

# Sebastian GEHRMANN

@ s.gehrmann@outlook.com     SebGehr  
 sebastiangehrmann.github.io/     sebastiangehrmann

## EDUCATION

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| 2019 | <b>Ph.D. Computer Science</b> , Harvard University.<br>Thesis : Human-AI Collaboration for Natural Language Generation with Interpretable Neural Networks.<br>Advisors : Barbara Grosz and Sasha Rush |
| 2018 | <b>SM Computer Science</b> , Harvard University. GPA 3.9  |
| 2015 | <b>B.Sc. Business Informatics</b> , Nordakademie, Germany. ECTS Grade A   |

## EXPERIENCE

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| 2020<br>Present       | <b>Senior Research Scientist , GOOGLE, NYC</b><br>I develop evaluation strategies for language-producing models across many languages and tasks : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ In the Generation, Evaluation, and Metrics (GEM) project, I lead 100+ researchers in documenting datasets and building infrastructure to automatically evaluate models across 40+ generation tasks.</li><li>➢ I collaborate with large language model projects to ensure that they are evaluated in a responsible and consistent way, acting as evaluation chair for BigScience and contributing to PaLM.</li></ul> |
| Summer<br>2018 + 2019 | <b>Document Systems and NLP Research Intern, ADOBE, San Jose, CA</b><br>I studied how generated summaries help humans understand and share information in long documents.<br>Reference : Franck Dernoncourt   |
| Fall 2018             | <b>Graduate Research Intern, IBM, Cambridge, MA</b><br>I developed interactive models and analysis tools for controllable generation of protein sequences.<br>Reference : Hendrik Strobelt  |
| Summer 2016           | <b>Collaborator , BRUNO KESSLER FOUNDATION, Trento, Italy</b><br>I created an automatic mediation approach that guides people through the creation of a shared narrative.<br>References : Massimo Zancanaro and Oliviero Stock  |
| 2011–2015             | <b>Dual Student , EPPENDORF AG, Hamburg, Germany</b><br>I worked in project management for customer relationship management and led software training sessions for field engineers across multiple European countries.  |

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Please see my [Google Scholar] profile for a full list of my 50+ publications.

### GEMV2 : MULTILINGUAL NLG BENCHMARKING IN A SINGLE LINE OF CODE

IN SUBMISSION

Sebastian Gehrmann, et al. (78 authors)

[Website](#) [Paper](#)

### REPAIRING THE CRACKED FOUNDATION : A SURVEY OF OBSTACLES IN EVALUATION PRACTICES FOR GENERATED TEXT

IN SUBMISSION

Sebastian Gehrmann, Elizabeth Clark, Thibault Sellam

[Paper](#)

### THE GEM BENCHMARK : NATURAL LANGUAGE GENERATION, ITS EVALUATION AND METRICS

GEM WORKSHOP 2021

Sebastian Gehrmann, et al. (56 authors)

[Paper](#)

### INVESTIGATING GENDER BIAS IN LANGUAGE MODELS USING CAUSAL MEDIATION ANALYSIS

NEURIPS 2020

Jesse Vig\*, Sebastian Gehrmann\*, Yonatan Belinkov\*, Sharon Qian, Daniel Nevo, Yaron Singer, Stuart Shieber

[Paper](#) [Code](#)

### BOTTOM-UP ABSTRACTIVE SUMMARIZATION

EMNLP 2018

Sebastian Gehrmann, Yuntian Deng, Alexander Rush

[Paper](#) [Code](#)

### SEQ2SEQ-VIS : A VISUAL DEBUGGING TOOL FOR SEQUENCE-TO-SEQUENCE MODELS

VAST 2018

Hendrik Strobelt\*, Sebastian Gehrmann\*, Michael Behrisch, Adam Perer, Hans-Peter Pfister, Alexander Rush

[Website and Demo](#) [Paper](#)

## SELECTED TALKS

### MEASURING THE QUALITY OF NATURAL LANGUAGE GENERATION SYSTEMS

2022

Invited Talk by the Generation Special Interest Group of ACL and the Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance.

