

# Divyansh Kaushik

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## Education

† *Indicates expected*

- 2019–2022 † Ph.D., Language and Information Technologies, Carnegie Mellon University  
Advisors: Zachary C. Lipton and Eduard Hovy
- 2017–2019 M.S., Language Technologies, Carnegie Mellon University  
GPA: 4.06/4.00, Advisor: Eduard Hovy
- 2013–2017 B.E., Computer Engineering, Thapar University  
GPA: 9.37/10, Award: IBM Best Student Award

## Selected Research and Publications

**Overview.** Published eight peer-reviewed conference papers and one peer-reviewed workshop paper in machine learning and natural language processing (1 best paper award, two competitive oral and spotlight presentations) in venues such as ICLR, EMNLP, ACL, ICML, and NAACL with additional machine learning and NLP papers in submission. Work in my main line of research includes:

**Learning the Difference that Makes a Difference with Counterfactually-Augmented Data (Spotlight).** [Divyansh Kaushik](#), Eduard Hovy, Zachary Lipton. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2020.

**Explaining the Efficacy of Counterfactually Augmented Data.** [Divyansh Kaushik](#), Amrith Setlur, Eduard Hovy, Zachary Lipton. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2021.

**How Much Reading Does Reading Comprehension Require? A Critical Investigation of Popular Benchmarks (Best Paper, Oral).** [Divyansh Kaushik](#), Zachary Lipton. Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2018.

## Awards

- 2022 **Top Reviewer (top 10%).** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2022 **Siebel Scholar, Class of 2023.** *Siebel Scholars Foundation.*
- 2021 **Outstanding Reviewer (top 8%).** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2021 **Standout Student Award.** *ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.*
- 2021 **Graduate Research Fellowship.** *Amazon.*
- 2021 **Outstanding Reviewer.** *International Conference on Learning Representations.*
- 2020 **Top Reviewer (top 10%).** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2020 **Award for national advocacy.** *Students Learn Students Vote Coalition.*
- 2018 **Best Paper.** *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.*
- 2017 **Graduate Scholarship.** *Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation.*

## Teaching

2022	<b>Head Teaching Assistant: Introduction to NLP</b> Mentored projects, created assignments, and held weekly office hours.	CMU
2021	<b>Teaching Assistant: Neural Networks for NLP</b> Mentored projects, created assignments, and held weekly office hours.	CMU
2021	<b>Guest Lecture: Neural Networks for NLP</b> Guest lecture on bias in NLP systems.	CMU
2020	<b>Teaching Assistant: LTI Colloquium</b> Organized talks with speakers from around the world on topics in ML and NLP.	CMU

## Mentorship

2021	<b>Masters in Computational Data Science (MCDS) students: Anurag Katakhar, Clay Yoo, and Weiqin Wang</b> Studying out-of-domain benefits of feature feedback.	CMU
2021	<b>Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems (MIIS) student: Sameer Jain</b> Studying the underlying factors influencing out-of-domain robustness of pre-trained language models.	CMU
2020-21	<b>Master of Language Technologies (MLT) student: Amrith Setlur</b> Explaining the efficacy of counterfactually augmented data.	CMU

## Academic Service

- 2023 **Reviewer** *International Conference on Learning Representations.*
- 2023 **Reviewer** *European Chapter of the Association of Computational Linguistics.*
- 2022 **Reviewer** *Transactions of Machine Learning Research.*
- 2022 **Reviewer, Top Reviewer Award** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2022 **Reviewer** *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.*
- 2022 **DE&I, Accessibility Co-Chair** *North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics.*
- 2022 **Reviewer** *Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency.*
- 2022 **Reviewer** *International Conference on Learning Representations.*
- 2021 **Reviewer, Outstanding Reviewer Award.** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2021 **Reviewer.** *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.*
- 2021 **Reviewer.** *Association for Computational Linguistics.*
- 2021 **Reviewer.** *North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics.*
- 2021 **Reviewer, Outstanding Reviewer Award.** *International Conference on Learning Representations.*
- 2021 **Area Chair.** *ICLR Responsible AI Workshop.*
- 2021 **Reviewer.** *ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency.*
- 2020 **Reviewer, Top Reviewer Award.** *Neural Information Processing Systems.*
- 2020 **Organizer.** *Human & Machine in The Loop Evaluation & Training Strategies Workshop.*

