

Niels van Berkel, Professor

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Nationality: Dutch

Date of Birth: 7th October, 1991

Appointments

Aalborg University, Human-Centered Computing Group, Denmark.

- October 2024–Present. Professor of Human-Computer Interaction

- August 2023–Present. Research Group Leader

- July 2021–September 2024. Associate Professor of Human-Computer Interaction

- Jan 2020–June 2021. Assistant Professor (tenure track)

University College London, UCL Interaction Centre, United Kingdom.

- April 2019–Dec 2019. Postdoctoral Research Fellow

University of Melbourne, Human-Computer Interaction Group, Australia.

- April 2017–April 2019. Ph.D. candidate (transferred in)

University of Oulu, Center for Ubiquitous Computing, Finland.

- May 2015–April 2017. Ph.D. candidate (transferred out)

Visiting/Honorary Appointments:

Orygen, National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health, Australia.

- Nov 2017–Feb 2018. Visiting researcher

Microsoft Research, Advanced Technology Group, USA.

- April 2016–July 2016. Research intern

Philips Research, Smart Professional Spaces, the Netherlands.

- Oct 2014–April 2015. Research intern

Education

Dec 2019. Ph.D. Computer Science & Engineering, University of Melbourne, Australia.

Dissertation: *Data Quality and Quantity in Mobile Experience Sampling*.

April 2015. M.Sc., Interaction Technology, University of Twente, the Netherlands.

Aug 2012. B.Sc., ICT & Media Design, Fontys University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands.

Awards and distinctions

2024. Honourable Mention Award - ACM CHI

2024. Honourable Mention Award - ACM DIS

2023. Reviewers' Choice Award - IFIP INTERACT

2022. Honourable Mention Award - ACM MobileHCI

2022. Honourable Mention Award - ACM DIS

2019. Distinguished Paper Award - ACM IMWUT

2018. Excellence in Tutoring Award (top 5 tutors) - University of Melbourne

2017. Best Paper Award - OzCHI

2016. Microsoft - 1st place //oneweek hackaton Consumer category

2016. Microsoft - 2nd place //oneweek hackaton Disruptive Innovation

2013. Twente Student Conference on IT: Best Paper Award - Track Intelligent Interaction

Grants

2025–2026. Strategic Artificial Intelligence in Logistics: Enhancing Human-Machine Interactions for Port Digitalization. Villum Foundation: Villum Synergy. Principal Investigator (3,994,037 DKK).

2025–2027. Emotions as Complex Systems: Non-Linear Approaches to Real-World Emotions. Australian Research Council, Discovery Project. Partner Investigator (\$417,743 AUD).

2022–2025. Algorithmic Explainability for Everyday Citizens. Carlsberg Foundation: Semper Ardens Accelerate (CF21-0159). Principal Investigator (5,200,000 DKK).

2022. University of Oulu. International GenZ visiting scholar programme (€2,500).

2022. Danish Data Science Academy. Workshop proposal 'Responsible Machine Learning for Healthcare'. Co-applicant with Eike Petersen et al. (100,000 DKK).

2021–2025. Learning to Collaborate via Explainable AI in Medical Education. Digital Research Centre Denmark (EXPLAIN-ME). Co-investigator with Aasa Feragen et al. (responsible 3,455,069 DKK, total 29,193.570 DKK).

2021–2025. Human-AI collaboration: Engaging and controlling swarms of Robots and Drones. Digital Research Centre Denmark (HERD). Co-investigator with Anders Lyhne Christensen et al. (responsible 2,160,000 DKK, total 12,672,000 DKK).

