

Tim Rocktäschel

Curriculum Vitae

Employment

Industry

- 11/2024 – present **Director / Principal Scientist**, *Google DeepMind*, UK
Open-Endedness Team Lead.
- 05/2022 – 10/2024 **Senior Staff Research Scientist (L7)**, *Google DeepMind*, UK
Open-Endedness Team Lead.
- 09/2021 – 04/2022 **Manager, Research Scientist (M1)**, *Facebook AI Research (FAIR) London*, UK
Reinforcement Learning Team Lead and Area Lead.
- 03/2021 – 08/2021 **Research Scientist (E6)**, *Facebook AI Research (FAIR) London*, UK
- 08/2018 – 02/2021 **Research Scientist (E5)**, *Facebook AI Research (FAIR) London*, UK
- 05 – 09/2015 **Research Intern**, *Google DeepMind*, London, UK

Academic Appointments

- 10/2023 – present **Professor of Artificial Intelligence**, *Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Dept. of Computer Science, University College London*, UK
- 10/2024 – present **Fellow**, *European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS)*
- 10/2021 – 09/2023 **Associate Professor**, *Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Dept. of Computer Science, University College London*, UK
- 12/2020 – 10/2024 **Scholar**, *European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS)*
- 08/2018 – 09/2021 **Assistant Professor (Lecturer)**, *Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Dept. of Computer Science, University College London*, UK
- 10/2017 – 08/2018 **Junior Research Fellow**, *Jesus College, University of Oxford*, UK
- 10/2017 – 08/2018 **Stipendiary Lecturer**, *Hertford College, University of Oxford*, UK
College tutor in functional and imperative programming.
- 05/2017 – 08/2018 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *Dept. of Computer Science, University of Oxford*, UK
Researcher on reinforcement learning.
- 09/2012 – 07/2013 **Research Assistant**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Berlin, Germany
- 05/2010 – 06/2012 **Student Research Assistant**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Berlin, Germany

Education

- 09/2013 – 04/2017 **Ph.D.**, *Dept. of Computer Science, University College London*, UK
Topic: Combining Representation Learning with Logic for Language Processing
Advisors: Sebastian Riedel, Daniel Tarlow, Thore Graepel
Examiners: Charles Sutton, Luke Dickens
- 09/2006 – 06/2012 **Diplom Informatik (equivalent to M.Sc. Computer Science)**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Germany, Grade: 1.2 (equivalent to first-class honors)
Subsidiary field: Psychology
- 09/1999 – 07/2006 **Abitur**, *Heinrich-Hertz Oberschule Berlin*, Germany, Grade: 1.5
Advanced courses: Mathematics, Computer Science

Achievements

Awards and Competitions

- 2024 ICML 2024 Best Paper Award for "Genie: Generative Interactive Environments"
- 2024 ICML 2024 Best Paper Award for "Debating with More Persuasive LLMs Leads to More Truthful Answers"
- 2022 ICLR 2022 Highlighted Area Chair Award
- 2021 ICLR 2021 Outstanding Area Chair Award
- 2020 Best Paper Award at AKBC for "How Context Affects Language Models' Factual Predictions"
- 2016 Best Paper Award at EMNLP Workshop on "Natural Language Processing for Social Media (SocialNLP)" for "emoji2vec: Learning Emoji Representations from their Description"
- 2016 Best Poster Award for "Reasoning about Entailment with Neural Attention" at UCL's Launch of the GPU Developers Forum sponsored by NVIDIA
- 2014 Google Exceptional Submission Award at ACL Workshop on "Semantic Parsing (SP14)" for paper on "Low-Dimensional Embeddings of Logic"
- 2013 Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Computer Science faculty award for exceptional diploma thesis "Joint Extraction of Proteins and Bio-Molecular Events using Imperatively Defined Factor Graphs"
- 2013 Third place in the BioCreative IV CHEMDNER CDI task
- 2013 First place in the SemEval DDIEExtraction 2013 Task 9.1, and second place in Task 9.2

