

# Ayan Majumdar

**Date of Birth:** Dec. 29, 1992

**Address:** Max Planck Institute for Software Systems (MPI-SWS)

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🌐 <https://ayanmaj.netlify.app/>

👤 Ayan Majumdar

🐙 <https://github.com/ayanmaj92>

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## Education

2021 – ongoing

### Ph.D. in Computer Science

**Max Planck Institute for Software Systems**, Saarbrücken, Germany

Area: *Machine Learning, Fairness, Accountability*

Advisor: Prof. Dr. Krishna P. Gummadi, Prof. Dr. Isabel Valera

2017 – 2021

### M.Sc. in Computer Science

**Saarland University**, Saarbrücken, Germany

Thesis: *Generating Counterfactuals for Causal Fairness*

Outline: *Deep generative models and their implicit assumptions in generating counterfactuals from observed data in the context of fairness.*

Advisor: Prof. Dr. Krishna P. Gummadi, Prof. Dr. Isabel Valera

GPA: 1.2/1.0 (German Scale)

2011 – 2015

### B.Tech. in Electronics & Communication

**Heritage Institute of Technology**, Kolkata, India

Project: *Automated traffic detection using image processing*

Outline: *Utilize blob detection techniques for detecting traffic from video sequences.*

Supervisor: Prof. Anindya Sen

GPA: 8.8/10.0

## Research Interests

Trustworthy Machine Learning

📌 Fairness, Explainability, Accountability, Robustness

Deep Learning

📌 Generative Models, Neural Networks, Representation Learning

Machine Learning

📌 Supervised, Semi-supervised, Self-supervised Learning, Causality

## Publications

### Archival Pre-prints

- 1 Nanda, V., **Majumdar, A.**, Kolling, C., Dickerson, J. P., Gummadi, K. P., Love, B. C., & Weller, A. (2021). Exploring alignment of representations with human perception. *CoRR, abs/2111.14726. (under review)*. arXiv: 2111.14726. Retrieved from 🌐 <https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.14726>



### Under Review & Ongoing

- 1 Rateike\*, M., **Majumdar\*, A.**, Mineeva, O., Gummadi, K. P., & Valera, I. (2022). Don't throw it away! The utility of unlabeled data in fair decision making. *(under review)*.


## Work Experience

- Oct. 2019 – Mar. 2021  **Research Assistant**  
**Max Planck Institute for Software Systems**, Saarbrücken, Germany  
Project: *Exploring bias and fairness with deep generative models*  
Role: Lead project and discussions, design methodologies and experiments.  
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Krishna P. Gummadi
- Apr. 2018 – Mar. 2019  **Research Assistant**  
**SFB1102, Saarland University**, Saarbrücken, Germany  
Project: *Mutual Intelligibility in Slavic Languages*  
Role: Develop web-user studies, perform data processing for NLP experiments.  
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dietrich Klakow
- Jul. 2015 – Aug. 2017  **Systems Engineer**  
**Infosys Ltd.**, Bengaluru, India  
Role: Oversee functionality of SIP and VoIP in session border controllers.
- Feb. 2016 – Nov. 2016  **Research Assistant**  
**IIST, Shibpur, India**  
Project: *Community-based Routing in Delay Tolerant Networks*  
Role: Implement a simulator for a novel community-based routing algorithm using social metrics for delay tolerant networks in post-disaster scenarios.  
Supervisor: Raj Rakshit, Prof. Tamaghna Acharya



## Teaching Assistance

- Summer 2021  **Seminar on Machine-Assisted Decision Making**, Saarland University
- Summer 2019  **Statistical Natural Language Processing**, Saarland University

## Talks and Posters

- 2020  **Cornell, Maryland, Max Planck Pre-doctoral Research School**  
Saarbrücken, Germany  
*Counterfactual data generation using VAE*

## Relevant Coursework

- Graduate  Artificial Intelligence, Information Retrieval and Data Mining, Machine Learning, Statistical Natural Language Processing, Neural Networks, Computer Vision, Methods of Mathematical Analysis, Statistics with R, Human-centered Machine Learning, Machine Learning in Cybersecurity, Information Extraction, Seminar: Machine Learning
- Undergraduate  Signals and Systems, Digital Signal Processing, Information Theory and Coding, Digital Electronics, Microprocessor and Microcontrollers, Data Structures, Object Oriented Programming, Embedded Systems, Database Management Systems

## Other Relevant Projects

- 📌 **Predicting the Vulnerability of Windows Machines to Malware**  
Outline: Predicted the vulnerability of Windows PCs to malware. Further details [here](#).
- 📌 **Word2Mat: A New Type of Word Representation**  
Outline: Extend word2vec to embed words as matrices for improved contextuality. More details [here](#).
- 📌 **Exploring Personalized Image Captioning**  
Outline: Studied Attend2You, a personalized image captioning method. Report can be found [here](#).

## Technical Skills

### Programming, Packages and Frameworks

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Languages        | 📌 Python, R, Java, C, C++, MATLAB   |
| Database         | 📌 SQL   |
| Machine Learning | 📌 PyTorch, Keras, TensorFlow, NumPy, Scikit-learn, Pandas, SciPy, NLTK, Spacy |
| Trustworthy ML   | 📌 CleverHans, Foolbox, robustness, AIF360                                     |
| Others           | 📌 Latex, Stan, HTML, CSS, Shell Scripting, Django                             |

### Software

|                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Version control   | 📌 Git, Clearcase        |
| Operating Systems | 📌 Linux, MacOS, Windows |

## Online Certifications

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| Coursera | 📌 | 1. <b>Algorithms</b> : Algorithmic toolbox, Data structures, Graph algorithms, String algorithms<br>2. <b>Machine Learning</b> : Machine Learning Foundations, Regression, Deep Learning: Sequence Models |
|----------|---|---|

## Other Academic Activities

- 📌 Attended conferences ICML 2020, NeurIPS 2021.
- 📌 Invited to (virtual) Microsoft Research conference *Frontiers of Machine Learning*, 2020.

## Language Skills

|                         |   |         |        |         |        |
|-------------------------|---|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Native/Fluent           | 📌 | English | ●●●●●● | Bengali | ●●●●●● |
| Proficient/Intermediate | 📌 | Hindi   | ●●●●●● | Deutsch | ●●●●●● |

## Achievements

- 📌 Infy Insta award for commendable performance in project, Infosys, India, 2017.
- 📌 Spot Award, Certificate of Appreciation for contribution to project, Infosys, India, 2016.