

HARSH V. THAKKER

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EDUCATION

- **Institut für Informatik III, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn** Deutschland.
Doctoral Student in Smart Data Analytics Group under Prof. Dr. Jens Lehmann (2015-onwards)
- **Sardar Vallabhbai National Institute of Technology** Surat, Gujarat.
Masters in Computer Engineering: Sentiment Analysis for Twitter supervised by Dr. Dhiren R. Patel (2011-2013) CGPA: **8.43/10** (Distinction)
- **L. D. College of Engineering** Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering (2007-2011) Percentage: **72%** (Distinction)
- **Shree Narayana Guru Vidyalaya** Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
Higher Secondary Education (2006-2007) Percentage: **80%** (Distinction)
- **Shree Narayana Guru Vidyalaya** Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Secondary Education (2005-2006) Percentage: **81%** (Distinction)

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS (*selected papers*)

[Google Scholar](#) – Citations: **59**, h-index: **5** (*Nov. 2017*)

- Harsh Thakkar, Yashwant Keswani, Mohnish Dubey, Jens Lehmann, Sren Auer.
Trying Not to Die Benchmarking Orchestrating RDF and Graph Data Management Solution Benchmarks Using LITMUS. In the Proceedings of 13th International Conference on Semantic Systems (SEMANTICS) 2017. [**Best Research Paper Award**]
- Harsh Thakkar, Dharmen Punjani, Sren Auer, and Maria-Esther Vidal
Towards an Integrated Graph Algebra for Graph Pattern Matching with Gremlin.. In the proceedings of the 28th International Conference (DEXA) 2017.
- Harsh Thakkar
Towards an Open Extensible Framework for Empirical Benchmarking of Data Management Solutions: LITMUS. In the proceedings of the 14th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC) 2017.
- Jöse M. Garica, Harsh Thakkar, and Antoine Zimmermann
Assessing Trust with PageRank in the Web of Data. In the proceedings of the The 13th Extended Semantic Web Conference Satellite Events (ESWC) 2016. [**Best Workshop Paper Award**]
- Saeedeh Shekarpour, Kemele M. Endris, Ashwini Jaya Kumar, Denis Lukovnikov, Kuldeep Singh, Harsh Thakkar and Christoph Lange
Question Answering on Linked Data: Challenges and Future Directions In the proceedings of the 25th World Wide Web Companion Volume (WWW) 2016.
- Harsh Thakkar, Ganesh Iyer, Kesha Shah and Prasenjit Majumder
CLEF/ShArE ehealth 2014 Task 3: User centered health information retrieval system accepted in CLEF 2014 eHealth Task Track, Sept 2014.
- Harsh Thakkar and Dhiren Patel
Approaches for Sentiment Analysis on Twitter: A state-of-art study **accepted** at the International Network for Social Network Analysis conference (INSNA), Xi'an, China, July 2013.
- Jitendra B. Gurubani, Harsh Thakkar and Dhiren R. Patel
Improvements over Extended LMAP+: RFID Authentication Protocol published in TRUST MANAGEMENT VI - IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology, Vol. 374, pp. 225-231, Surat, India, May 2012.

WORKING PAPERS

- *GREMLINATOR: Translating SPARQL queries to Graph Pattern Matching Gremlin Traversals* - First of its kind translator aimed at bridging the querying gap between RDF and Graph DMSs. [Submitted: CIKM 2017]
- *From RDF to Property Graphs* - Eyeing the conversion of RDF datasets to Property Graphs aiming to First of its kind translator aimed at bridging the access gap between RDF and Graph DMSs.

QUALIFYING TEST SCORES

- **GRE** (General): 303 (Q-155,V-148) |**AWA**- 3.5 |Date: Sept 18, 2012
- **TOEFL** (IBT): 104 (Reading- 27, Writing- 30, Listening- 23, Speaking- 24) |Date: Sept 23, 2012
- **GATE 2011** (CS): Percentile- 92.30 |Score- 404 |Date- March 15, 2011

ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Recipient of the prestigious Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellowship** for pursuing doctoral research under the H2020 project [WDAQua ITN](#) (GA: 642795).
- **Awarded AA Grade (10/10)** for M.Tech. thesis carrying research work on Sentiment Analysis for Twitter using Hybrid Naive Bayes by Computer Department, Sardar Vallabhbai National Institute of Technology (2013)
- **Microsoft Certified Professional** Awarded by Microsoft on successfully clearing certification exam 70-536 of .NET Framework 2.0 Application Foundation(2010) [Official MS Transcript]
- **Microsoft Student Partner** Alumni Student Partner (2009-'11 batch) of Microsoft to Lalbhai Dalpatbhai College of Engineering(LDCE), Gujarat Region, INDIA.

