Akshita Bhagia

https://akshitab.github.io

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Deep Learning

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EXPERIENCE

- **Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)** — Seattle, WA
  Senior Research Engineer — *Jul 2021 - Present*
  Research Engineer 2 — *Jul 2020 - Jun 2021*
  Academic R&D in natural language processing (NLP). See list below for publications.

  - **Open Language Model (OLMo)**: Core contributions in dataset creation, model training, evaluation, and inference.
  - **Open source libraries**: ai2-olmo-evall , ai2-catwalk , allennlp , ai2-tango , ai2-tailor
  - **Datasets**: PALOMA , DOLMa , WMT22 African , No Language Left Behind (NLLB)

- **Cerebellum Capital** — San Francisco, CA
  Machine Learning Intern — *May 2019 - Aug 2019*

  - Adapted state-of-the-art deep learning models for financial time-series forecasting using Keras and Tensorflow.

- **InFoCusp** — Ahmedabad, India
  Lead Platform Development Engineer — *Feb 2018 - Jun 2018*
  Research Programmer — *Jul 2015 - Jan 2018*

  - Engineered the core infrastructure of a data science platform used for R&D as well as production of financial models.

EDUCATION

- **University of Washington** — Seattle, WA
  Non-degree course enrollment (NLP for Cultural Analytics); GPA: 4.00/4.00 — *Jan 2023 - March 2023*

- **University of Massachusetts, Amherst** — Amherst, MA
  Master of Science in Computer Science; GPA: 4.00/4.00 — *Sep 2018 – May 2020*

- **Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology** — Gandhinagar, India
  Bachelor of Technology in Information and Communication Technology; GPA: 8.95/10 — *Jul 2011 – May 2015*

RELEVANT COURSES

NLP for Cultural Analytics, Machine Learning, Neural Networks, Deep Learning for NLP, Systems for Data Science, Advanced Algorithms

PUBLICATIONS

- Yanai Elazar, **Akshita Bhagia**, Ian Magnusson, Abhilasha Ravichander, Dustin Schwenk, Alane Suhr, Pete Walsh, Dirk Groeneveld, Luca Soldaini, Sameer Singh, Hanna Hajishirzi, Noah A. Smith, and Jesse Dodge. *What's In My Big Data?* arXiv preprint (2023).

- Dirk Groeneveld, Anas Awadalla, Iz Beltagy, **Akshita Bhagia**, Ian Magnusson, Hao Peng, Oyvind Tafjord, Pete Walsh, Kyle Richardson, and Jesse Dodge. *Catwalk: A Unified Language Model Evaluation Framework for Many Datasets.* arXiv preprint (2023).

- Hamish Ivison, **Akshita Bhagia**, Yizhong Wang, Hannaneh Hajishirzi, and Matthew Peters. *HINT: Hypernetwork Instruction Tuning for Efficient Zero-Shot Generalisation.* ACL (2023).

- Ian Magnusson, **Akshita Bhagia**, Valentin Hofmann, Luca Soldaini, A. Jha, Oyvind Tafjord, Dustin Schwenk, Evan Pete Walsh, Yanai Elazar, Kyle Lo, Dirk Groeneveld, Iz Beltagy, Hanna Hajishirzi, Noah A. Smith, Kyle Richardson, and Jesse Dodge. *Paloma: A Benchmark for Evaluating Language Model Fit.* arXiv preprint (2023).

- Kyle Richardson, Ian Magnusson, Oyvind Tafjord, **Akshita Bhagia**, Iz Beltagy, Arman Cohan, Pradeep Dasigi, Jesse Dodge, Dirk Groeneveld, Yuling Gu, Ananya Harsh Jha, Tushar Khot, and Nishant Subramani. *Robust Tooling and New Resources for Large Language Model Evaluation via Catwalk (extended abstract).* GEM Workshop, EMNLP (2023).

- Shruti Palaskar, **Akshita Bhagia**, Yonatan Bisk, Florian Metze, Alan W. Black, and Ana Marasović. *On Advances in Text Generation from Images Beyond Captioning: A Case Study in Self-Rationalization.* Findings of EMNLP (2022).

- Zhaofeng Wu, Robert L. Logan IV, Pete Walsh, **Akshita Bhagia**, Dirk Groeneveld, Sameer Singh, and Iz Beltagy. *Continued Pretraining for Better Zero- and Few-Shot Promptability.* EMNLP (2022).

OUTREACH AND SERVICE

○ **Co-organizer** for the 2022 WMT Shared Task on Large Scale Machine Translation Evaluation for African Languages.

○ **Co-organizer** for AllenNLP Hacks 2021 hackathon for minoritized communities.

○ **Master's chair** for the graduate chapter of UMass Amherst CSWomen (Feb 2019 - May 2020); handled monthly travel grants. The organization was awarded a Women for UMass grant towards travel expenses for graduate students.

○ **Grader** for Programming with Data Structures (Fall 2018), Neural Networks (Fall 2019).

○ **Student Representative** of the Gender Cell at DA-IICT (2014-2015).

TALKS AND PANELS

○ Workshop on the AllenNLP library at AllenNLP Hacks 2021.

○ Workshop on Running experiments on Google Colaboratory at AllenNLP Hacks 2021.

○ Panelist on the GHC Information Panel at UMass CICS in Spring 2020.

AWARDS

○ Recipient of the AnitaB.org Grace Hopper Conference Scholarship 2019.

MENTORING

○ **Pranjali Basmatkar**, Research Engineering Intern @ AI2 (Summer 2023).

○ **Sunitha Selvan**, Research Engineering Intern @ AI2 (Summer 2022).

○ **Arjun Subramonian**, Research Engineering Intern @ AI2 - **AI2 Intern of the Year** (Summer 2021).

○ **Subhodeep Maji**, Research Programmer Intern @ InFoCusp (Spring 2017).