Khondoker Ittehadul Islam

NLP MASTERS STUDENT

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Education

University of Groningen   *Groningen, Netherlands*

MASTER'S IN NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING   *2024 - Now*

- Courses: **Advanced NLP** (9.2/10), **Deep Learning Practicals** (8.0/10), **Learning from Data** (8.0/10).
- Collaborated with CLCG's (`https://www.rug.nl/research/clcg/`) research group to evaluate decoder-only LLMs' reasoning.
- Researched on the QA domain leveraging NLI, RAG, translation & attribution techniques on a cross-lingual experiment.
- Discovered that for the same ground-reasoning chain, different steps influence the model's responses across various languages.
- Submitted at: IJCNLP-AACL 2025 (`https://arxiv.org/pdf/2508.08933`).
- CGPA: **7.7/10**

Shahjalal University of Science and Technology   *Sylhet, Bangladesh*

B.SC. (ENGG.) IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING   *2017 - 2021*

- In my undergraduate final year, I evaluated the mBERT's performance on low-resource languages on multiple downstream classification tasks. Developed a corpus generalization metric. Formulated an algorithm to evaluate the annotation quality of 80+ annotators.
- **Presented at**: Findings of EMNLP 2021, AACL-IJCNLP 2022.

Professional Experience

2024 - 2025   **Research Assistant**, University of Groningen

- *Analyzed the reasoning capabilities of LLM models across languages, generation strategies, and parameter sizes.*
- *These works are done with InCLow research group: `https://inclow-lm.github.io/`.*
- *Publications: Submitted at IJCNLP-AACL 2025 and ongoing.*

2025 - 2025   **Research Scholar**, University of Groningen

- *Improved linguistic capabilities of vLMs for OCR task.*
- *Applied page-separation preprocessing to reduce the image resolution by half for better content analysis.*
- *Report: `https://arxiv.org/pdf/2508.10356`*

2025 - 2025   **Research Scholar**, University of Groningen

- *Leveraged emotional cues in debate speech for fallacy detection.*
- *Mapped tonal emotion values into textual representations to improve comprehension of audio features.*
- *Report: `https://arxiv.org/pdf/2509.11127`*

2022 - 2022   **Research Scholar**, Fordham University

- *Created a Bangla fake news dataset by collecting source articles.*
- *Performed manual annotation with explanatory justifications.*

2019 - 2021   **Research Scholar**, SUST

- *Evaluated the performance of encoder-only models on low-resourced Bangla language.*
- *These works were done with SUST NLP Research Group. It resulted in two publications.*
- *Findings of EMNLP 2021: `https://aclanthology.org/2021.findings-emnlp.278`*
- *AACL-IJCNLP 2022: `https://aclanthology.org/2022.aacl-short.17/`*

2021 - 2024 **Software Engineer**, REVE Systems

- *Project Details*:
- *Automating the administrative workflow process of Bangladesh Transport Ministry.*
- *Modules include Vehicle Maintenance, Human Resource Management, Bill and Budget Management, and more.*
- *Roles & Responsibility*:
- *Communicating with clients and incorporating their requirements.*
- *Notable Implementations*:
- *Developed administrative benchmark reports for business modules using data structures and algorithms.*
- *Improved operational insights related to inventory and incident through various analytics.*
- *The project is in production: `https://smart.dgt.gov.bd`.*

Publications

- **Khondoker Ittehadul Islam**, Sudipta Kar, Md Saiful Islam, and Mohammad Ruhul Amin; SentNoB: A Dataset for Analysing Sentiment on Noisy Bangla Texts. **Findings of EMNLP 2021.**
- **Khondoker Ittehadul Islam**, Tanvir Hossain Yuvraz, Md Saiful Islam, and Enamul Hassan; EmoNoBa: A Dataset for Analyzing Fine-Grained Emotions on Noisy Bangla Texts. **AACL-IJCNLP 2022.**

Skills

Technical Stack   Python, PyTorch, HF's Transformers, vLLM, Git, Slurm

Research Stack   Paper Reviewing, Academic Writing, Grant Writing, Project Management

Awards

2025 **Best NLP Student Project Award**, @GroNLP, CLCG
Competed with 7 student teams in conducting and producing quality research.

2025 **LxMLS Scholarship**, Google & Zendesk
Received expenses to participate in Lisbon Summer School.

2025 **Erasmus+ Scholarship**, Erasmus Mundus
Awarded stipend to support exchange students.

2024 **NL Scholarship**, Nuffic, Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science
Grant to support researchers in Master's program.

2024 **Consortium Scholarship**, Erasmus Mundus
Received reduced annual program fee for Joint Master's Degree students.

2023 **Outstanding Reviewer**, BNLP @ EMNLP 2023
Provided feedback to assist program chairs and to help authors in improving their work.

2021 **Student Travel Scholarship**, EMNLP 2021
Received expenses to attend the conference.

Academia Services

2024-2025 **Programme Committee Member**, ReMa Linguistics, CLCG, University of Groningen
Represented student cohort and provided insights on course structure to the Dutch Education Ministry.

Complementary Education

2025   **15th LxMLS Summer School**,   Instituto Superior Técnico (IST)
Courses: Learning with Linear Models, Introduction to Sequence Models, Pretrained Transformer Models, Causality

2025   **Erasmus Mundus LCT Summer School 2025**,   DFKI & Saarland University
Workshops: Low-Resource Machine Translation, Interpreting Transformer Internals with Sparse Auto-encoders

2025   **ASML Student Excursion Day**,   ASML HQ
Day-long hands-on event at the ASML Headquarters.

2020   **Fundamental of Reinforcement Learning**,   Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute via Coursera (University of Alberta)
An online non-credit course authorized by University of Alberta, Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute and offered through Coursera. CREDENTIAL ID: VYBJSWD5UKCH