

# DONALD PFAFFMANN

Saarbrücken ◊ Saarland, Germany

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

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[German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence](#) [Python]  
*Research Assistant*

Oct. 2022 - now  
*Saarbrücken, Germany*

- Working in the EXPECT project where the main goal is to develop an adaptive, self-learning interaction platform for human-robot collaboration, which is capable of decoding human intentions from EEG brainwave data (in conjunction with human multimodal data), enabling implicit interaction.
- Example: Operating a robotic arm by communicating intention via EEG brainwave data and hand grasp positions.

[Daimler Truck AG](#) [Python]  
*Bachelor Thesis Intern*

Feb. 2020 - Sept. 2020  
*Stuttgart, Germany*

- Implemented Gradient Boosted Trees and FP-Growth, utilizing them in a combined effort to make highly structured and high dimensional data accessible for the purposes of association rule mining.
- Major challenges were data curation and workflow design.
- The thesis provided several interesting and useful rules as validated by a domain expert.

[Springer Nature Technology and Publishing Solutions](#) [Java]  
*Intern*

Feb. 2019 - Aug. 2019  
*Pune, India*

- Implemented a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) that classifies plain text (e-mails) into time related categories using a static word embedding model.
- Major challenges were implementing and testing proper techniques of data pre-processing and machine learning algorithms.
- Work on this module finished with the CNN classifier achieving a F-Measure of 85% and the provision of a Named Entity Recognizer, which is capable of extracting and normalizing time entities.

## STUDY PROJECTS

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[Mario-AI](#) [Java], Grade: 1.0<sup>1</sup>  
*Student*

2nd year, B.Sc.  
*Zweibrücken, Germany*

- Implemented an autonomous agent operating Mario through randomly generated levels by utilizing A\*-search in a team of two.
- The major challenge was coming up with a proper heuristic that maximizes the score of Mario.
- Placed first in an official competition held among all course members.

## EDUCATION

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**Saarland University**  
Pursuing M.Sc. in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, **GPA: 1,9**

*Oct. 2020 - now*  
*Saarbrücken, Germany*

**University of Applied Sciences Kaiserslautern**  
B.Sc. in Applied Computer Science, **GPA: 1,4**

*Oct. 2016 - Oct. 2020*  
*Zweibrücken, Germany*

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<sup>1</sup> On a scale of 1-5 (university level), where 1 is the best grade; approximately equivalent to an "A" grade.