

Akshita Bhagia

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<https://akshitab.github.io>

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Deep Learning

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**: [OLMo](#) , [ai2-olmo-eval](#) , [wimbd](#) , [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

[†] denotes core contributors

- Yanai Elazar, **Akshita Bhagia**, Ian Magnusson, Abhilasha Ravichander, Dustin Schwenk, Alane Suhr, Pete Walsh, and others. [What's In My Big Data?](#) *ICLR Spotlight* (2024).
- Dirk Groeneveld, Iz Beltagy, Pete Walsh, **Akshita Bhagia**, Rodney Kinney, Oyvind Tafjord, A. Jha, and others. [OLMo: Accelerating the Science of Language Models](#). *ACL* (2024).
- Luca Soldaini[†], Rodney Kinney[†], **Akshita Bhagia**[†], Dustin Schwenk[†], David Atkinson, Russell Authur, Ben Bogin, and others. [Dolma: an Open Corpus of Three Trillion Tokens for Language Model Pretraining Research](#). *ACL* (2024).
- 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- and Few-Shot Generalisation](#). *ACL* (2023).
- Ian Magnusson, **Akshita Bhagia**, Valentin Hofmann, Luca Soldaini, A. Jha, Oyvind Tafjord, Dustin Schwenk, and others. [Paloma: A Benchmark for Evaluating Language Model Fit](#). *In submission* (2023).
- Kyle Richardson, Ian Magnusson, Oyvind Tafjord, **Akshita Bhagia**, Iz Beltagy, Arman Cohan, Pradeep Dasigi, and others. [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).

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND OUTREACH

- **Reviewer** for ACL-ARR (Feb 2024, Apr 2024).
- **Reviewer** for LREC-COLING (2024).
- **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

- Presenter on the [Databricks webinar](#) for the OLMo project (March 2024).
- Interviewed by Sam Charrington on the [TWiML podcast](#) about the OLMo project (March 2024).
- 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

- Geekwire Innovation of the Year 2024 Award for OLMo.
- 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).