

Niket Tandon

WORK EXPERIENCE

AUG '24-	Microsoft Research, India Role: Principal Researcher <i>Machine Reasoning and Information Retrieval</i>
SEP '16- AUG '24	Allen Institute for AI Role: Lead Research Scientist <i>Advancing Machine Reasoning and Generative AI</i>
AUG '23- AUG '24	Pictory.ai Role: Advisory board (AI) <i>Advising startups</i>
OCT-DEC '15	Microsoft Research, Seattle Role: Research Intern Topic: Knowledge extraction
APR '13 -	PQRS Research Role: Founder Topic: Remote internships in AI <i>Mentored award-winning theses</i>
AUG-OCT '11	Microsoft Research, Seattle Role: Research Intern Topic: Spelling Correction LMs <i>Prototype shipped to Bing</i>
JUN- DEC '09	LTRC Lab, IIIT Hyderabad Role: Research Engineer Topic: Cross Lingual IR <i>Catalyzed a stagnant project</i>
JUL '07 – JUN '09	IBM Software Lab, Gurgaon Role: Software Engineer Topic: Agile based SDLC <i>Best internal (PBC) rating: 1.0</i>
JAN-JUN '07	Yahoo R&D, Bangalore Role: Undergrad Intern Topic: Wrapper Induction <i>Best undergrad thesis score</i>

EDUCATION

2012 – 16	Ph.D., Computer Science Max Planck Institute, Germany Advisor: Prof. Dr. Gerhard Weikum Thesis: Commonsense Knowledge: Acquisition and Applications <i>Summa cum laude, IMPRS scholarship</i>
2010 – 12	M.Sc., Computer Science Max Planck Institute & Saarland Univ., Germany GPA 1.2/1.0, Honors Deg. <i>IMPRS Scholarship</i>
2003 – 07	B.Tech, Computer Science VIT Vellore, India GPA 9.2/10, Rank: 3/139 <i>Undergrad Scholarship</i>

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(*)	Dated: Feb 2026

ACHIEVEMENTS

INDUSTRY	Lasting impact paper award: AI2 Top achiever: IBM
GRAD STUDIES	IMPRS scholarship: top 1% applicants
UNDERGRAD	Merit scholarship for every year during undergrad
ENTRANCE TEST	Top 0.2% at State Level'03, Top 1% at National Level

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (10,000+ CITATIONS)

1. DIVERGE: Diversity-Enhanced RAG for Open-Ended Information Seeking: T Hu, [Niket](#), Arora: arXiv'26
2. Echoes of Citations: Automated Extraction of Claims from Full Scientific Papers: N Tan, [Niket](#), Tafjord et al.: AAAI Symp.'26
3. Cache Saver: A Modular Framework for Efficient LLM Inference: N Potamitis et al., [Niket](#): EMNLP'25
4. MOGIC: Metadata-Infused Oracle Guidance for Extreme Classification: SC Prabhu et al., [Niket](#): ICML'25
5. Making AI More Trustworthy and Morally Aligned: D Dillon et al., [Niket](#): OSF'25
6. IRIS: Verifiable Causal Discovery without Tabular Data: T Feng, [Niket](#), Qu et al.: ACL'25
7. First-Step Advantage in Multi-Step Math Reasoning: K Jain et al., [Niket](#): Findings ACL'25
8. Calibrating LLMs with Sample Consistency: Q Lyu et al., [Niket](#): AAAI'25
9. AI Language Model Rivals Expert Ethicist: D Dillon et al., [Niket](#): Sci. Reports'25
10. Let Me Teach You: Pedagogical Feedback for LMs: B Borges, [Niket](#), Kser et al.: EMNLP'24
11. Tailoring with Targeted Precision: Edit-Based Agents: YK Lal et al., [Niket](#): Findings ACL'24
12. Proc2PDDL: Planning Representations from Text: T Zhang et al., [Niket](#): NLRSE'24
13. LLM Performance in Causal Discovery Tasks: T Feng et al., [Niket](#): arXiv'24
14. PDDLEGO: Iterative Planning in Textual Environments: L Zhang et al., [Niket](#): JCLC'24
15. LLMs as Moral Experts (GPT-4o vs Ethicists): D Wilbanks et al., [Niket](#): '24
16. Faithful Reasoning over Scientific Claims: N Tan, [Niket](#), Wadden et al.: AAAI Symp.'24
17. LLMs as Moral Experts (PsyArXiv version): D Dillon et al., [Niket](#): PsyArXiv'24

