

Arnol Manuel Fokam

MSc Student in Computer Science, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Reinforcement Learning, Representation Learning, Contrastive Learning

SKILLS

- **Frameworks:** JAX, PyTorch
- **Softwares:** Latex, Slurm, Linux
- **Programming Languages:** Python, Javascript, C/C++

EDUCATION

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa Mar 2022 - Feb 2024
Master of Science (Dissertation) in Computer Science, GPA: *upon thesis submission*
Thesis: A Novel Data Augmentation Framework for Contrastive Self-Supervised Learning.

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa Mar 2021 - Feb 2022
Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Computer Science, GPA: 84.4/100
Thesis: Influence of Contrastive Learning on Source Code Plagiarism Detection.

University of Buea, Cameroon Oct 2016 - Dec 2019
Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics (Minor in Computer Science), GPA: 3.12/4.00
Thesis: Introduction to Quantum Computing (Theory and Applications).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Engineer Intern (Remote), InstaDeep, Johannesburg, South Africa Aug 2023 – Jan 2024
Developing **quality diversity** algorithms to evolve bin-packing environments for **reinforcement learning** with Python/JAX.

Software Developer Intern (Remote), Boostasoft (Startup), France Feb 2020 – Feb 2021
Did web and mobile development using Javascript.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa Mar 2022 – Nov 2023

- Adaptive Computation and Machine Learning, 2022
- Natural Language Processing, 2022
- High-Performance Computing, 2023
- Digital Image Processing, 2023
- Reinforcement Learning, 2023
- Natural Language Processing, 2023

PUBLICATIONS

The Impact of Data Corruption on Named Entity Recognition for Low-resourced Languages.

ArXiv preprint, 2023.

Manuel Fokam and Michael Beukman

Analysing Cross-Lingual Transfer in Low-Resourced African Named Entity Recognition.

13th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing and the 3rd Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, 2023.

Michael Beukman, Manuel Fokam

Hierarchically Composing Level Generators for the Creation of Complex Structures.

IEEE Transactions on Games, 2023.

Michael Beukman, Manuel Fokam, Marcel Kruger, Guy Axelrod, Muhammad Nasir, Branden Ingram, Benjamin Rosman, Steven James

Influence of Contrastive Learning on Source Code Plagiarism Detection through Recursive Neural Networks.
3rd International Multidisciplinary Information Technology and Engineering Conference (IMITEC), 2021.
Manuel A. Fokam and Ritesh Ajoodha

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

DeepMind Scholarship for MSc, 2022 - 2023

Postgraduate Merit Award, 2021-2022

Runner-up Minecraft Open-Endedness Challenge, GECCO, 2022

Dean's List Honours for BSc (Hons), 2021

EXTRA-CURRICULARS

Workshop Organizer at the Deep Learning Indaba, 2022.

Member of the Procedural Content Generation Interest Group, 2022

LANGUAGES

Fluent in English, French

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Chess, Basketball