

# Netzer Epstein

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## AI Safety Research

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- ❖ **SPAR 2026 spring Fellow**. Researching Evaluation Awareness in LLMs to identify how models may alter their behavior when they detect they are being benchmarked. Under the guidance of Qiyao Wei.
- ❖ **Heron AI Security Research Fellow**, first cohort. Exploring the intersection of Zero Knowledge Proofs in ML to develop verifiable inference protocols, ensuring model integrity and privacy in adversarial environments. Under the guidance of Daniel Kang.
- ❖ **AI Security Deep Dives**, the **Heron Research Seminar Group**, first cohort.
- ❖ **Technical AI Safety** course at **Blue Dot Impact**. Completed a technical curriculum focused on mechanistic interpretability, reinforcement learning from human feedback (RLHF), and threat modeling for transformative AI.

## Technical Experience

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- 2024-Present **Microsoft Israel R&D center**, Excel Israel, **Software Engineer II**:
- Contributed to the development of **Office Copilot for Excel**, enhancing **LLM-based formula suggestions** by designing and optimizing **prompt engineering strategies** and developing **comprehensive evaluation benchmarks** to measure model accuracy, efficiency, and user relevance.
  - Developed features in a **cross-platform** environment for both **native and web** applications, using internal shared platforms.
  - Utilized **TypeScript, C++, OpenAI APIs, and Azure DevOps** to enhance AI-driven productivity tools.
- 2023-2024 **Microsoft Israel R&D center**, Excel Israel, **Software Engineer I**:
- Led the development and maintenance of **smart suggestions** in **Excel Online**, improving user experience with AI-driven recommendations.
  - Designed, implemented, and tested **full-stack features** across **Excel Desktop and Excel Online**, ensuring seamless cross-platform integration.
  - Worked with **TypeScript, Node.js, React (and React Native), C++, and KQL** to build and optimize intelligent Excel functionalities.
- 2021-2023 **Microsoft Israel R&D center**, Excel Israel, **Software Engineer Student Position**:
- Developed and maintained **Excel Online infrastructure**, improving system reliability and telemetry insights.
  - Researched and implemented **complex build and bundling processes** to enhance development efficiency. Built **web application infrastructure** using **C#, Node.js, and Webpack**, optimizing performance and scalability.

## Education

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- ❖ 2019-2022 **BSc in Computer Science, Internet and Society Excellence Program (MATAR)**. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJI). GPA: 91
- ❖ NITE Psychometric Exam: 769