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Top Skills

Supervised Learning
Predictive Modeling
Unsupervised Learning

Languages

Turkish (Limited Working)
Pashto (Native or Bilingual)
Arabic (Elementary)
English (Native or Bilingual)

Certifications

Foundational C# with Microsoft
Sentiment Analysis in Python
Introduction to Generative AI - Art of
the Possible
CompTIA Network+ (N10-008)
Introduction to Social Media

Publications

Significance-Aware Benchmarking
of Classical Machine Learning
Classifiers for Phishing Website
Detection
Significance-Aware Evaluation
of Classical and Transformer
Classifiers Across Cybersecurity and
Financial Tabular Benchmarks
Geometric Intuitions for Linear
Algebra: A Derivation-First
Introduction for Machine Learning
Practitioners
Dissecting Detection: Feature-Class
Ablation and a Deployment-Aware
Evaluation Metric for Static PE
Malware Classifiers
Linguistic Deception Signatures for
Cross-Corpus Spam Detection with
Classical NLP

Fahad Hafeez

AI & Data Science @ UCLan · Aspiring and Independent AI/ML
Researcher · Open-Source Contributor · CISSP · Co founder @
Khwand

Greater Reading Area

Summary

I am an AI & Data Science undergraduate, independent AI researcher, open-source contributor, and startup builder passionate about developing intelligent, secure, and scalable systems at the intersection of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Cybersecurity, and Data Science. Currently studying Artificial Intelligence & Data Science at University of Central Lancashire, I combine technical curiosity with practical execution — building projects, conducting independent research, contributing to open source, and exploring how AI can solve high-impact real-world problems. My work focuses on machine learning, predictive modelling, cybersecurity, intelligent systems, and applied AI. I have researched phishing website detection using classical machine learning and transformer-based approaches, managing the full research lifecycle independently — from literature review and dataset preparation to feature engineering, experimentation, evaluation, and academic writing. I have authored research in cybersecurity, machine learning benchmarking, biometrics, and mathematical foundations for AI, with a strong interest in trustworthy and secure AI systems. I also recently contributed to the open-source ecosystem through my first contribution to pandas, strengthening my understanding of collaborative software development and real-world engineering workflows. Beyond research, I enjoy building startups and transforming ideas into products by combining technical problem-solving, business strategy, and design thinking. My interests include AI startups, secure-by-design systems, automation, data products, and technologies with meaningful real-world impact. Technically, I work across Python, SQL, C#, JSON, XML, supervised and unsupervised learning, software modelling, cybersecurity concepts, and data analysis. I also bring experience in branding and digital design using Adobe Creative Suite. I hold training and certifications in cybersecurity, AI, networking, and software development, including CISSP® training,

Microsoft C# Foundations, Generative AI, Sentiment Analysis in Python, and CompTIA Network+. Interested in AI, Machine Learning, Data Science, Cybersecurity, Research, Open Source, and Startup Innovation.

Experience

Python

Open-Source Contributor · pandas (pandas-dev/pandas)
May 2026 - Present (2 months)

Submitted and merged first open-source contribution to pandas, a widely used data manipulation library (~60k+ GitHub stars, 400M+ monthly PyPI downloads), contributing to its documentation and developer-facing examples. Improved documentation for the BYearEnd DateOffset class in pandas/_libs/tslibs/offsets.pyx by rewriting the docstring to include a structured See Also section, removing incorrectly documented private attributes, and adding verified usage examples for forward offsets, backward offsets, custom month targeting, and date range generation.

Independently navigated the full open-source contribution workflow in a large Cython/Meson codebase: forking and building pandas from source on Windows, resolving CI build failures, interpreting numpydoc validation issues (PR02, SA01), validating doctests against a live development build, and iterating through peer review until merge approval.

Self-directed Research | Artificial Intelligence & Data Science

Independent AI Researcher

March 2026 - Present (4 months)

Authored and submitted two peer-reviewed papers on machine learning for cybersecurity — covering classical classifiers through to transformer-based phishing detection, with statistical validation via McNemar's test and Cohen's d .

Designed end-to-end ML pipelines: literature review, dataset curation, feature engineering, model training, evaluation, and LaTeX manuscript preparation for IEEE Access / arXiv submission.

Extended scope from phishing detection to cross-domain tabular benchmarks, evaluating significance-aware evaluation methodology across cybersecurity and financial datasets.

Contributed to open-source tooling (pandas) as part of broader applied ML workflow.

Khwand

Co-Founder and CEO

June 2025 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Building an AI-powered, self-healing CI/CD platform designed for AI-native engineering teams — automatically detects, diagnoses, and fixes pipeline failures without human intervention.

