

# Felix Karl Michael Wagner

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## EDUCATION

### University of Oxford

**PhD in Computer Vision, Department of Engineering; Supervisor: Prof. Konstantinos Kamnitsas**

Oxford, UK

Oct '21 – Oct '25

*PhD Thesis: Advancing Federated Learning for Computer Vision in Medical Imaging*

### Vienna University of Technology

**Master of Science, Data Science; Final Grade: Pass with Distinction; GPA: 1.0 (highest poss. score)**

Vienna, Austria

Apr '19 – Nov '21

**Bachelor of Science, Software & Information Engineering**

Mar '15 – Apr '19

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Education Abroad, Joint Study Scholarship

Illinois, USA

Aug '18 – Dec '18

## EXPERIENCE

### **PhD Research – Department of Engineering, University of Oxford, UK**

Oct '21 – present

- Developed scalable algorithms for federated learning, test-time adaptation, multi-modal models, parameter-efficient fine-tuning, 3D segmentation, and out-of-distribution detection in medical imaging
- Built end-to-end DL systems, including data preprocessing, model training, and evaluation, in **Python/PyTorch**
- Released open-source code ([GitHub](https://github.com)) and published at top-tier conferences (CVPR, WACV, MICCAI, AAAI)

### **Teaching Assistant – Department of Engineering & Computer Science, University of Oxford, UK**

Oct '22 – Feb '24

- Marked assignments and led classes to explain core concepts in database systems and optimization courses, while also delivering practical tutorials
- Topics included: Database theory (relational databases, query optimization), Optimization (linear/logistic regression, SVM, SGD), practical frameworks for distributed computing (Apache Spark and Hadoop)

### **Freelance Software Engineer – Association for Protection of Creditors, Austria**

June '20 – July '21

- Built Python software for data preprocessing to unify diverse formats and integrate them into an Oracle database
- Reduced the time to process loan default data from 1 hour to 10 minutes

### **Interdisciplinary Research Project – Medical University of Vienna, Austria**

Nov '20 – Apr '21

- Performed in-depth statistical analysis and visualization of sleeping disorder data from a representative Austrian adult population to understand key distributions and characteristics
- Applied **machine learning** models to identify significant predictors of chronic insomnia, extracting valuable insights to inform the interdisciplinary research team

### **Software Engineer Intern – Knorr-Bremse, Austria**

July '19 – Aug '19

- Implemented software features in **C#** for a large-scale public transportation system deployed by operators throughout Austria
- Increased maintainability of the software by reducing the time of changing complex build configuration files from hours to minutes by creating CI/CD-Pipelines in Azure DevOps
- Applied software design patterns in C# to improve code structure and maintainability

### **Project Manager Assistant – Erste Bank, Austria**

July '17; Oct '17 – Dec '17

- Collaborated with 10 team members in the Process Management Department on a nationwide software rollout for the Erste Group in Austria
- Conducted Data Analysis of the software development progress over a 1-year period

## SKILLS

**Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C#, R, Prolog

**Technologies & Tools:** PyTorch, Microsoft Azure, LaTeX, Oracle/PostgreSQL Database, Git, SQL, Hadoop, Spark, Linux

**Languages:** German (native speaker), English (fluent)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

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- [1] Felix Wagner, Wentian Xu, Prमित Saha, Ziyun Liang, Daniel Whitehouse, David Menon, Virginia Newcombe, Natalie Voets, J. Alison Noble, Konstantinos Kamnitsas; “*Feasibility of Federated Learning from Client Databases with Different Brain Diseases and MRI Modalities*”, accepted for an **oral** presentation at **WACV 2025** [[Paper](#)] [[Code](#)]
- [3] Felix Wagner, Prमित Saha, Harry Anthony, J Alison Noble, Konstantinos Kamnitsas; “*DisoN: Decentralized Isolation Networks for Out-of-Distribution Detection in Medical Imaging*”, 2025, **under review** [[Paper](#)]
- [2] Felix Wagner, Zeju Li, Prमित Saha, Konstantinos Kamnitsas; “*Post-Deployment Adaptation with Access to Source Data via Federated Learning and Source-Target Remote Gradient Alignment*”, accepted for an **oral** presentation at the **MLMI** workshop at **MICCAI 2023** [[Paper](#)] [[Code](#)]
- [4] Prमित Saha, Felix Wagner, Divyanshu Mishra, Can Peng, Anshul Thakur, David Clifton, Konstantinos Kamnitsas, J Alison Noble; “*F<sup>3</sup>OCUS - Federated Finetuning of Vision-Language Foundation Models with Optimal Client Layer Updating Strategy via Multi-objective Meta-Heuristics*”, accepted at **CVPR 2025 (Highlights)** [[Paper](#)]
- [5] Prमित Saha, Divyanshu Mishra, Felix Wagner, Konstantinos Kamnitsas, J. Alison Noble; “*Examining Modality Incongruity in Multimodal Federated Learning for Medical Vision and Language-based Disease Detection*”, accepted at **AAAI 2025** [[Paper](#)]
- [6] Prमित Saha, Divyanshu Mishra, Felix Wagner, Konstantinos Kamnitsas, J. Alison Noble; “*FedPIA--Permuting and Integrating Adapters leveraging Wasserstein Barycenters for Finetuning Foundation Models in Multi-Modal Federated Learning*”, accepted at **AAAI 2025** [[Paper](#)]
- [7] Ziyun Liang, Harry Anthony, Felix Wagner, Konstantinos Kamnitsas; “*Modality cycles with masked conditional diffusion for unsupervised anomaly segmentation in MRI*”, accepted for an **oral** presentation at the **MMMI** workshop at **MICCAI 2023** [[Paper](#)]
- [8] Wentian Xu, Matthew Moffat, Thalia Seale, Ziyun Liang, Felix Wagner, Daniel Whitehouse, David Menon, Virginia Newcombe, Natalie Voets, Abhirup Banerjee, Konstantinos Kamnitsas; “*Feasibility and benefits of joint learning from MRI databases with different brain diseases and modalities for segmentation*”, accepted for an **oral** presentation at **MIDL 2024** [[Paper](#)]

**Master’s Thesis - Vienna University of Technology, Austria**

Apr ‘20 – July ‘21

- Conducted in-depth research on the combination of symbolic AI and statistical machine learning methods for Knowledge Graphs in cooperation with the **University of Oxford**
- Developed an algorithm to inject recursive logical rules into Knowledge Graph Embeddings in **PyTorch**

## AWARDS & HONORS

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- **Reviewer** for **TMI, MICCAI**; recognized with an honourable mention as an **outstanding reviewer**
- **Fully funded PhD** via:
  - **Angela-Krosik scholarship**, Anglo-Austrian Society
  - **Oxford-Reuben scholarship**, Reuben Foundation, University of Oxford
  - **Health Data Science CDT scholarship**, EPSRC UK
- **Joint-Study Scholarship**, Vienna University of Technology: Selected among top-performing students university-wide for an exchange programme at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, based on academic success

## VOLUNTEERING & INTERESTS

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- **President – Oxford Austrian Society**

Apr ‘24 – June ‘25

  - Elected to lead the student society representing Austrian students at Oxford, promoting cultural exchange and academic dialogue
  - Organized and moderated public events with notable speakers, attended by 50+ participants
  - Represented the society at the Austrian Embassy and in meetings with diplomats and politicians
- **Personal Interests**: Guitarist and bass player in the band Penguins In Suits, with a strong interest in songwriting and composition; also passionate about snowboarding and tennis