

# BENJAMIN S. MEYERS

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## EDUCATION

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### Ph.D. in Computing & Information Sciences

Aug 2018 - May 2023 (Expected)

Rochester Institute of Technology

#### Notable Coursework

Regression Analysis • Nonparametric Statistics & Bootstrapping • Fundamentals of Computer Networking  
Cyberinfrastructure

### B.S. in Software Engineering

Sep 2013 - May 2018

Rochester Institute of Technology

Concentration in Computational Linguistics • Minor in Language Science

#### Notable Linguistics Coursework

Introduction to Language Science • Language & Linguistics • Evolving English Language • Psycholinguistics  
Introduction to Natural Language Processing • Spoken Language Processing • Science & Analytics of Speech  
Language & Culture • Language & Sexuality • Language Technology

#### Notable Software Engineering & Computer Science Coursework

Introduction to Computer Science Theory • Principles of Data Mining • Mathematical Models of Software  
Engineering of Concurrent & Distributed Software Systems • Software Process & Project Management  
Software Performance Engineering • Engineering of Software Subsystems • Personal Software Engineering  
Engineering Secure Software • Discrete Mathematics for Computing • Linear Algebra • Applied Statistics

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

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- [4] *Pragmatic Characteristics of Security Conversations: An Exploratory Linguistic Analysis* May 2019  
**Benjamin S. Meyers**, Nuthan Munaiah, Andrew Meneely, and Emily Prud'hommeaux. Proceedings of the 12th International Workshop on Cooperative and Human Aspects of Software Engineering (*CHASE*). Montréal, QC, Canada.
- [3] *A Dataset for Identifying Actionable Feedback in Collaborative Software Development* Jul 2018  
**Benjamin S. Meyers**, Nuthan Munaiah, Emily Prud'hommeaux, Andrew Meneely, Cecilia O. Alm, Josephine Wolff, and Pradeep Murukannaiah. Proceedings of the 2018 Meeting for the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL*). Melbourne, Australia.
- [2] *An Analysis and Visualization Tool for Case Study Learning of Linguistic Concepts* Sep 2017  
Cecilia O. Alm, **Benjamin S. Meyers**, and Emily Prud'hommeaux. Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (*EMNLP*). Copenhagen, Denmark.
- [1] *Natural Language Insights from Code Reviews that Missed a Vulnerability* Aug 2017  
Nuthan Munaiah, **Benjamin S. Meyers**, Cecilia O. Alm, Andrew Meneely, Pradeep K. Murukannaiah, Emily Prud'hommeaux, Josephine Wolff, and Yang Yu. Proceedings of the 9th International Symposium for Engineering Secure Software and Systems (*ESSoS*). Bonn, Germany.

## RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

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- [4] *A Dataset for Identifying Actionable Feedback in Collaborative Software Development* Jul 2018  
**Benjamin S. Meyers**, Nuthan Munaiah, Emily Prud'hommeaux, Andrew Meneely, Cecilia O. Alm, Josephine Wolff, and Pradeep Murukannaiah. Meeting for the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL*). Melbourne, Australia.

- [3] *Natural Language Insights from Code Reviews that Missed a Vulnerability* Apr 2017  
Nathan Munaiah, **Benjamin S. Meyers**, Cecilia O. Alm, Andrew Meneely, Pradeep K. Murukannaiah, Emily Prud'hommeaux, Josephine Wolff, and Yang Yu. Golisano College of Computing & Information Sciences Graduate Research Showcase. Rochester, NY.
- [2] *Exploring Discourse of Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder* May 2016  
**Benjamin S. Meyers**, Cecilia O. Alm, and Emily Prud'hommeaux. International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR). Baltimore, MD.
- [1] *Exploring Discourse of Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder* Aug 2015  
**Benjamin S. Meyers**, Cecilia O. Alm, and Emily Prud'hommeaux. Undergraduate Research Symposium at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Rochester, NY.