Led full technical build: Next.js 14 frontend, FastAPI backend, Supabase + Clerk auth, Redis caching, and a LangGraph multi-agent orchestration system with six-phase pipeline recovery.

Designed and implemented a proprietary Stability Score system and Vibe Code Assurance feature with automated GitHub Status Checks and Prompt Regression testing.

Developed go-to-market strategy targeting solo technical founders and small engineering teams; executing pre-launch waitlist campaign across X/Twitter, LinkedIn, Hacker News, and UK startup ecosystems.

Amazon

Merchant

June 2024 - January 2026 (1 year 8 months)

Thumbs Up Digital Marketing Agency

Accounts Manager

December 2024 - March 2025 (4 months)

United Kingdom

24syse

Co-Founder

October 2024 - February 2025 (5 months)

STARTUP PROJECT:

- About the Company: Developing an innovative mobile laptop repair shop management system designed to streamline business operations for shop owners. The software integrates security checks to ensure devices have a clean history and offers tools for business performance tracking, digital record-keeping, and remote management.

- Key Responsibilities:

- Designed and developed the company website using HTML and CSS.
- Led the development of core software features, including security check integration and business analytics tools.
- Built the brand identity, including logo design and marketing strategies.

- Conducted market research and sales planning to identify customer needs and subscription models.
- Managed all aspects of the startup as a sole proprietor, including product development, marketing, and customer engagement.
- Achievements:
 - Successfully created the foundation for a SaaS product targeting small business owners.
 - Gained hands-on experience in software development, branding, and business operations.

The Lettings Cloud

Freelance Graphic Designer

September 2024 - November 2024 (3 months)

- Reading briefs and understanding them
- Using Canva and designing what was stated in the briefs
- Communicating with other colleagues about requirements
- Understanding requirements
- Planning how to go about achieving those requirements and goals

Self-Employed

Founder

April 2024 - October 2024 (7 months)

Was working on a new unique drink idea inspired from South Asian culture specifically Afghan and Pashtun culture. Pivoted to another Idea

Green Burnley Service Station

Cashier

August 2024 - September 2024 (2 months)

Burnley, England, United Kingdom

- Counting amount of cash in shifts
- Communicating with customers
- Handling deliveries of fuel, stock and inventory
- Multitasking
- Looking after the premises using security cameras/CCTV

Kainos

Virtual Work Experience

May 2024 - May 2024 (1 month)

- Three days virtual work experience
- IT and Tech - Ready, Set, Code

- Discovered who Kainos are and what it's like to work for a global software company
- Learned about web development
- Created a static website
- Understand Cyber Security and it's impact
- Understanding social engineering
- CIA Triad
- Authorization vs Authentication
- Modern Authentication Methods
- Risk Assessment Matrix
- Risk Management
- Ethical Hacking / Pen Testing experience
- Learn about Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Agile Methodology
- Scrum and Scrum Team
- Understanding IDE, VS Code, IntelliJ IDE
- Using Replit, HTML, CSS

Star Print

Graphic Designer

November 2022 - April 2023 (6 months)

Nelson, England, United Kingdom

- Used MS Office for documentation
- Communicating with customers and clients
- Understanding requirements and needs of customers and clients
- Adobe Creative Suite - CorelDraw

HM GIS Ltd

Sales And Marketing Rep

September 2022 - April 2023 (8 months)

Nelson, UK

As the Sales and Marketing Representative of HM GIS Ltd, I met with clients and established client requirements. I also had to communicate with clients. As well as communicating with clients, I also advertised the business and its product/service on social media and in addition improved the SEO of the company's website using HTML, XML and Meta Data. Furthermore, I also helped design and build the company's website using HTML and then publish it as well as perform any changes needed.

The role also included writing and forming Terms and Conditions Policies, Privacy Policies etc.

From this role, I gained skills such as social media marketing, and SEO on a very basic level. I also improved my time management, listening, and engagement skills as well.

Royal Air Force Air Cadets

2 years 1 month

Cadet Lance Corporal

September 2021 - September 2022 (1 year 1 month)

Reading, England, United Kingdom

Part of the Combined Cadet Force at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

Cadet

September 2020 - September 2021 (1 year 1 month)

Reading, England, United Kingdom

Part of the Combined Cadet Forces at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

Education

University of Central Lancashire

BSc, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science · (2025 - 2028)

IU International University of Applied Sciences

Bachelor of Applied Science - BAsc, Artificial Intelligence · (September 2024 - August 2025)

Nelson and Colne College

A Levels, Computer Science, Business, Graphic Design, EPQ · (September 2022 - August 2024)

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading

GCSE's · (September 2019 - August 2022)

Roots Millennium Schools & Colleges - TME

· (December 2017 - July 2019)