- 2020 **Backup Reviewer.** *Association for Computational Linguistics.*
- 2020 **Reviewer.** *Association for Computational Linguistics Student Research Workshop.*
- 2020 **Backup Reviewer.** *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.*
- 2020 **Reviewer.** *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing Insights Workshop.*
- 2020 **Reviewer.** *Conference on Natural Language Learning.*
- 2019 **Reviewer.** *Conference on Natural Language Learning.*
- 2019 **Reviewer.** *Association for Computational Linguistics Student Research Workshop.*

## Invited Talks

- Resolving the Human Subjects Status of Machine Learning’s Crowdworkers.**  
Stanford University, Palo Alto CA Aug. 2022
- Learning the Difference that Makes a Difference With Counterfactually Augmented Data.**  
Bar-Ilan University, Israel April 2021  
Amazon AWS ML Services (Palo Alto, New York, Berlin) June 2021
- Robustifying NLP With Humans In The Loop.**  
Morgan Stanley Financial Services, NY Sep. 2021  
Georgia Tech University Mar. 2022  
University of California at Berkeley Apr. 2022
- Leveraging Your Scientific Expertise for Policymaking**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA. April 2021  
University of Kentucky, KY. Nov. 2019  
Lehigh University, PA. April 2019  
National Science Policy Network June 2022

## Press & Interviews

- Dynabench.**  
MIT Tech Review. *Facebook wants to make AI better by asking people to break it.* Aug 2020  
Engadget. *Facebook’s new benchmarking system asks humans to interrogate AIs.* Aug 2020  
Wired. *Go Ahead, Try to Sneak Bad Words Past AI Filters for Research.* Aug 2020
- Student Advocacy.**  
The Tartan. *Title IX under review.* Mar. 2021  
PublicSource. *I came to Pittsburgh for higher education in 2017. It’s time to undo the harm Trump’s rhetoric and policies brought to international students.* Dec. 2020  
US News. *Study: International Student Numbers in U.S. Drop.* Nov. 2020  
Mother Jones. *Betsy DeVos Rewrote Campus Sexual Assault Rules, But Survivor Activists Aren’t Backing Down.* Aug 2020  
Pittsburgh Tribune Review. *Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, students join effort to overturn ICE rule to deport international students.* July 2020  
The Tartan. *Frustration with CMU Administration: An Ineffective Response to Racism on Campus.* June 2020  
Politico. *Grad Students Urge Against Limiting OPT Program.* June 2020  
Chronicle of Higher Education. *Trump Suspends Temporary Work Visas but—for Now—Leaves Alone a Program for International Students.* June 2020  
The Tech. *Graduate students write letter to Trump in support of OPT and international students.* June 2020  
Pittsburgh Tribune Review. *Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, students join effort to overturn ICE rule to deport international students.* June 2020

PublicSource. *Planning amid the pandemic: An effort to steer Oakland's development* April 2020  
may have to reflect the new reality.

PBS Newshour. *Student scientists, athletes and artists miss opportunities when learning moves online.* Mar. 2020

## Op-Eds

- [1] **High Skills Immigration A National Security Issue.** National Defense Magazine.
- [2] **A Step Forward in Mitigating Existential Threats.** Federation of American Scientists.
- [3] **Stop Turning Away The Next Einsteins.** The Dispatch.
- [4] **Looking Beyond the Ballot Box: A Holistic View of Nonpartisan Democratic Engagement.** Forbes.
- [5] **Attracting (and Keeping) the Best and the Brightest.** Issues in Science and Technology.
- [6] **I came to Pittsburgh for higher education in 2017. It's time to undo the harm Trump's rhetoric and policies brought to international students.** PublicSource.

## Policy Memos

- [1] **Improving Graduate Student Mentorship by Investing in Traineeship Grants.** Institute for Progress and Day One Project.