[slides](#) [Recording](#)

### BREAKING NEWS : IT'S TIME TO FIX EVALUATION OF GENERATED TEXT

2021

Keynote at the third workshop on New Frontiers in Summarization.

[Slides](#)

### HUMAN-AI COLLABORATION FOR NATURAL LANGUAGE GENERATION WITH INTERPRETABLE NEURAL NETWORKS

2020

Invited talk at the Synthetic Intelligence Forum, organized by the NRC Canada.

[Recording](#)

## TEACHING AND MENTORING

2020–present	Hosted, co-hosted, and/or advised the following interns at Google : Alon Jacovi, Amy Pu, Esin Durmus, Jiao Sun, Kelechi Ogueji, Mirac Suzgun
ACL 2020	Tutorial “Interpretability and Analysis in Neural NLP”, co-taught with Yonatan Belinkov and Ellie Pavlick
Winter 2020	Structure and Interpretation of Deep Networks, Co-Organizer, MIT
Fall 2018	HST.953 : Collaborative Data Science in Medicine, Mentor, MIT
Fall 2017	CS182 : Artificial Intelligence, Teaching Fellow, Harvard SEAS
Fall 2016	CS108 : Intelligent Systems : Design and Ethical Challenges, Teaching Fellow, Harvard SEAS
2015 & 2016	Data Analysis with Python, Instructor, Nordakademie, Elmshorn, Germany
2013 & 2014	Introduction to Finance, Instructor, Nordakademie, Germany

## LEADERSHIP

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- 2022 2nd Workshop on Natural Language Generation, Evaluation, and Metrics at EMNLP 2022, General Chair
- 2021 1st Workshop on Natural Language Generation, Evaluation, and Metrics at ACL 2021, Organizer.
- 2020 1st Workshop on Evaluating NLG Evaluation at INLG 2020, Organizer
- 2019 International Natural Language Generation Conference, Tokio, Japan, Publicity Chair
- 2016–2019 Computer Science Graduate Council, Harvard University, President

## AWARDS

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- 2022 Outstanding Paper Award at MLEval@ICLR 2022
- 2020 Outstanding Demo Award at NeurIPS 2020
- 2019 Paper Nominated for the best demo award at ACL 2019
- 2019 Member of the Siebel Scholar class of 2020
- 2019 One of ten recipients of the Adobe Research Fellowship selected from over 1,000 applicants
- 2019 2 x Adobe Research Gift for Harvard NLP (\$5,000 each)
- 2019 Best automated scores at the TL;DR challenge out of 12 submitted systems
- 2018 Best paper honorable mention at IEEE Vis 2018
- 2018 Harvard Open-Access Publishing Equity award (\$1,500)
- 2017 Best automated scores at the E2E NLG challenge out of 60 submitted systems
- 2016/17 Karina A. Chen Graduate Student Research Fellowship in Engineering and Applied Sciences
- 2013/14 Award for outstanding service to the community of Nordakademie

## REVIEWING AND COMMITTEES

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- SAC** NAACL 2022
- AC** AACL 2021, ACL 2020, 2021, ACL-ARR 2021-2022, EACL 2021, EMNLP 2021, 2022, NAACL 2021
- Conference PC** ACL 2018, 2019, ACL-ARR 2021, CoNLL 2019, EMNLP 2019 (outstanding reviewer), 2020 (outstanding reviewer) IEEE VIS 2019, NAACL 2019, NeurIPS 2020 (top 10% reviewer), 2021, INLG 2018, IUI 2018, 2019
- Workshop PC** BlackboxNLP 2020, 2021, EACL SRW 2020, HAI-GEN 2020, 2021, NeuralGen 2019, New Frontiers in Summarization 2019, SustainLP 2020, VisXAI 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, WebNLG+ 2020
- Journals** IJMI, JAIR, JMIR, JMLR, PLoS One, TACL