2019. Cancer Research UK. Early Detection Innovation Award. Co-investigator with Lyndon Smith (£40,000).

2018. Google Ph.D. Fellowship in Human-Computer Interaction. Personal research grant (\$15,000 AUD).

2018. Robert Bage Memorial Scholarship. Personal research grant (\$5,000 AUD).

2018. ACM UbiComp/ISWC. Student Travel Grant (\$2,450).

2017. University of Melbourne. Research Scholarship (\$172,500 AUD).

2017. Elisa HPY Research Foundation. Personal research grant (€3,000).

2017. Walter Ahlström Foundation. Personal research grant (€5,500).

2017. Google Ph.D. Travel Scholarship. Personal research grant (\$2,400 AUD).

2017. University of Melbourne, School of Engineering. Conference travel scholarship (\$3,900 AUD).

2016. University of Oulu. UniOGS travel grant (€1,500).

2016. Nokia Foundation Scholarship. Personal research grant (€5,000).

Invited talks

2024. University College Dublin (Ireland). Human-Computer Interaction research group.

2024. Copenhagen University (Denmark). Human-centred AI in healthcare.

2023. Nokia Bell Labs (UK). Virtual Engagement Session on Research Diversity.

2023. University of Tokyo (Japan). Symposium on Human-AI Interaction.

2023. University Alliance Ruhr (Germany). Research Center Trustworthy Data Science and Security.

2023. University of Oulu (Finland). Mobile Computing.

2023. University of Duisburg-Essen (Germany).

2022. Sorbonne University (France). Seminar Human-AI Collaboration.

2022. Danish Data Science – Session (Un)code the bias: Algorithmic Fairness in Data Science (Denmark).

2022. Copenhagen University, Department of Computer Science (Denmark).

2022. ACM CIKM – Workshop Advances in Interpretable ML and AI (USA).

2022. Danish Pioneer Centre for AI (Denmark).

2021. RMIT University, Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making and Society (Australia).

2021. Nordic Observatory of Artificial Intelligence (Sweden).

2020. National University of Costa Rica (Costa Rica).

2020. University of Leuven (Belgium).

2020. University of Manchester (UK), Graham Dunn Seminar.

2019. University College London (UK), Explainable AI Interest Group.

Organisation and Editorials

2019–present. International Journal of Human-Computer Studies, Editorial Board Member.

2024. ACM CSCW, Paper Awards Committee.

2024. ACM MobileHCI, Technical Program Chair.

2024. Behaviour & Information Technology, Guest Editor Special Issue on Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence: Concepts, Methods and Applications.

2024. ACM CHI, Organiser for workshop on Human-Centered Explainable AI (HCXAI): Reloading Explainability in the Era of Large Language Models.

2023. Danish HCI day.

2023. ACM CSCW, Awards Committee.

2023. ACM CSCW, Proceedings & Publications Chair.

2023. ACM CSCW, Organiser for workshop on Understanding and Mitigating Cognitive Biases in Human-AI Collaboration.

2021. ACM CHI, Session Chair (Conversation, Communication & Collaborative AI).

2022. ACM TiiS, Editorial Program Committee Special Issue on Human-Centered Explainable AI.

2022. Danish Data Science Academy. Organiser for workshop on Responsible Machine Learning for Healthcare.

2022. NordiCHI, Session Chair (Remote work and Human-centered AI).

2021. ACM CHI, Session Chair (Combining Digital and Analogue Presence in Online Work).

2021. ACM CHI, Organiser for workshop on 2VT: Visions, Technologies, and Visions of Technologies for Understanding Human Scale Spaces.
 2021. ACM CHI, Organiser workshop on Emergent Interaction: Complexity, Dynamics, and Enaction in HCI.
 2020. ACM CHI, Data and PCS Chair.
 2020. ACM UbiComp, Organiser workshop on UbiTtention: 5th International Workshop on Smart & Ambient Notification and Attention Management.
 2020. Organising Committee Society for Ambulatory Assessment Conference.
 2019. International Journal of Human-Computer Studies, Guest Editor Special Issue on Human Accuracy in Mobile Data Collection.
 2019. ACM CHI, Assistant to Technical Program Chairs.
 2018. ACM UbiComp, Organiser workshop on Mobile Human Contributions: Opportunities and Challenges.
 2018. ACM UbiComp, Organiser workshop on Sensors & Behaviour.
 2018. ACM UbiComp, Student Volunteer Chair.
 2017. ACM UbiComp, Student Volunteer.
 2016. ACM UbiComp, Student Volunteer.

Technical Program
Committee Member

2025. ACM DIS, Associate Chair (AI and Design).
 2025. ACM CHI, Subcommittee Chair (Interaction Beyond the Individual).
 2025. ACM IUI workshop on STEP-HAI: Strengthening Human Engineering Psychology for Human-AI Interactions.
 2024. EUSSET ECSCW Exploratory Papers.
 2024. ACM CHI, Subcommittee Chair (Interaction Beyond the Individual).
 2024. NordiCHI.
 2024. Hybrid Human Artificial Intelligence workshop on Stimulating Cognitive Engagement in Hybrid Decision-Making.
 2023. ACM CHI, Associate Chair (Interaction Beyond the Individual).
 2022. ACM CHI, Associate Chair (Interaction Beyond the Individual).
 2022. NordiCHI.
 2022. ACM CHI workshop on Operationalizing Human-Centered Perspectives Explainable AI.
 2021. ACM CHI, Associate Chair (Interaction Beyond the Individual).
 2021. ACM OzCHI.
 2020. ACM DIS Provocations and Work in Progress.
 2020. ACM CHI Student Research Competition.
 2020. ACM CHI Late Breaking Work.
 2020. ACM OzCHI.
 2019. ACM OzCHI.
 2018. ACM BritishHCI.
 2018. ACM MUM.
 2018. ACM OzCHI.

