

Nitish Patkar

Curriculum Vitae

nitish.patkar@fhnw.ch · <https://nitishpatkar.com>

EDUCATION

- 2018–2022 **Ph.D., in Software Engineering**, University of Bern, Switzerland, Advisor: Prof. Dr. Oscar Nierstrasz
- 2014–2018 **M.Sc., in Software Engineering**, University of Paderborn, Germany, Advisors: Dr. Stefan Sauer, Dr. Simon Oberthür
- 2008–2012 **B.E., in Computer Science**, University of Mumbai, India

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2022–present **Research Associate**, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW)
PI on industry collaborations, technical lead in ~13 research innovation projects, teaching and supervision.
- 2018–2022 **Research Assistant**, University of Bern, Switzerland
Mentored large student cohorts on end-to-end software projects; independent instructor in SE seminars.
- 2017–2018 **Web Developer**, ActiDo GmbH, Paderborn, Germany
Web development involving front and backend.
- 2016–2018 **Research Assistant**, University of Paderborn, Germany
Stakeholder management & Web development.
- 2012–2014 **Systems Engineer**, Infosys Ltd., Bangalore & Pune, India
Contributed to PLM platform customization and enterprise web delivery for telecom.

PUBLICATIONS

- EMSE **Patkar, N.**, Fahmi, A., Kehrer, T., & Seyff, N. "What Do Feature Branches Tell Us About Feature Implementation in Open-Source Projects?" 2026 (Under minor revision)
- REJ Bühne, S., Groen, E. C., Groenefeld, J., Herrmann, A., Hess, A., Kopczyńska, S., **Patkar, N.**, Rachmann, A., Seyff, N. "Integrating Requirements Engineering, AI, and Sustainability: A Vision and Research Agenda." 2026 (Under review)
- RE Seyff, N., Hauri, J., **Patkar, N.**, Groen, E., Bartels, N. "Beyond Bugs and Features: Analyzing User Feedback through the Lens of the Sustainability Awareness Framework." RE 2026. IEEE.
- ESEM **Patkar, N.**, Rani, P., Gläser, J., Lüscher, S., & Kropp, M. "From Perception to Action: Can UI Interventions Foster Sustainable LLM Chatbot Use?" 2026 (Under review)
- ESEM **Patkar, N.**, Isenegger, X., Monreros, G., Panichella, S., and Seyff, N. "Characterising Meeting Practices in Software Engineering Teams: A Mixed-Methods Study of Perceptions, Objective Patterns, and Impacts." 2026 (Under review)
- **Patkar, N.**, Groen, E. C., Waclawczyk, I., Gretschen, Bühne, S., M., Seyff, N., "Digital Sustainability in Software Engineering: An Empirical Baseline of Gaps and Opportunities." 2026 (Under preparation)

-	Patkar, N. , Seyff, N. "Practitioner Well-Being as a Foundation for Sustainable Requirements and Software Engineering." 2026 (Under preparation)
ICSE	Patkar, N. , Fahmi, A., Kehrer, T., and Seyff, N. "What is a Feature, Really? Toward a Unified Understanding Across SE Disciplines." <i>ICSE 2025 NIER Track</i> .
REFSQ	Patkar, N. and Seyff, N. "Data-Driven Persona Creation, Validation, and Evolution." <i>REFSQ 2023</i> . Springer.
SANER	Patkar, N. , Chis, A., Stulova, N. and Nierstrasz, O. "First-class artifacts as building blocks for live in-IDE documentation." <i>SANER 2022</i> . IEEE.
SANER	Chandorkar, A., Patkar, N. , Di Sorbo, A. and Nierstrasz, O. "An Exploratory Study on the Usage of Gherkin Features in Open-Source Projects." <i>SANER 2022</i> . IEEE.
MODELS	Patkar, N. , Chiş, A., Stulova, N. and Nierstrasz, O. "Interactive behavior-driven development: a low-code perspective." <i>MODELS-C 2021</i> . IEEE.
EASE	Patkar, N. , Ghafari, M., Nierstrasz, O. and Hotomski, S. "Caveats in eliciting mobile app requirements." <i>EASE 2020</i> .
REFSQ	Patkar, N. , Gadiant, P., Ghafari, M. and Nierstrasz, O. "Towards a Catalogue of Mobile Elicitation Techniques." <i>REFSQ 2019</i> . Springer.
DUXU	Senft, B., Fischer, H., Oberthür, S. and Patkar, N. "Assist users to straightaway suggest and describe experienced problems." <i>DUXU 2018</i> . Springer.