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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- Graduate Research Assistant**, Andrew Meneely, Ph.D. Sep 2018 - Present  
Collection, annotation, and analysis of software developer conversations. Exploration of pragmatic characteristics in security-centric natural language: formality, informativeness, implicature, politeness, and uncertainty detection.
- Research Assistant**, Andrew Meneely, Ph.D. Jan 2017 - Aug 2017  
Applied natural language processing techniques to a dataset of 788,437 code reviews from the Chromium project to examine the discourse of software developers through analysis of inquisitiveness, sentiment analysis, politeness, formality, propositional density, uncertainty detection, and syntactic complexity. [Full-Time Co-Op]
- Research Assistant**, Cecilia O. Alm, Ph.D., Emily Prud'hommeaux, Ph.D. Aug 2015 - Dec 2016  
Developed a set of distinct case study activities using genuine linguistic datasets to aid student learning and engagement in introductory linguistics classes. Enhanced the visualization capabilities of an existing web application, Linguine, that aided in the analysis of the case study data. [Part-Time]
- Research Assistant**, Cecilia O. Alm, Ph.D., Emily Prud'hommeaux, Ph.D. Jun 2015 - Aug 2015  
Adapted natural language processing techniques to a corpus of speech transcriptions collected from college-aged males with and without autism spectrum disorder. Examined the trajectories of linguistic development in autism through analysis of various syntactic-, semantic-, and discourse-based metrics. [Full-Time Co-Op]

## TEACHING POSITIONS

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- Course Assistant**, Software Performance Engineering Jan 2019 - Mar 2019
- Course Assistant**, Engineering Secure Software Sep 2017 - Dec 2017
- Course Assistant**, Language Technology Jan 2016 - May 2016
- Course Assistant**, Introduction to Language Science Sep 2015 - Dec 2015

## TECHNICAL POSITIONS

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- Applications Developer**, Computational Linguistics & Speech Processing Lab May 2016 - May 2018
- Website Administrator**, Computational Linguistics & Speech Processing Lab May 2015 - May 2018
- Applications Developer**, Kate Gleason College of Engineering May 2016 - Sep 2016
- Assistant Systems Administrator**, Kate Gleason College of Engineering Dec 2015 - May 2016
- Programming Team Leader**, Greater Rochester Robotics F.I.R.S.T. Team 340 Sep 2009 - May 2013

## JOURNAL CO-REVIEWER EXPERIENCE

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- [SQJ] Software Quality Journal (1) 2019
- [ICTD] International Conference on Technical Debt (2) 2019
- [TSE] IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (1) 2018
- [ESSoS] International Symposium on Engineering Secure Software and Systems (1) 2017

## HONORS & AWARDS

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- Rochester Institute of Technology: Dean's List May 2014 • May 2016 • Dec 2016
- Rochester Institute of Technology: Computing Medal Award May 2013

## PROJECTS

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- Signature Interdisciplinary Research Areas: NLP** [Python] Jan 2017 - Present  
A framework to facilitate efficient querying and analysis of code review conversations from the Chromium project contained within a PostgreSQL database.
- Quantifying Disaster Risk Reduction Geographic Information Capacity** May 2019 - Aug 2019  
International Research Experience for Students (IRES) focused on quantifying disaster risk reduction geographic information capacities. Ten-week summer research experience with collaborators at the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the University of Bonn (UBonn). Located in Bonn, Germany. Student research training activities, spatial data set acquisition, and access to international scientific networks only available in Bonn.
- Phonetta: (phonetic)ic (t)ranscription (a)ssistant** [JavaScript] Nov 2016 - Present  
A web application to help users type International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) symbols and learn phonetic concepts through on-screen buttons, intuitive keyboard shortcuts, audio recordings, and relevant metadata for each symbol.
- Linguine** [Python] Sep 2016 - Present  
A visualization and analysis tool for natural language processing designed to be used in introductory linguistics courses at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Developed by three software engineering senior project teams from Sep 2013 - Sep 2016.
- SPLAT: Speech Processing & Linguistic Analysis Tool** [Python] Jun 2015 - Present  
A command-line application designed to simplify analysis of natural language texts by interfacing with NLTK, Stanford CoreNLP, and the Berkeley Parser.  
Package: PyPi.
- LUCI: Linguistic Uncertainty Classifier Interface** [Python] Apr 2017 - Jun 2017  
An implementation of a classifier for linguistic uncertainty, based on the theoretical work described in Veronika Vincze's doctoral dissertation: *Uncertainty Detection in Natural Language Texts*.  
Package: PyPi.
- ATLAS** [PHP] Jun 2016 - Nov 2016  
A web application to facilitate management of IT service tickets within the Kate Gleason College of Engineering.
- T-Bag: Text-Based Adventure Game Framework** [Ruby] Jul 2014 - Aug 2015  
A domain-specific language to facilitate writing text-based adventure games.  
Package: RubyGems.