

Hafsteinn Einarsson

01 Current Positions

2026-present	Dean, University of Iceland, Faculty of Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, Iceland
2024-present	Associate Professor in Computer Science, University of Iceland, Faculty of Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, Iceland
2021-present	Principal Scientist, Amgen deCODE, Iceland

02 Previous Positions

2024-present	Co-founder, KatlaCode, Iceland
2020-2024	Assistant Professor in Computer Science, University of Iceland, Iceland
2019-2023	Co-founder, Prescriby, Iceland
2018-2020	Data Scientist, Íslandsbanki, Iceland
2017-2018	Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute of Neuroinformatics, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

03 Education

2017	PhD in Computer Science, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
2013	MSc in Computer Science, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
2011	BSc in Mathematics, University of Iceland, Iceland

04 Selected Publications

Full list at hafst1.is/publications/. In NLP/ML venues, last author denotes the senior position.

2026	Einarsson, H. (2026). MazeEval: a benchmark for testing sequential decision-making in language models. <i>Proceedings of the fifteenth language resources and evaluation conference (LREC 2026)</i> .
2026	Einarsson, H., Einarsson, H. B., Ólafsson, J. G., Þorsteinsson, J. G. (2026). Curated retrieval versus open web search in public AI information services: a coverage-trust trade-off. <i>arXiv preprint arXiv:2607.05217</i> .
2025	Silva Martins, J. R., Bárðarson, H., Guðbrandsson, J., Einarsson, H. (2025). Temporal aggregation of vision-language features for high-accuracy fish classification in automated monitoring. <i>Ecological Informatics</i> .
2025	Simonsen, A., Nielsen, D. S., Einarsson, H. (2025). FoQA: A Faroese question-answering dataset. <i>Proceedings of the third workshop on resources and representations for under-resourced languages and domains (RESOURCEFUL-2025)</i> .
2024	Einarsson, H., Lund, S. H., Jónsdóttir, A. H. (2024). Application of ChatGPT for automated problem reframing across academic domains. <i>Computers and Education: Artificial Intelligence</i> .
2024	Friðriksdóttir, S. R., Einarsson, H. (2024). Gendered grammar or ingrained bias? exploring gender bias in Icelandic language models. <i>Proceedings of the 2024 joint international conference on computational linguistics, language resources and evaluation (LREC-COLING 2024)</i> .
2024	Hauksson, H. O., Einarsson, H. (2024). Applications of BERT models towards automation of clinical coding in Icelandic. <i>Findings of the association for computational linguistics: NAACL 2024</i> .
2023	Davíðsson, H. B., Rees, T., Ólafsdóttir, M. R., Einarsson, H. (2023). Efficient development of gait classification models for five-gaited horses based on mobile phone sensors. <i>Animals</i> .
2023	Sigurðardóttir, A. R., Sverrisson, Þ., Jónsdóttir, A., Gudjonsdottir, M., Elvarsson, B. Þ., Einarsson, H. (2023). Otolith age determination with a simple computer vision based few-shot learning method. <i>Ecological Informatics</i> .

2022 Snæbjarnarson, V., Símonarson, H. B., Ragnarsson, P. O., Ingólfssdóttir, S. L., Jónsson, H., Þorsteinsson, V., **Einarsson, H.** (2022). **A warm start and a clean crawled corpus—a recipe for good language models**. *Proceedings of the thirteenth language resources and evaluation conference*.

05 Awards and Grants

2026 **Vísindi og velferð** — Grant for developing an app for science literacy, 700k ISK
2026 **Microsoft Lingua** — Grant for developing LLM red-teaming datasets for Icelandic (Microsoft), 50k USD
2024 **Science Award, University of Iceland** — Best overall science work and best in health science (for ICD-10 coding using Icelandic BERT models)
2023–present **TrustLLM** — EU-funded project on language models for Germanic languages (Horizon Europe)
2022 **Neologism platform for Icelandic** (University of Iceland), 4M ISK
2021 **Incentive Award, University of Iceland** — For QA models for Icelandic (supervised student project)
2020–2021 **Sproti and Vöxtur** — Awarded to Prescriby for digital product development (Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannís)), 90M ISK total
2020 **Digital literacy course development** (University of Iceland), 3M ISK
2017 **Early Postdoc Mobility Fellowship (declined)** (Swiss National Science Foundation)
2010 **Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)** (California Institute of Technology)

06 Supervision

PhD students (main supervisor): Annika Simonsen, Joao Rodrigo Da Silva Martins, Steinunn Rut Friðriksdóttir

PhD committee: Amir Hamedpour, Bjarki Ármannsson, Isidora Glisic, Pétur Helgi Einarsson, Sindri Emmanúel Antonsson, Þór Sverrisson, plus 2 completed

Master's theses completed: 14 since 2017, currently supervising 1.

07 Teaching

AI and Leadership (2025–2026), The AI Lifecycle (Spring 2021–2026), Introduction to Deep Learning (Fall 2025), Large Language Models in an Icelandic Context (Spring 2026), Natural Language Processing (Business Intelligence module) (Spring 2022–2024), Analysis of Algorithms (Spring 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2025), Computers, Operating Systems and Digital Literacy, Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science (Fall 2020–2023). Roughly 300+ students per academic year across these courses.

08 Service

Recent reviewing: Icelandic Technology Development Fund (Tækniþróunarsjóður), research and innovation applications, ACL Rolling Review, LREC workshops, Animals, Sensors.

2026–present **Board member**, Association of Computer Scientists in Iceland
2026 **Ad-hoc committee member**, Ethics committee, University of Iceland — single case
2025–present **Council member**, Professional Council, Icelandic Technology Development Fund (Tækniþróunarsjóður) — reviewing research and innovation applications
2025 **Leading author**, AI policy of the University of Iceland — chaired the preparatory committee; the final policy was drafted by three main authors
2024–present **Vice-chair and founding member**, University of Iceland Centre for Artificial Intelligence — preparatory work from 2024; centre established 2025
2024–2026 **Editorial board member**, Vísindavefurinn (Icelandic Science Web), University of Iceland
2021–2026 **Committee member**, Icelandic language committee, University of Iceland
2021–2024 **Committee member**, Teaching committee, School of Engineering and Natural Sciences, University of Iceland
2021–2023 **Committee member**, Equality committee, School of Engineering and Natural Sciences, University of Iceland
2020–2026 **President**, Association of Computer Scientists in Iceland
2019–2020 **Committee member**, SKÝ committee on data applications
2013–2016 **Board member, vice-president, president**, VMI (Association of scientific staff, CS Department, ETH Zurich)