

# Ninell Oldenburg



## Education

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- 2024 - current    **PhD Philosophy of AI**, University of Copenhagen  
*Supervisor: Anders Søgaard*
- 2021 - 2023    **MSc IT & Cognition**, University of Copenhagen & Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
*Focus: Machine Learning, AI Ethics*
- 2017 - 2020    **BSc Computational Linguistics**, University of Potsdam & University of Trento  
*Focus: Theory of Computer Science, Formal Semantics*

## Academic Experience

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- Research Fellow, PIBBSS Summer Research Fellowship, Oxford, UK/Prague, CZ** Jun 2023 - Sep 2023  
Modeled an environment for learning and sustaining normative systems in multi-agent Markov games via Bayesian rule induction. *Mentor: Tan Zhi-Xuan (MIT).*
- Visiting Graduate Research Assistant, MIT, Cambridge, US / Remote** Feb 2023 - Jun 2023  
Bayesian multi-agent modelling for symbolic norm learning.  
*Supervisors: Tan Zhi-Xuan (MIT), Dr. Nora Hollenstein (University of Copenhagen).*
- Graduate Research Assistant, IT University Copenhagen, DK** Oct 2021 - Dec 2022  
Meta-study on the state of the art of bias research in NLP.  
*Supervisor: Prof. Barbara Plank (LMU Munich/IT University Copenhagen).*
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Dramatic Art, Berlin, DE** Sep 2019 - Feb 2020  
End-to-end system for computer-aided pronunciation training.  
*Supervisors: Prof. Andree Gubisch (University of Dramatic Art), Prof. David Schlangen (University of Potsdam).*
- Software Engineering Intern, German Research Center for AI, Berlin, DE** May - Aug 2017  
Multi-modal scheduling app. *Supervisor: Dr. Kinga Schumacher (DFKI).*

## Publications

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- Ninell Oldenburg and Anders Søgaard. 2025. *Navigating the Informativeness-Compression Trade-Off in XAI*. AI & Ethics. (Forthcoming)
- Ninell Oldenburg and Tan Zhi-Xuan. 2024. *Learning and Sustaining Shared Normative Systems via Bayesian Rule Induction in Markov Games*. In Proceedings of the 23rd International Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS).

## Talks

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- Philosophical Commitments to LLM Evaluations: The Problem of Moving Goalposts and Observational Relativity*. AI & Humanity Lab Hong Kong, Seminar Series 2025.
- The Completeness Problem: Beyond Human Metrics in Assessing Cognitive Systems*. 4th Advanced Course on Artificial Intelligence & Neuroscience 2024.
- Navigating the Informativeness-Compression Trade-Off in Explainability*. International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP) 2024 Conference.

## Fellowships, Funding & Summer Schools

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- 2025    **Research Visit at the AI & Humanity Lab**, Hong Kong University
- 2024    **Philosophy of AI Summer School**, University of London, Paris
- 2024    **ABC Summer School “Neuro-AI: Understanding computation in mind and brain”**, University of Amsterdam
- 2023    **Training for Good EU Tech Policy Fellowship**: \$9,000 (declined)
- 2022    **FTX Future Fund Grant for an AI Reading Group Berkeley, CA & AI Self-Study**: \$17,500
- 2019    **31st European Summer School for Language, Logic, and Information (ESSLLI)**: Travel Grant
- 2018    **Erasmus+ Study Grant University of Trento**: \$3,600

## Media

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*Is there someone behind the screen? Researchers are divided on AI consciousness.* ScienceNordic ([Danish Version](#) on Videnskabskab.dk. 2025.

## Teaching

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**Lecturer “Datamining”, University of Copenhagen, DK**

Apr - May 2025

Master's Level Language Processing and AI Ethics

**Lecturer “Empirical Methods and Theory of Science”, University of Copenhagen, DK**

Oct 2024 - Nov 2024

Bachelor's Level Statistics

**TA “Introduction to Computer Science”, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, HK**

Sep 2022 - Dec 2022

Bachelor's Level C++

## Non-Academic Experience

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**Email Marketing Student Assistant, SOUNDBOKS, Copenhagen, DK**

Oct 2021 - Jun 2022

Hold the end-to-end ownership of the email marketing strategy and all email needs (planning, creation, tracking, and data analysis); guided the English and German copywriting and localization.

**Associate Linguist, Google Germany (via Adecco), Hamburg, DE**

Aug 2020 - Aug 2021

Natural language generation & understanding for the Google Assistant.

**Integration Mentor, Huckepack e.V., Berlin, DE**

Sep 2016 - Sep 2018

Mental health and integration mentor for a refugee teenager.

## Miscellaneous

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**Programming** Python (incl. NLTK, SciPy), C++, Lua, JavaScript, Java

**Languages** German (native), English (fluent), Italian, French, Danish (intermediate)

**Journalism** Writer & Editor (2016 - 2020)

Youth Journalist (2010 - 2014)

**Blogging** 12 Months at 12 Places (2020 - 2021)

Books (2015 - 2017)

[Kiez und Kneipe](#), Berlin

[Märkische Oderzeitung](#), Frankfurt (Oder)

[Zwoelfmaldeutschland](#), Germany

[Yet Another Bookreview](#)