Fellowships

- 2017 Junior Research Fellow in Computer Science at Jesus College, University of Oxford
- 2017 Google Ph.D. Fellowship in Natural Language Processing
- 2013 Microsoft Research Ph.D. Scholarship

Professional Service

Senior Area Chair

- 2025 International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)
- 2023 – 2025 Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- 2023 – 2024 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)

Area Chair

- 2021 International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)
- 2021 – 2022 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- 2020 – 2022 Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- 2019 Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), *Machine Learning*
- 2019 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), *Question Answering*
- 2019 Conference on Automated Knowledge Base Construction (AKBC), *Machine Learning*
- 2018 The SIGNLL Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL)

Editor

- 2021 – 2022 Topic Editor for *Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence: "Learning for Structured Knowledge, Reasoning, and Planning"*

Workshop Organization

- 2023 Advisor of the NeurIPS workshop on "Agent Learning in Open-Endedness (ALOE)"
- 2022 Advisor of the NeurIPS workshop on "Language and Reinforcement Learning (LaReL)"
- 2022 Co-organizer of the ICLR workshop on "Agent Learning in Open-Endedness (ALOE)"
- 2020 Co-organizer of the ICML workshop on "Language in Reinforcement Learning (LaReL)"

- 2018 Co-organizer of the ICML workshop on "Neural Abstract Machines & Program Induction (NAMPI)"
 - 2017 Co-organizer of the NeurIPS workshop on "Automated Knowledge Base Construction (AKBC)"
 - 2017 Co-organizer of the UAI workshop on "Statistical Relational AI (StarAI)"
 - 2016 Co-organizer of the NeurIPS workshop on "Neural Abstract Machines & Program Induction (NAMPI)"
 - 2016 Co-organizer of the NAACL workshop on "Automated Knowledge Base Construction (AKBC)"
- [Program Committee](#)
- journals Transactions of the ACL (2019–2021), Journal for AI Research (2017, 2018), Journal for ML Research (2017), Neural Networks (2017), BMC Bioinformatics (2017), Journal of Cheminformatics (2014)
 - conferences NeurIPS (2016–2019, top 50% reviewer in 2019), ICML (2018–2020, top 33% reviewer in 2020), ICLR (2018–2020,2025), AAAI 2019, IJCAI 2019, EMNLP (2015–2018), WWW 2018, ACL (2017, 2016), EACL 2017, COLING 2016, ISWC 2016, *SEM (2016, 2015)
 - workshops MRQA 2019, FEVER 2019, RepL4NLP (2018, 2017), Ethics in NLP 2017, StarAI 2016, NAACL-HLT SRC 2016, LD4IE 2016, KRR 2015, AKBC 2014, AHA! 2014
- [Grant Review Panels](#)
- 2020 EPSRC Turing AI Acceleration Fellowship
 - 2019 – 2021 The Royal Society International Exchange Committee
 - 2019 The Leverhulme Trust
- [Examinations](#)
- 2024 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Borja Gonzalez Leon*, Advised by Murray Shanahan, Imperial College London
 - 2023 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Cong Lu*, Advised by Michael Osborne, University of Oxford
 - 2023 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Edoardo Cetin*, Advised by Oya Celiktutan Dikici, King's College London
 - 2022 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Harrison Edwards*, Advised by Amos Storkey, University of Edinburgh
 - 2022 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D of Nuri Cingillioglu*, Advised by Alessandra Russo, Imperial College London
 - 2022 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Rémy Portelas*, Advised by Pierre-Yves Oudeyer, Inria Bordeaux
 - 2021 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Roberta Raileanu*, Advised by Rob Fergus, New York University
 - 2021 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Ivana Balazevic*, Advised by Timothy Hospedales, University of Edinburgh
 - 2021 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Nina Poerner*, Advised by Hinrich Schuetze, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität
 - 2021 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Marcel Hildebrandt*, Advised by Volker Tresp, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität
 - 2020 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Marta Garnelo Abellanas*, Advised by Murray Shanahan, Imperial College London
 - 2020 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Paweł Budzianowski*, Advised by Richard Turner and Anna Korhonen, University of Cambridge
 - 2019 **External Examiner**, *Ph.D. of Ioannis Alexandros Assael*, Advised by Shimon Whiteson, University of Oxford
- [Other](#)
- 2024 Mentor at the Women in Machine Learning (WiML) Symposium, ICML in Vienna, Austria
 - 2019 Mentor at the Workshop for Women in Machine Learning (WiML), NeurIPS in Vancouver, Canada

