and evaluated the accuracy of the sub-classification using machine learning models. The study also carried analysis to determine if pedestrians were able to cross the intersection or not during the pedestrian allocated time.
- **Machine Learning Framework for Real-Time Assessment of Traffic Safety Utilizing Connected Vehicle Data (Machine Learning)**: the study proposes a framework that involves utilizing disaggregate vehicle trajectory data from connected vehicles deployed within the transportation network. This framework defines a process for extracting different variables from a high-resolution data source and exploring their potential application as useful signals for detecting potential safety-critical situations.
- **Artificial intelligence-enabled traffic monitoring system (Computer Vision)**: A novel approach to automatically monitor real-time traffic footage using deep convolutional neural networks and a stand-alone graphical user interface
- **Automated Retail Checkout (Deep Learning)**: In this project, we developed a framework specifically for automatic retail checkout. The proposed methodology relies on first building a robust object detection model using YOLOv5. Next, our pipeline identifies a region of interest (ROI) in every video by initially estimating the background of the video (i.e., computing the median of frames randomly sampled from a uniform distribution over the entire duration of the video), followed by ROI identification using adaptive thresholding. A selected ROI is then passed through a custom-trained YOLOv5 model for detection. The detections made within the ROI are further tracked using the DeepSORT algorithm. Finally, the time an object is first detected within the ROI is computed by finding the ratio of the frame number to the video frequency rate, thereby giving us precise time measurements of an object's first sighting within the ROI.
- **Vehicle Detection & Tracking (Computer Vision)**: In this project I developed a vehicle detection model using YOLO v5 and Deepsort for tracking. The tasked involved annotating 1000s of images and training the state-of-art single-stage object detection model yolov5 with the custom dataset. Tech: Python, Pytorch, Pandas
- **Anomaly Detection (Computer Vision)**: Developed a traffic anomaly detection model using deep learning-powered with a decision tree. Tech: Python, YOLO v5, Pytorch, & OpenCV.
- **Next Word Prediction (Natural Language Processing)**: The goal of this project is to use transformer models to predict the next word or a masked word in a sentence. The transformer model is a type of neural network architecture that has been shown to be highly effective in natural language processing tasks such as language translation and language understanding. In this project, the transformer model will be trained on a large corpus of text data using a technique called masked language modeling. In this technique, a portion of the words in the input sentence are randomly masked and the model is trained to predict the original word based on the context of the remaining words in the sentence. Tech: Python, Pytorch, Transformer.

- **Speech & Emotion Recognition (NLP, Computer Vision)**: The goal of this project is to develop a convolutional neural network (CNN) model to classify various speech files into different emotions. The model will be trained on a dataset of speech files that have been labeled with different emotions such as happy, sad, angry, neutral, etc. Tech: Python, Pytorch, CNN
- **CamVid Project(Computer Vision, Naturalistic Studies)**: The goal of the CamVid project is to develop a deep learning model for multiclass semantic segmentation using the Unet architecture. The CamVid project is a computer vision project that focuses on naturalistic studies, which aims to develop models that can understand the visual world in the same way that humans do. The project's goal is to develop a model that can segment an image into different classes of objects, such as cars, pedestrians, buildings, etc. Tech: Python, Pytorch, CNN, Unet
- **3D Image Reconstruction(Computer Vision)**: The goal of this project is to perform a 3D reconstruction of Google Street View images for direct distance measuring using computer vision techniques. 3D reconstruction is the process of creating a 3D model of an object or a scene from 2D images. In this project, the focus is on reconstructing 3D models of buildings and other structures from Google Street View images. Tech: Python, Pytorch
- **Bus Routing Problem**: The goal of this project is to use ArcGIS Pro and ArcPy to develop a bus routing system for St. Louis City. The bus routing problem is a problem of determining the most efficient routes for buses to take in order to serve the needs of the community. This problem is especially challenging for large cities like St. Louis where there are many different neighborhoods, destinations and routes to consider. Tech: ArcGIS, Arcpy
- **Covid-19 Sentiment Analysis (NLP)**: is a project that aims to understand and analyze the emotions and opinions expressed in text data related to the Covid-19 pandemic. This can be done by using various techniques such as text classification, sentiment analysis, and topic modeling.
- **Text Generation (NLP)**: Built a Markov chains function that creates a dictionary for text generation.
- **DeepInsight (NDS)**: the study develops an end-to-end pipeline for automatic, frame-by-frame labeling of NDS videos into various driving events by using vehicle telemetry data. To achieve this goal, we formulated the problem as a time series segmentation and classification problem. The segmentation task was achieved by developing a novel segmentation algorithm that utilizes the principle of energy-maximization to detect the start and end of any driving event.
- **Disease Classification (Computer vision)**: In this work, we propose GazeGNN, a novel gaze-guided graph neural network to do the disease classification in a unified representation graph that models both the image and gaze pattern information jointly. In the GazeGNN, the images are split into many patches which are viewed as nodes, then a graph is built by connecting the nearest neighbors. Raw gaze information of each patch is appended in each node. Our experiments on the chest X-ray dataset MIMIC-CXR show that our proposed method exhibits high efficiency and superior performance compared to existing methods.
- **GazeSAM (Computer vision)**: This study we investigated the potential of eye-tracking technology and the Segment Anything Model (SAM) to design a collaborative human-computer interaction system that automates medical image segmentation. We present the **GazeSAM** system to enable radiologists to collect segmentation masks by simply looking at the region of interest during image diagnosis. The proposed system tracks radiologists' eye movement and utilizes the eye-gaze data as the input prompt for SAM, which automatically generates the segmentation mask in real time. This study is the first work to leverage the power of eye-tracking technology and SAM to enhance the efficiency of daily clinical practice. Moreover, eye-gaze data coupled with image and corresponding segmentation labels can be easily recorded for further advanced eye-tracking research. .
- **Eye Detection (NDS and Computer Vision)**: Developed a deep learning model to detect the eye positioning of drivers while driving in a naturalistic driving environment using Yolov5 for detection and deepsort for tracking.
- **Weather Prediction**: Developed an LSTM model to perform a multiclass classification of weather.
- **Accident Analysis**: Developed a machine learning model to understand the various causes of vehicle crash.
- **Road Incident Detection**: Developed a deep learning model to detect various road incidents in Missouri

Volunteer Experience

- **Computer Vision Tutorials** — Columbia, USA
  Organized a free computer vision tutorials for everyone interested in the summer. — *Jun 2021 - August 2021*
- **Mentoring High School Students for National Science and Math Quiz** — Accra, Ghana
  Mentor, teach, and prepare High School Students for the National Math and Science Quiz — *Jun 2013 - Present*

Journal Reviews

- **TRB**: Artificial Intelligence Committee (20 reviews)
- **IET Image Processing**: Jan 2021 - Present (3 reviews)
- **ASCE Journal of Transportation Research Part: System**: Jan 2022 - Present (10 reviews)