

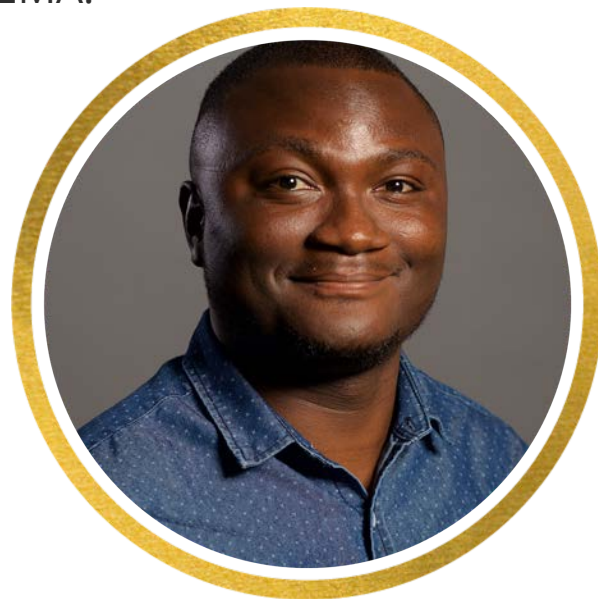
In conversation with

James Azam

James hails from Ghana but has spent most of the past 8 years outside of Ghana pursuing graduate-level studies.

He has many hobbies, including playing the guitar and appreciating all sorts of music, photographing nature and friends, watching, and critiquing series, creating YouTube videos, and keeping fit. He's an outspoken and jovial person, making him a joy as a Junior Researcher at SACEMA.

"Sometimes the simplest solution is the easiest to overlook"
- Derivative of Occam's Razor.



What do you enjoy the most about what you do?

Modelling infectious diseases is complex and challenging but satisfying in the long run. Mathematical modellers give life to mathematics by applying otherwise "dull" mathematical concepts to study how a disease would spread in populations, considering where and how people live, behave socially, and so forth. Is that not fascinating? Keeping track of all these moving parts can be daunting, but these challenges make the end results rewarding and enjoyable.

You have such a passion for science communication. Why?

I am inspired by Albert Einstein's quote: "if you can't communicate it simply, you don't understand it well enough". I believe science communication is an art form that makes science more accessible. Moreover, the more accessible science is, the easier it is for people to accept it. Therefore, everyone should take science communication seriously.

What do you do to inspire yourself on "off" days?

If it's a bright and sunny day, I would prefer going to the gym or spending time in nature. If the weather does not permit that, I would stay indoors to watch a documentary, tv series on Netflix or Showmax.



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