

# Jana Zeller

## Education

- from 01/25 **PhD ETH Max Planck Center for Learning Systems**,  
Supervisors: Wieland Brendel (ELLIS Institute, Tübingen, Germany) and Ryan Cotterell (ETH, Zürich, Switzerland), <1% acceptance rate
- 10/23–10/24 **M.Sc. in Advanced Computer Science**,  
Graduated with distinction, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, 11% acceptance rate
- 10/20–09/23 **B.Sc. in Computer Science**,  
GPA: 1.5/1.0\* (top 7%), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 08/11–06/19 **German Abitur**, GPA: 1.0/1.0\*, Gymnasium am Rotenbühl, Saarbrücken, Germany

## Research Experience

- 04/24–10/24 **University of Oxford**, *Master Thesis*, Distinction,  
Advisors: Aleksandar Shtedritski and Christian Rupprecht
- “Highlight: Learning Visual Prompts for Vision-Language Models”
- 04/23–09/23 **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology**, *Bachelor Thesis*, Grade: 1.0/1.0\*,  
Advisors: Pascal Friederich and Luca Torresi
- “Fusing Chemical Knowledge: Text-Informed Neural Networks for Predicting Molecular Properties”
- 09/22–03/23 **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology**, *Undergraduate Researcher (“HiWi”)*,  
Advisors: Pascal Friederich and Luca Torresi
- Worked on diffusion models for graphs
- 05/22–10/22 **Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA**, *Robotics Institute Summer Scholar*,  
Advisors: Deva Ramanan and Jonathon Luiten, 4% acceptance rate
- Worked on efficient architectures for dense video understanding tasks
  - Organised the peer-review process for the working paper journal

## Practical Experience

- 02/21–05/22 **Hacker School gGmbH, Remote**, *Working Student*
- Designed new programming courses for children and youths
  - Onboarded and trained new lecturers
- 03/20–06/20 **Recurse Center, Remote**, *Participant*,  
self-directed, project-based coding retreat
- Implemented a neural network from scratch
  - Used deep-q-learning to train a bot to play the Atari game snake

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\* German grades are on a scale from 1.0 to 6.0, the lower the better

09/19–02/20 **Sami Frashëri High School, Tirana, Albania**, *German language assistant*

## Honors & Awards

- from 01/25 **Fellowship from the ETH Max Planck Center for Learning Systems**,  
*acceptance rate: <1%*
- from 01/25 **ELLIS PhD student**
- 10/23–10/24 **Google Deepmind Scholarship**
- Recipient of one of two DeepMind scholarships for non-UK students in the M.Sc. Advanced Computer Science at the University of Oxford
  - 56,000£ towards tuition and living costs
- 10/23–10/24 **Fellowship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**
- 03/21–10/24 **Merit-based Scholarship from the German Academic Scholarship Association**
- Awarded to fewer than 0.5% of German students
- 11/2023 **ZEISS Women in Tech Award (1 out of 200, €8,000)**
- 05/22–08/22 **RISE Scholarship from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**
- 06/2019 **Honors for statewide outstanding academical achievement**
- 05/2019 **Computer Science Prize**
- Awarded for outstanding performance in Informatics during high school by Saarland University

## Outreach

- since 09/2014 **Jugend hackt**
- Attended over 10 different youth hackathons as a participant across Germany
  - Attended jugend hackt New Delhi and Kolkata in cooperation with Goethe Institute
  - Mentor, moderator and public speaker since 2020
- 09/2021 **Takeover Bellevue**
- Invited to Castle Bellevue by German President Steinmeier
  - Organized a workshop to craft out political demands regarding digital education
- 12/2020 **rC3 Panelist**
- Invited panelist at Europe's largest Cybersecurity conference to talk about studying Computer Science

## Foreign Languages

- **English:** C1  
Toefl: 116/120 (Reading: 29, Listening: 29, Speaking: 30, Writing: 28)