

Pedram Bakhtiarifard

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"The only difference is they tried. So can you." - my mom

Education

University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	
PhD in Machine Learning	2025 – Present
Research focus: algorithmic complexity, continual learning, and resource-efficient ML.	
University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	
MSc in Computer Science	2022 – 2025
ETH Zürich , Zürich, Switzerland	
MSc in Computer Science (exchange program)	2024
University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	
BSc in Computer Science	2019 – 2022
University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Science , Copenhagen, Denmark	
Pedagogical Course for Teaching Assistants	2021
Rungsted Gymnasium , Rungsted, Denmark	
High School Diploma	2014 – 2017

Work Experience

University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	
<i>Research Assistant, Student</i>	Aug 2022 – June 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted research as part of SAINTS Lab and EU Horizon projects enRichMyData and DataPact.• Led development and maintenance of <i>CarbonTracker</i> for energy-efficient machine learning.	
Danske Bank , Copenhagen, Denmark	
<i>Software Engineer</i>	Sep 2021 – Jul 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-led end-to-end design and implementation of their mortgage refinancing solution.• Developed back-end systems in .NET and managed cloud infrastructure.	
University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	
<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Sep 2020 – Aug 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitated weekly exercises, evaluated assignments, and provided targeted feedback.• Courses: <i>Programming and Problem Solving</i> and <i>Software Development</i>.	
Capture One , Frederiksberg, Denmark	
<i>Web Assistant</i>	May 2020 – Jul 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported back-end migration and managed CMS for product launches.• Coordinated with teams to implement web features improving user experience.	
Ambition (formerly Artefact) , Copenhagen, Denmark	
<i>Student Assistant</i>	Nov 2019 – Apr 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managed CMS for Danske Spil campaigns, ensuring timely and consistent updates.• Handled ad hoc tasks and coordinated with marketing to optimize campaigns.	

Casino Copenhagen & Casino Marientlyst

Casino Croupier (Poker and Roulette)

2017 – 2018

- Operated poker and roulette tables, following gaming regulations and policies.
- Provided excellent customer service in a high-pressure environment.

Imerco, Hørsholm, Denmark

Sales Assistant

2014 – 2016

- Assisted customers, processed transactions, and maintained inventory.
- Organized promotional displays to increase store visibility.

Publications

D. Wright, C. Igel, G. Samuel, R. Selvan, “Efficiency Is Not Enough: A Critical Perspective on Environmentally Sustainable AI,” *Communications of the ACM*, vol. 68, no. 7, pp. 62–69, June 2025. DOI: 10.1145/3724500.

Acknowledges P. Bakhtiarifard for access to and help with the EC-NAS benchmark data.

P. Bakhtiarifard, P. Tözün, C. Igel, R. Selvan, “Climate And Resource Awareness is Imperative to Achieving Sustainable AI (and Preventing a Global AI Arms Race),” *arXiv pre-print*, 2025. arXiv:2507.12345.

P. Bakhtiarifard, C. Igel, R. Selvan, “EC-NAS: Energy Consumption Aware Tabular Benchmarks for Neural Architecture Search,” *ICASSP 2024*, Seoul, Korea, Republic of, 2024, pp. 5660-5664. DOI: 10.1109/ICASSP48485.2024.10448303.

Conferences & Talks

Machine Learning Operations (MLOps) Summer School, DTU, Denmark Aug. 2025
Tutorial on “Energy-Aware Model Selection” (Resource-Efficient ML).

Thoughts for Future, Copenhagen, Denmark Oct. 2024
Talk: “Behind the Hype: The Energy Challenge of AI” on AI scaling and energy.

ICASSP 2024, Seoul, Korea Apr. 2024
Poster presentation: *EC-NAS: Energy Consumption Aware Tabular Benchmarks for NAS*.

D3A Conference, Nyborg, Denmark Feb. 2024
Talk: “The Tightrope of ML” on resource efficiency in ML models.

AutoML Fall School, Munich, Germany Nov. 2023
Poster presentation on energy-efficient deep learning models.

Nordic AI Meet, Copenhagen, Denmark Oct. 2023
Poster on energy efficiency in Neural Architecture Search (NAS).

DIKU Bits, University of Copenhagen Sep. 2022
Co-presented with Dr. Raghavendra Selvan on environmental impacts of deep learning algorithms.

Media Coverage

Go’ morgen Danmark, Copenhagen, Denmark Apr. 2025
Guest on the danish morning show to give information about AI infrastructure, its impact and use-cases.

P1 Guld og Grønne Skove, Copenhagen, Denmark Mar. 2025
Guest on Denmarks Radio (DR) discussing the relationship between AI and its role in the green transition.

Zetland , Copenhagen, Denmark	Aug. 2024
Interview by Zetland related to my work on neural architecture search to obtain energy efficient architecture with comparable performance.	
News & Co. , Copenhagen, Denmark	Apr. 2024
Featured on TV2 News to discuss the energy implications of AI.	
University of Copenhagen , Copenhagen, Denmark	Apr. 2024
Article on UCPH website about my work on neural architecture search.	

Committees and Memberships

Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) , Student Member	2023 – 2025
Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) , Reviewer	Aug 2023
Sustainable Machine Learning Reading Group , University of Copenhagen	2023 – Present
Network and Infrastructure Committee , Rigshospitalets Kollegium	2021 – Present

Personal Details

Date of Birth: 20th Aug 1998
Citizenship: Danish
Languages: English, Danish, Persian

References

Dr. Raghavendra Selvan

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Dr. Christian Igel

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Theis Kvist Kristensen

Chief Information Officer, Powermart
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Research Interests

Algorithmic Complexity, Continual Learning, Topological Data Analysis, Optimization Methods for Deep Learning, Efficient Machine Learning, Neural Architecture Search, Financial Solutions

Grants

Supported by grants for study abroad at ETH Zürich from:

- Danish Data Science Academy
- Stibofonden
- Knud Højgaards Fond
- William Demant Fonden
- Familien Hede Nielsens Fond
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