

Nitish Patkar

Curriculum Vitae

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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?" Under major revision.
- ESEM **Patkar, N.**, Rani, P., Gläser, J., Lüscher, S., & Kropp, M. "From Perception to Action: Can UI Interventions Foster Sustainable LLM Chatbot Use?" (Under preparation)
- EASE **Patkar, N.**, Groen, E. C., Waclawczyk, I., et al. "Digital Sustainability in Software Engineering: An Empirical Baseline of Gaps and Opportunities." (Under preparation)
- 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." (Under review)
- RE **Patkar, N.**, Seyff, N. "Practitioner Well-Being as a Foundation for Sustainable Requirements and Software Engineering." (Under review)
- ESEM **Patkar, N.**, Isenegger, X., Monreros, G., Panichella, S., and Seyff, N. "Impact of Meetings on Developer Productivity, Flow, and Well-Being." (Under review)
- ICSE **Patkar, N.**, Fahmi, A., Kehrer, T., and Seyff, N. "What is a Feature, Really? Toward a Unified Understanding Across SE Disciplines." *ICSE 2025 NIER Track.*

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)
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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
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Prof. Martin Kropp
 Professor for Software Engineering
 University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
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Prof. Dr. Oscar Nierstrasz
 Professor emeritus of Computer Science
 University of Bern
 PhD Supervisor
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