- 2019 Panel Chair at the EurNLP 2019 Summit
- 2017 Mentor for in2scienceUK High School research interns Sam Branney and Kieran O'Donovan, University of Oxford

Invited Talks

Conferences & Workshops

- 2025 **Open-Endedness, World Models, and the Automation of Innovation**
Keynote Speaker at ICLR 2025.
- 2025 **Scaling Foundation World Models**
Invited speaker at the ICLR 2025 Workshop on World Models: Understanding, Modelling and Scaling.
- 2020 **A Shot at Bridging the Knowledge Gap in Reinforcement Learning**
Invited speaker at the NeurIPS 2020 Workshop on Knowledge Representation & Reasoning Meets Machine Learning (KR2ML).
- The NetHack Learning Environment**
Invited speaker at the ICML 2020 Workshop on Learning in Artificial Open Worlds (LAOW).
- 2019 **Learning with Explanations**, *Brussels*, Belgium
Invited speaker at the first workshop on Fact Extraction and Verification (FEVER).
- 2018 **End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *Alan Turing Institute*, UK
Invited speaker at the Logic and Learning workshop.
- 2017 **Deep Prolog: End-to-End Differentiable Proving in Knowledge Bases**
Invited speaker at the 2nd Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Theorem Proving (AITP 2017).

Seminars

- 2025 **Open-Endedness, World Models, and the Automation of Innovation**
Invited speaker at the Max Planck Institute Tübingen 2025 Special Symposium on Intelligent Systems.
- 2022 **Open-ended Learning**, *University College London*, UK
Invited talk at the Seminar in Emerging Topics in Integrated Machine Learning Systems.
- 2021 **The NetHack Learning Environment**, *Queen Mary University*, UK
Invited talk at the Queen Mary Game AI Seminar Series.
- Knowledge Intensive Reinforcement Learning**, *Stanford University*, US
Invited talk at the Stanford NLP Seminar Series.
- 2019 **Learning with Explanations**, *University of Edinburgh*, UK
Invited talk at the the Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation (ILCC) Seminar.
- 2018 **Learning with Explanations**, *University of Cambridge*, Cambridge, UK
Invited talk at the Language Technology Lab (LTT) Seminars.
- AI – The Good, the Bad & the Ugly**, *University of Oxford*, UK
Invited talk at the Saïd Business School's Oxford Disruptive Tech Week.
- Deep Learning with Explanations**, *TU Darmstadt*, Germany
Invited talk at the Adaptive Preparation of Information from Heterogeneous Sources (AIPHES) research training group.
- Deep Learning with Explanations**, *Imperial College London*, UK
Invited talk at the Structured and Probabilistic Intelligent Knowledge Engineering (SPIKE) group.
- 2017 **End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *University of Oxford*, UK
Invited talk at the Future of Humanity Institute.
- 2016 **What Can Deep Learning Learn from Symbolic Inference?**, *Imperial College London*, UK
Invited talk at the Biologically Inspired Computer Vision Group.
- Strong Structural Priors for Neural Network Architectures**, *University of Cambridge*, UK
Invited talk at the Natural Language and Information Processing Seminar Series.
- Reasoning about Entailment with Neural Attention**, *University of Sheffield*, UK
Invited talk at the Natural Language Processing Group Seminar.