Ph.D. supervision

2022–Present. Joel Wester (supervisor, with Henning Pohl).
 2022–Present. Sander de Jong (supervisor, with Rune Møberg Jacobsen).
 2022–Present. Maria-Theresa Bahodi (co-supervisor, with Timothy Merrit, Mikael B. Skov).
 2021–Present. Naja Kathrine Kollerup Als (supervisor, with Mikael B. Skov).
 2020–2022. Eike Schneiders (co-supervisor, with Jesper Kjeldskov, Mikael B. Skov).
 Dissertation: *Non-Dyadic Human-Robot Interaction: Concepts and Interaction Techniques*.

Researchers supervised

2024–Present. Samuel Rhys Cox (Postdoctoral researcher).
 2023–Present. Rune Møberg Jacobsen (Postdoctoral researcher).
 2023–Present. Helena Bøjer Djernæs (Research assistant).
 2022–2023. Anders Gammelgård-Larsen (Research assistant).

Visiting researchers

2024. Mateusz Dubiel, *University of Luxembourg*.
 2024. Aku Visuri, *University of Oulu*.
 2023. Haiyi Zhu, *Carnegie Mellon University*.
 2023. Benjamin Tag, *Monash University*.

2023. Tim Schrills, *University of Lübeck*.
2023. Ville Paananen, *University of Oulu*.
2022. Julien Delaunay, *University of Rennes, Inria*.
2022. Simo Hosio, *University of Oulu*.

Ph.D. thesis
examiner

2024. Pelin Karaturhan, *Koç University*. Exploring Conversational Agents' Reflective Capacities on Everyday Life Occasions.
2024. Hubert Dariusz Zając, *Copenhagen University*. It Takes a Village to Raise Clinical AI. Towards Clinical Usefulness of AI in Healthcare.
2023. Jeroen Weermeijer, *Leuven University*. Development of Tools for Personalized Mental Health Care - Clinical Use of Experience Sampling Methods.
2023. Julien Delaunay, *University of Rennes, Inria*. Explainability for Machine Learning Models: From Data Adaptability to User Perception.
2023. Alisa Ananjeva, *Aalborg University (Internal examiner)*. Reconciling the Competing Processes in a Digital Transformation Towards Sustainability.
2022. Oleksandra Vereschak, *Sorbonne University, Institute of Intelligent Systems and Robotics*. Understanding Human-AI Trust in the Context of Decision Making through the Lenses of Academia and Industry: Definitions, Factors, and Evaluation.
2022. Carlos Bailon Romacho, *University of Granada (International Doctorate expert report)*. Uncovering the relationship between mood and sport performance using context-aware mobile sensing.
2020. Allan Berrocal, *University of Geneva*. Peer-ceived Momentary Assessment: Empirical examination of a peer supported sensing method to augment personal sensing in human- computer interaction.

Reviewing

Journal reviewer for *ACM Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction, Elsevier International Journal of Human-Computer Studies, Proc. ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, Proc. ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies, ACM Transactions on Intelligent Interactive Systems, Springer Behavior Research Methods, ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems, IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, Elsevier Pervasive and Mobile Computing, Taylor & Francis Behaviour & Information Technology, SAGE Environment and Behavior, BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, IEEE Pervasive Computing, npj Digital Medicine, npj Mental Health Research, Elsevier SoftwareX, Elsevier Government Information Quarterly, Nature Machine Intelligence*.

Conference reviewer for *ACM CHI, ACM CSCW, ACM UbiComp, ACM WWW, ACM DIS, MobileHCI, ACM TEI, ACM CUI, ACM CHI Play, ACM HAI, ACM MUM, ACM ISWC, ACM ETRA, INTERACT, NordiCHI, OzCHI, BritishHCI, Aml, IPCAI, ICIS*.

Grant reviewer for *UK Medical Research Council, FWF Austrian Science Fund, DFG German Research Foundation, SNSF Swiss National Science Foundation*.

Teaching

Aalborg University

2023–Present. Lecturer, Human-Centered AI Interaction (DSNIXDB512).
2023–Present. Project supervision, Designing Interaction with Data (DSNIXDB510).
2023–Present. Semester coordinator, Interaction Design (Semester 6).
2023–Present. Semester coordinator, Interaction Design (Semester 5).
2022–Present. Lecturer, User Experience (DSNIXDB602).
2021–Present. Guest lecturer, Specialisation Course in Human-Computer Interaction (DSNDATFK312).
2021-2023. Project supervision, Bachelor's project (DSNIXDB610 / DSNSWB610).
2021–2022. Semester coordinator, Bachelor in IT - technology track (Semester 5).
2021–2022. Project supervision, Agile system development across projects (DSNBAITB510).
2021. Project supervision, Mobility (DSNSWK210).
2020–Present. Project supervision, Master's project (DSNIXDK401 / DSNIDAFK412 / DSNDATFK410).
2020–2022. Lecturer, Selected Topics in HCI (Social Computing) (DSNCSITK118).
2020. Project supervision, Interactive physical design (DSNIXDB501).
2020. Project supervision, Designing with Users (DSNIXDB301).
2020. Project supervision, Design Studio 2 (DSNIXDK201).