18. WorldValuesBench: Multi-Cultural Value Awareness Benchmark: W Zhao et al., [Niket](#): IJCNLP-AAACL'24
19. OpenPI2.0: Entity Tracking in Texts: L Zhang et al., [Niket](#): EACL'24
20. In-Context Principle Learning from Mistakes: T Zhang et al., [Niket](#): arXiv'24
21. Aligning Language Models to User Opinions: Eun-Jeong, Bodhi, [Niket](#): EMNLP'23
22. Self-Refine: Iterative Refinement with Self-Feedback: Aman, [Niket](#) et.al: NeurIPS'23 [**Media coverage**]
23. Can AI Language Models Replace Human Participants?: Danica, Niket et. al: Trends in CogSci'23 [**Media coverage**]
24. RL4F: Generating NL Feedback with Reinforcement Learning for Repairing Model Outputs: Feyza et. al, [Niket](#): ACL 2023 [**Media coverage**]
25. Memory-assisted prompt editing to improve GPT-3 after deployment:Aman*, [Niket*](#) et.al: EMNLP'22 [**Social media coverage, Best paper nomination** at ACL - CSRR workshop]
26. Think about it! Improving defeasible reasoning by first modeling the question scenario: A. Madaan, [Niket](#) et.al: EMNLP'21
27. Generating inference graphs for defeasible reasoning: A. Madaan, [Niket](#) et.al: Findings ACL'21
28. A Dataset for Tracking Entities through Open State Changes in Text: [Niket](#) et. al: EMNLP'20
29. From'F' to 'A'on the NY Regents Science Exams: An Overview of the Aristo Project: [with Aristo team](#): (**AI2 lasting impact award**) AI Magazine'20.
30. WIQA: A dataset for "What if..." reasoning over procedural text: [Niket](#) et. al: EMNLP'19
31. Everything Happens for a Reason: Predicting Causal Dependencies in Procedural Text: Bhavana, [Niket](#) et. al: EMNLP'19
32. Reasoning about actions and state changes by injecting commonsense: [Niket](#) et. al: EMNLP'18
33. Tracking State Changes in Procedural Text: a Challenge Dataset and Models for Process Paragraph Comprehension: Bhavana, Lifu, [Niket](#) et al: NAACL'18
34. Commonsense Knowledge in Machine Intelligence: [Niket](#), Aparna, Gerard: ACM SIGMOD Record '18
35. Movie description: A Rohrbach, A Torabi, M Rohrbach, [Niket](#), C Pal, H Larochelle, et al: International Journal of Computer Vision' 17
36. Distilling task knowledge from how-to communities: CX Chu, [Niket](#), G Weikum: WWW'17
37. WebChild 2.0: fine-grained commonsense knowledge distillation: [Niket](#), G de Melo, G Weikum: Proceedings of ACL'17
38. Domain-targeted, high precision knowledge extraction: B Dalvi, [Niket](#), P Clark: TACL'17
39. Webbrain: Joint neural learning of large-scale commonsense knowledge: J Chen, [Niket](#), CD Hariman, G de Melo: International Semantic Web Conference'16
40. Learning language-visual embedding for movie understanding with natural-language: A Torabi, [Niket](#), L Sigal: arXiv preprint arXiv: 1609.08124, 2016
41. Commonsense in Parts: Mining Part-Whole Relations from the Web and Image Tags.: [Niket](#), C Hari-man, J Urbani, A Rohrbach, M Rohrbach, G Weikum: AAAI 2016
42. Neural word representations from large-scale commonsense knowledge: J Chen, [Niket](#), G de Melo: Web Intelligence and Intelligent Agent Technology (WI-IAT), 2015
43. Knowlywood: Mining activity knowledge from hollywood narratives: [Niket](#), G de Melo, A De, G Weikum: Proceedings of the 24th ACM International on CIKM
44. Lights, camera, action: Knowledge extraction from movie scripts: [Niket](#), G Weikum, G Melo, A De: Proceedings of WWW, [**Highest review scored short paper** at WWW conference]
45. Multimedia Data for the Visually Impaired.: [Niket](#), S Sharma, T Makkad: AAAI 2015 [**Supervised the best undergrad thesis**]
46. Perceptually grounded selectional preferences: E Shutova, [Niket](#), G De Melo: ACL 2015
47. A dataset for movie description: A Rohrbach, M Rohrbach, [Niket](#), B Schiele: CVPR 2015
48. Acquiring Comparative Commonsense Knowledge from the Web.: [Niket](#), G De Melo, G Weikum: AAAI 2014
49. Webchild: Harvesting and organizing commonsense knowledge from the web: [Niket](#), G de Melo, Suchanek, G Weikum: WSDM 2014.
50. AAAI 2011: Deriving a web-scale common sense fact knowledge base: [Niket](#), G Weikum et al

TEACHING RELATED

VISITING PROF.	Jio Institute (teaching NLP)
GRAD THESIS	Supervised (informally) Ph.D. thesis (CMU), 2020–2023 Supervised three Masters thesis - Saarland Univ., 2014–15
UNDERGRAD	Supervised nearly 10 undergrad thesis with PQRS, 2013–14
TUTORIALS	* ACL'26 Reasoning with LLMs * WSDM international conference 2021 tutorial on commonsense * CIKM tutorial on Commonsense Knowledge, Singapore- 2017. * AI and the Web: organized 3 days national workshop, India- 2011.
LECTURES	IISc, ETH, EPFL, Saarland, UBC, UW, ...
TA	TA for Grad course: IR & Data Mining - Saarland Univ., 2011

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

AREA CHAIR	NeurIPS, TACL, EMNLP, AAAI, ACL, WWW
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE	ACL, Workshops