## Peer Reviewed Publications

- [1] **Practical Benefits of Feature Feedback Under Distribution Shift.** Anurag Katakkar, Clay Yoo, Weiqin Wang, Zachary Lipton, Divyansh Kaushik. BlackboxNLP Workshop, 2022.
- [2] **Impact of International Scientists, Researchers, and Students on the Research Output of U.S. Universities. (Journal Cover)** Sarah M. Rovito, Divyansh Kaushik, Surya D. Aggarwal. MIT Science Policy Review, 2021.
- [3] **On the Efficacy of Adversarial Data Collection for Question Answering: Results from a Large-Scale Randomized Study.** Divyansh Kaushik, Douwe Kiela, Zachary Lipton, Scott Yih. Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL; **Oral**), 2021.
- [4] **Dynabench: Rethinking Benchmarking in NLP.** Douwe Kiela, Max Bartolo, Yixin Nie, Divyansh Kaushik, Atticus Geiger, Zhengxuan Wu, Bertie Vidgen, Grusha Prasad, Amanpreet Singh, Pratik Ringshia, Zhiyi Ma, Tristan Thrush, Sebastian Riedel, Zeerak Waseem, Pontus Stenetorp, Robin Jia, Mohit Bansal, Christopher Potts, Adina Williams. North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2021.
- [5] **Explaining the Efficacy of Counterfactually Augmented Data.** Divyansh Kaushik, Amrith Setlur, Eduard Hovy, Zachary Lipton. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2021.
- [6] **Learning the Difference that Makes a Difference with Counterfactually-Augmented Data (Spotlight).** Divyansh Kaushik, Eduard Hovy, Zachary Lipton. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2020.
- [7] **Domain Adaptation with Asymmetrically-Relaxed Distribution Alignment.** Yifan Wu, Ezra Winston, Divyansh Kaushik, Zachary Lipton. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML; **Oral**), 2019.

- [8] **How Much Reading Does Reading Comprehension Require? A Critical Investigation of Popular Benchmarks (Best Paper)**. Divyansh Kaushik, Zachary Lipton. Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP; Oral), 2018.
- [9] **Making Travel Smarter: Extracting Travel Information From Email Itineraries Using Named Entity Recognition**. Divyansh Kaushik, Shashank Gupta, Chakradhar Raju, Reuben Dias, Sanjib Ghosh. Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP), 2017.
- [10] **Application of Data Mining for High Accuracy Prediction of Breast Tissue Biopsy Results**. Divyansh Kaushik, Karamjit Kaur. Digital Information Processing, Data Mining, and Wireless Communications (DIPDMWC), 2016.

## Preprints

- [1] **Resolving Human Subjects Status of Machine Learning’s Crowdworkers** Divyansh Kaushik, Zachary Lipton, Alex John London.

## Works In Progress

- [1] **Evaluating Reliability of Evidence Extractors Under Plausible Distribution Shifts**. Divyansh Kaushik, Bilal Zafar, Matthew Lease, Zachary Lipton, Krishnaram Kenthapadi.

## Work Experience

- 2022      Research Intern, Salesforce**  
Creating a toolkit to perform human evaluations of generative models.
- 2021      Research Intern, Amazon AWS**  
Studying the robustness and reliability of interpretability methods in NLP.
- 2020      Student Researcher, Facebook AI Research**  
Studying adversarial data collection and potential benefits vis-a-vis generalization out-of-domain.
- 2020      Research Intern, Facebook AI Research**  
Helped build Dynabench and studied adversarial data collection.
- 2017      Research Intern, Amadeus**  
Studied named entity recognition in travel itineraries.

## Civic Engagement and Service on University Committees

- 2021-2023      President**, Carnegie Mellon University Graduate Student Assembly
- 2019-2022      Steering Committee Member**, City of Pittsburgh’s Oakland Neighborhood Plan
- 2019-2021      Vice President (External Affairs)**, Carnegie Mellon University Graduate Student Assembly
- 2021            Founding Member**, White House COVID-19 Community Corps
- 2021            Advisory Board Member**, Students Learn Students Vote Coalition
- 2021-2022      Member**, University-Leadership Students Advisory Council
- 2021-2022      Graduate Student Representative**, University Hourly-Wage Workers Compensation Working Group

- 2021-2022**      **Graduate Student Representative**, University Academic Calendar Innovation Committee
- 2021**            **Graduate Student Representative**, LTI Faculty Hiring Student Advisory Group
- 2020-2021**    **Member**, University-Leadership Students Advisory Council
- 2018-2019**    **Chair of Federal Advocacy**, Carnegie Mellon University Graduate Student Assembly
- 2018**            **Search Committee Member**, University Search Committee for the Executive Director of Counseling and Psychological Services
- 2018-2019**    **Member**, University-Leadership Students Advisory Council

## References

Available on request.