SELECTED PROJECTS

- **Doctoral student (2015 - onwards)**

I am pursuing doctoral research as a Marie Curie Fellow from the Department of Computer Science at University of Bonn under the project WDAqua ITN since July 2015. My research areas lie between the intersection of: Graph Databases and Machine Learning for Question answering in general, but are not limited to, Quality Assessment of Linked Open Data for Question Answering, Benchmarking Data Management Systems specialising in RDF & Graph systems, Formal translation of Query Languages. I receive supervision and guidance from Prof. Dr. Sören Auer, Prof. Dr. Jens Lehmann and Dr. Maria-Esther Vidal.

- **Natural Language Processing for biomedical texts (2013 -'14)**

Until the previous decade biomedical text analysis was carried out by biology subject experts, which is time consuming and missing certain essential facts hidden within the text. From the late 20th century the term BioNLP was coined, describing possible ways of bridging the biological domain with Natural Language Processing techniques. Biomedical text mining (also known as BioNLP) refers to text mining applied to texts and literature of the biomedical and molecular biology domain. I worked on developing ehealth records based IR system using query expansion techniques targeted for the famous CLEF 2014 ehealth challenge. We stood globally 1st in MAP score tally and 4th in P10 score tally in the ehealth Task 3 of CLEF 2014.

- **Sentiment Analysis for Twitter using Hybrid Naive Bayes (2013)**

Carried out research work as a part of M.Tech curriculum, proposing a new hybrid approach for exploring public opinion by mining sentiments of users in twitter. Used a combination of Machine learning (*Naive Bayes*) algorithm and a special Lexical dictionary (*SentiWordNet*) and achieved competitive result (90 % accuracy) on crawled twitter datasets.

- **Light Weight Protocol for Mutual authentication for RFID Systems (2012)**

Worked with Jitendra Gurubani at Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology, Surat in M.Tech Semester I. The goal of this Project is to study various protocols existing in the current RFID systems. Later to propose a solution to the problem based on designing a Light weight protocol for mutually authenticating RFID tags

- **NeurOCR (2011)**

Worked with Tanmay Desai at L. D. College of Engineering in Semester VIII, for Final Project of Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering. The goal of the project was to develop a Software for recognizing human written character and matching it with a known english alphabet. The platform used for developing this project is .Net Framework and Heaton research API for Neural Network calibration.

- **Imassaur (2010)**

Worked with Aanshi Shah at L. D. College of Engineering in Semester VI, developing an Image processing software. The goal of this project was to study and understand the working of various algorithms (Canny, Sobel, etc) on low-level and shape based image processing and to provide a user-friendly Graphical Interface for the same. The platform used for developing this project is .Net Framework and GDI+ graphics library.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Treasurer, ACM Student Chapter, DA-IICT, Gandhinagar (2014-onwards)**

I currently function as the treasurer of the ACM DA-IICT. This student chapter has been established with a vision to promote research to the younger talent and bring awareness in the undergraduate and graduate students.

- **Auditor, Hostel-10, SVNIT, Surat (2011-13)**

Served the dignitary post of Auditor for succeeding two years in Hostel-10 of Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology. Carried out final budget audits and various finance planning tasks. Learned various strategic skills for managing fund flow (in/out) in an organization during this span of my service.

- **Organiser, DreamSpark Yatra, Microsoft Student Patners, Gujarat (2010, 2011)**

Successfully organised Dream Spark Yatra (DSY), an initiative aimed to create a local ecosystem of technology enthusiasts, for consecutive two years in a row. Earned opportunity to meet the Tech. heads and Professionals from Microsoft India, organising and attending technical seminar across colleges in Gujarat.

HOBBIES

I indulge and enjoy

- **Cooking**
- **Travelling**
- **Reading Fiction**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Nationality : **Indian**
- Birth Date : **9 March 1990**
- Physical Disability : **Yes** (Congenital Disability)
- Languages known: [**Proficient:** English, Hindi, Gujarati], [**Beginner:** Deutsch]

REFERNCES

Available upon request.