

EDUCATION

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey

Feb. 2022 - Present

M.Sc., Computer Science and Engineering

Thesis: Developing Turkish Language Models for Detecting Manipulations on Social Media

Advisor: Assistant Prof. Onur Varol

CGPA: 3.71/4.0

University Of Tabriz, Tabriz, Iran

Sept. 2017 - Sept. 2021

B.Sc., Computer Science and Engineering

CGPA: 16.58/20

PUBLICATIONS

GOOGLE SCHOLAR

Preprints and Under Review Articles

U.1 Najafi, A., Onur Varol, "TurkishBERTweet: Fast and Reliable Large Language Model for Social Media Analysis" arXiv preprint arXiv:2311.18063 (2023)

U.2 Najafi, A., et al. "#Secim2023: First Public Dataset for Studying Turkish General Election." arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.13121 (2022)

Journal Articles

J.1 Najafi, A., Gholipour-Shilabin, A., Dehkharghani, R. et al. **ComStreamClust: a Communicative Multi-Agent Approach to Text Clustering in Streaming Data.** Ann. Data. Sci. (2022)

Refereed Conference Proceedings

C.1 Najafi, A., Onur Varol, "VRLLab at HSD-2Lang 2024: Turkish Hate Speech Detection Online with TurkishBERTweet", EACL"2024

CONDUCTED RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

VRLLAB, Istanbul, Turkey

Sept, 2022 - Present

– TurkishBERTweet

- * Achieved almost 10% significant improvement F1-Score on Text Classification Tasks
- * Developed classification pipelines for Sentiment Analysis and Hate Speech Detection Tasks
- * Trained TurkishBERTweet From Scratch
- * Used Google TPUs for Training the Language Model
- * Trained BPE tokenizer from scratch on 900M Turkish Twitter Data

– Turkish Election Dataset

- * Analyzed the Retweet Speed of specific Turkish Politicians for different time spans of election day
- * Conducted network analysis of politicians on Twitter using Networkx and Gephi
- * Analyzed the followers of politicians to identify social bots using Botometer

INVITED LECTURER AND TALKS

1. Presented "#Secim2023: First Public Dataset for Studying Turkish General Election." paper in Turkey Computational Social Sciences Conference (TCSS) 2023, Koc University, Turkey.
2. Applications of Large Language Models for Social Scientists, POLS537, Sabanci University, Dr. Fatih Serkant Adiguzel
3. Natural Languages for Social Scientists, Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS), Ozyegin University, Turkey

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Sabancı University - Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences	
	CS412: Machine Learning	June. 2023 - Feb. 2024
	CS210: Introduction to Data Science	Feb. 2023 - June. 2023
	CS412: Machine Learning	June. 2022 - Feb. 2023
	CS210: Introduction to Computing	Feb. 2022 - June. 2022
Held weekly office hours and recitation sessions to answer questions about course contents		
Graded exams and assignments		
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COMPUTER AND LANGUAGE SKILLS	Skills: Programming Languages: Python, C++, Java Frameworks: Pytorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Flax, Django Librares: Matplotlib, Seaborn, Pandas, Numpy, Gephi, NetworkX, OpenCV, Jax DataBase: SQL, NoSQL (Redis) Familiar with GCP, AWS, L ^A T _E X, HTML, CSS, JS	
Languages: English (Fluent), Persian (Native), Azerbaijani (Native), Turkish (Fluent)		
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HONORS AND AWARDS	Hate Speech Detection in Turkish - EACL”2024 Jan. 2024 Earned 3rd Rank among 11 participated teams	
TUBITAK Scholarship Aug. 2023 - Present The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Turkey Awarded to full tuition waiver and a monthly stipend as a researcher in a project funded by TUBITAK		
Sabancı University Scholarship Feb. 2022 - Aug 2023 Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey Awarded a 100% tuition scholarship and a monthly stipend as a Teaching Assistant		