University of Melbourne

2018. Tutor, Social Computing (INFO90007).

- 2018. Tutor, Web Information Technologies (INFO30005).
- 2017. Tutor, Graphics and Interaction (COMP30019).
- 2017. Tutor, Fundamentals of Interaction Design (INFO10003).

University of Oulu

- 2015–2017. Teaching Assistant, Human-Computer Interaction (521145A).
- 2016–2017. Teaching Assistant, Applied Computing Project (521151A).
- 2017. Teaching Assistant, Mobile and Social Computing (521147S).
- 2016. Teaching Assistant, 3D Fabrication & Prototyping (521149S).

Awards

- 2024. Teacher of the Year at the Technical Faculty of IT and Design, Aalborg University
- 2024. Teacher of the Year at Department of Computer Science, Aalborg University
- 2023. Nomination for Teacher of the Year at Department of Computer Science, Aalborg University

Ph.D. courses

- 2024. Designing Human-Centred AI in Healthcare. Organised by Tariq Osman Andersen and Francisco Nunes. *Copenhagen University*.
- 2023. Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. In collaboration with Haiyi Zhu. *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Crowdsourcing Human Insight at Scale. In collaboration with Simo Hosio. *Aalborg University*.

M.Sc. theses supervision

- 2025. Simon Autzen *Aalborg University*.
- 2025. Daniel Paludan, Julie Fredsgård, Kasper Bährentz, *Aalborg University*.
- 2024. Mana Samiee, *University of Padova (Erasmus+)*.
- 2024. Valbjörn Jón Valbjörnsson, *Aalborg University*.
- 2024. Saif Ahmed Khan, *Aalborg University*.
- 2023. Badhumia Karunanithi, Cecilie Amalie Klein, Yannick Flink Christiansen, *Aalborg University*.
- 2023. Casper Corfitz Christensen, Anh Tuan Truong, Tommy Pham, *Aalborg University*.
- 2022. Anne Kathrine Petersen Bach, Jens Christian Brok, Trine Munch Nørgaard, *Aalborg University*.
- 2022. Nicolai Steen Bjerring, Christopher Kirkegaard Sørensen, Frederik Borre Jacobsen, *Aalborg University*.
- 2022. Alexander Rath Hakonsen, Thomas Ildstrøm, *Aalborg University*.
- 2022. Anders Solsbæk Ottosen, Mads Sigh Lund Andersen, Anne Schack Gustenhoff, *Aalborg University*.
- 2022. Markus Hegermann Jeppesen (with Eleftherios Papachristos), *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Hind Morzogh, Ridwan Asad Mohamed, *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Mikkel Agerbo Sahlholdt, *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Tummas Jóhan Sigvardsen, Stefan Bjerregaard Pedersen, Simon Bak Kjærulff (with Eleftherios Papachristos), *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Anja Ryom Jensen, Clara Sofie Rose, Gustav Breindahl (with Eleftherios Papachristos), *Aalborg University*.
- 2019. Yujie Lyu (with Jorge Goncalves), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2019. Mustafa Neguib (with Jorge Goncalves), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2019. Buyan Li (with Tilman Dingler), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2019. Siran Li (with Tilman Dingler), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2018. Yitong Chen (with Vassilis Kostakos), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2018. Yifan Bu (with Tilman Dingler), *University of Melbourne*.
- 2018. Hsuan-Yi Chang (with Jorge Goncalves), *University of Melbourne*.

Training and Development

- 2024. Residential Academic Leadership Development Course Denmark.
- 2024. TECH researcher talent program 2024, *Aalborg University*.
- 2023. Research coordination, *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Research group leadership and management, *Aalborg University*.
- 2021. Ph.D. supervision, *Aalborg University*.
- 2020. Project management for researchers, *Aalborg University*.
- 2020. Effective research communication, *Aalborg University*.
- 2020. Pedagogy Course for Assistant Professors, *Aalborg University*.
- 2020. Certification Programme in English for University Instructors, *Aalborg University*.
- 2019. Research integrity, *University College London*.
- 2018. Melbourne Teaching Certificate, *University of Melbourne*.
- 2017. Tutor Training and Development, *University of Melbourne*.

2016. Basics of University Pedagogy, *University of Oulu*.

Local services

2024–current. Member of the Department Research Committee.

2023–2024. Member of the Department Search Committee.

2022–2023. Member of the Committee for Cooperation and the Working Environment. *Aalborg University*.

2018–2019. Member of the Engineering Human Ethics Advisory Group. *University of Melbourne*.

2018–2019. Seminar coordinator. *University of Melbourne*.

2017–2018. Academic Officer for Computing and Information Systems Graduate Research Students.
University of Melbourne.