Workshops and Thesus

MuC	Patkar, N. , Fedosov, A. and Kropp, M. "Challenges and Opportunities for Prompt Management: Empirical Investigation of Text-based GenAI Users." <i>Mensch und Computer 2024</i> .
BENEVOL	Patkar, N. , Merino, L. and Nierstrasz, O. "Towards requirements engineering with immersive augmented reality." <i>BENEVOL 2020</i> .
BENEVOL	Patkar, N. "Moldable Requirements." <i>BENEVOL 2020</i> .
SATToSE	Patkar, N. "Towards Executable Domain Models." <i>SATToSE 2018</i> .
Ph.D. Thesis	Patkar, N. "Supporting Multiple Stakeholders in Agile Development"
M.Sc. Thesis	Patkar, N. "Vision Backlog"

AWARDS AND HONORS

2025	Best Reviewer Award, International Working Conference on Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality (REFSQ 2025)
------	---

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2025	"AI-Assistant for Faster Software Project Planning in SMBs." (Innosuisse INNO-ICT., PI)
2025	"Multi-model Forecasting Engine for PV Production and Load." (Innosuisse IP-EE., PI)

INVITED TALKS

2026	"What does digital sustainability look like in real-world," IREB SIGsus rountable [online]
------	--

2026	"Can UI Interventions Foster More Sustainable Use of AI Systems?," at CHOOSE FORUM'26, Bern
2026	"Towards Sustainable Software Engineering," University of Zurich
2024	"Designing For the Future: Does an Engineering Mindset Help Us Solve Real Problems?," IIT Bombay, India
2022	"Tools, BDD, Personas: ideas and a quest for collaboration," University of Hamburg

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2026–2025	Web Technologies , FHNW, Co-lead Approx 30 students, Web Development Basics
2026	iPro — Individual Software Project , FHNW, Independent Instructor 2 Students, Mentoring into practical SE project development
2025	Software Engineering , FHNW, Co-lead Approx 15 students, software construction & DevOps
2023	Requirements Engineering , FHNW, Co-lead Approx 50 students, RE concepts
2023	CAS Digitalization & Sustainability, FHNW, Co-lead Approx 10 professionals, introduction to SE
2024–2023	Projekt 3 & 4 Informatik , FHNW, Agile Coach Approx 20 students, agile coach in a year-long industry project
2022	Projekt 1 & 2 Informatik , FHNW, Team Coach Approx 10 students, RUP-based project coaching
2026–2022	Student Supervision , FHNW, independent instructor Supervised ~18 BSc/MSc theses
2022–2018	Software Engineering Project , University of Bern, TA Approx 200 students/year, guidance through full-stack web development.
2022–2018	Seminar in Software Engineering , University of Bern, Independent Instructor Approx 10 students at BSc/MSc level. Guidance through SE research topic.
2022–2018	Student Supervision , University of Bern, Independent Instructor Supervised 1 BSc and 2 MSc theses.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Community Leadership

2025–present	Associate Member & Survey Team Lead, IREB Special Interest Group on Digital Sustainability
2025–2026	Co-organizer, International CrowdRE Workshop
2026	Local Chair, The International Conference on Agile Software Development (XP)
2025–2027	Background Organization, Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality (REFSQ) conference
2026	Student Volunteer Co-Chair, The International Conference on ICT for Sustainability (ICT4S)

Reviewing / Program Committee

2026	Software Engineering – Student Research Competition
2026–2022	IEEE International Requirements Engineering (RE) Conference
2026–2022	Requirements Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality (REFSQ) conference
2026	The International Conference on Agile Software Development (XP)
2026, 2024	The International Conference on ICT for Sustainability (ICT4S)
2025	ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology (TOSEM)
2023	Empirical Software Engineering (EMSE)
2023	Information and Software Technology (IST)
2024, 2023	Science of Computer Programming
2020	The IEEE International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER)

LANGUAGES

German	Business fluent
English	Business fluent
Marathi	Native
Hindi	Native

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Prof. Dr. Norbert Seyff
Professor for Requirements Engineering
University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
Research Collaborator
norbert.seyff@fhnw.ch

Prof. Dr. Timo Kehrer
Professor of Computer Science
University of Bern
Research Collaborator
timo.kehrer@unibe.ch

Prof. Martin Kropp
Professor for Software Engineering
University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
Research Collaborator
martin.kropp@fhnw.ch

Prof. Dr. Oscar Nierstrasz
Professor emeritus of Computer Science
University of Bern
PhD Supervisor
oscar@nierstrasz.org