- 2015 **Reasoning about Entailment with Neural Attention**, *German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence Berlin*, Germany
Invited talk.
- Injecting Logical Background Knowledge into Embeddings for Relation Extraction**, *University of Cambridge*, UK
Invited talk at the Natural Language and Information Processing Seminar Series.
- 2014 **Relation Extraction with Low-rank Logic**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Germany
Invited talk at the Knowledge Management for Bioinformatics research seminar.
- 2012 **Joint Extraction of Proteins and Bio-Molecular Events using Imperatively Defined Factor Graphs**, *University of Mannheim*, Germany
- Industry & Public Events**
- 2021 **Advancing Deep Reinforcement Learning with NetHack**
Invited interview at the TWIML AI Podcast.
- 2020 **The NetHack Learning Environment**
Invited interview at the weights&biases Podcast.
- Deep reinforcement learning, symbolic learning and the road to AGI**
Invited interview at the Towards Data Science Podcast.
- The NetHack Learning Environment**
Invited talk at the FiveAI Seminar Series.
- 2019 **Learning with Explanations**, *London*, UK
Invited talk at the London Machine Learning Meetup.
- 2017 **GPU-accelerated Deep Neural Networks for End-to-End Differentiable Planning and Reasoning**, *Munich*, Germany
Invited speaker at the GPU Technology Conference Europe (GTC Europe 2017).
- End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *Google Mountain View*, USA
Invited talk at Google Research.
- End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *DeepMind*, UK
Invited talk at DeepMind.
- End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *London*, UK
Invited talk at the South England Natural Language Processing Meetup.
- End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *Allen Institute for AI*, USA
Interview at the NLP Highlights Podcast.
- End-to-End Differentiable Proving**, *London*, UK
Invited talk at the London Machine Learning Meetup.

Teaching

- 2024 – present **Lecturer, Module Lead**, University College London, UK
Open-Endedness and General Intelligence. Designed and taught new course.
- 2019 – 2022 **Lecturer, Course Organizer**, University College London, UK
Statistical Natural Language Processing. Co-designed and taught new course with focus on Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing.
Average student course rating (1 very good – 5 very bad) in 2019: 1.62 (lecturer), 1.98 (overall course); 2021: 1.56 (lecturer), 2.12 (overall course).
- 2019 **Lecturer**, *First Summer School on Deep Learning in NLP at RANLP*, Varna, Bulgaria
Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing.
- 2017 – 2018 **Stipendiary Lecturer**, *Computer Science*, Hertford College, University of Oxford, UK
College Tutor in Functional Programming.
- Lecturer**, *Second International Summer School on Data Science (SSDS 2017)*, Split, Croatia
Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing.

- 2015 **Tutor**, *Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, Beijing, China
Matrix and Tensor Factorization for Natural Language Processing.
- 2014 – 2015 **Guest Lecturer**, *General Assembly Data Science Course*, UK
A Primer on Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing.
- 2014 & 2016 **Guest Lecturer**, *University College London*, UK
Statistical Natural Language Processing.
- 2013 – 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, *University College London*, UK
Object-Oriented Programming.
- 2012 **Teaching Assistant**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Germany
Seminar Applied Text Mining.
- 2009 **Tutor**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*, Germany

Supervision

- 2025 – present **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Nathan Herr, Ph.D. Student
- 2023 – present **Co-supervisor**, *University of Oxford*, UK
Samuel Coward, D.Phil. Student
- 2023 – present **Co-supervisor**, *University of Oxford*, UK
Jonathan Cook, D.Phil. Student
- 2023 – present **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Davide Paglieri, Ph.D. Student
- 2021 – present **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Laura Ruis, Ph.D. Student, CDT in Foundational AI
- 2021 – present **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Yingchen Xu, Ph.D. Student
- 2021 – 2025 **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Akhir Khan, Ph.D. Student, CDT in Foundational AI
- 2020 – 2025 **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Robert Kirk, Ph.D. Student, CDT in Foundational AI
- 2020 – 2024 **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Zhengyao Jiang, Ph.D. Student
- 2020 – 2024 **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Mikayel Samvelyan, Ph.D. Student
- 2019 – 2023 **Supervisor**, *University College London*, UK
Minqi Jiang, Ph.D. Student

Publications

See <https://rockt.github.io/publications.html>.

References

Available upon request.