

Niyati Rawal

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🐦 @RawalNiyati

🌐 <https://niyatirawal.github.io>

Employment History

- 2021 – **Early Stage Researcher (MSCA PERSEO)**. University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, ITALY.
Working on Vision and Language Navigation and Embodied Dialogue
- Visiting PGR student at University of Manchester, UNITED KINGDOM
- 2020 – 2021 **Assistant Researcher**. Technical University of Darmstadt, Darmstadt, GERMANY.
Worked on facial expressions in Human-Robot Interaction
- 2019 – 2019 **Intern**. Inria, Nancy, FRANCE.
Compared Markovian models for human activity recognition and prediction
- 2017 – 2018 **Trainee**. NICT, Osaka, JAPAN.
Implemented RNN for explaining the development of visual attention to faces in infancy

Education

- 2021 – 2024 **Ph.D., Information and Communications Technology**, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, ITALY
- 2018 – 2019 **Master's degree in Computational Engineering and Mathematics**, University of Rovira I Virgili, Tarragona, SPAIN
Thesis title: *Top-down approach to compare the moral theories of Deontology and Utilitarianism in Pac-Man game setting.*
- 2014 – 2018 **B.E. Mechanical Engineering**, Osaka University, Osaka, JAPAN
Thesis title: *The role of featural and configural processing in the development of visual attention.*
- 2009 – 2012 **High School**, Convent of Jesus and Mary, New Delhi, INDIA

Research Publications

Journal Articles




- 1 N. Rawal, R. Bigazzi, L. Baraldi, and R. Cucchiara, "Unmute: Unifying Navigation and Multimodal Dialogue-Like Text Generation," *Available at SSRN 4777514*, [URL: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4777514](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4777514).
- 2 N. Rawal, D. Koert, C. Turan, K. Kersting, J. Peters, and R. Stock-Homburg, "ExGenNet: Learning to Generate Robotic Facial Expression Using Facial Expression Recognition," *Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, vol. 8, p. 730 317, 2022. [URL: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frobt.2021.730317/full](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frobt.2021.730317/full).
- 3 N. Rawal and R. M. Stock-Homburg, "Facial emotion expressions in human-robot interaction: A survey," *International Journal of Social Robotics*, vol. 14, no. 7, pp. 1583–1604, 2022. [URL: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12369-022-00867-0](https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12369-022-00867-0).

Conference Proceedings

- 1 N. Rawal, R. Bigazzi, L. Baraldi, and R. Cucchiara, "AIGeN: An Adversarial Approach for Instruction Generation in VLN," **Accepted in Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshop**, 2024. [URL: https://arxiv.org/pdf/2404.10054](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2404.10054).






- 2 S. Poppi, R. Bigazzi, N. Rawal, *et al.*, "Towards Explainable Navigation and Recounting," in *Proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Image Analysis and Processing*, **Honorable Mention ICIAP Best Paper Award**, 2023. [URL: https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-43148-7_15](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-43148-7_15).

Skills


- Languages  Hindi, English, Japanese, Italian
Coding  Python, C/C++, Java, Matlab
Misc.  Academic research, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Robotics

Miscellaneous Experience

Awards and Achievements

- 2021  Marie Skolodowska-Curie Actions Fellowship - PERSEO Project: Received a three year fellowship to pursue my doctoral degree in Europe
2017  RoboCup Japan Open: A robot soccer league where the robots operate autonomously, our team JoiTech won the first prize
2013  Monbukagakusho (MEXT) Scholarship: Received a five year scholarship by the Japanese Government to pursue my bachelor degree in Japan
2010  CJM PTA Scholarship for consistent effort
2009  CJM PTA Scholarship for consistent effort

Certification

- 2014  **Certificate in Japanese Language.** Awarded by Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.