

# FETHİYE IRMAK DOĞAN

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<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	Advancing autonomous robots to understand, interact, and collaborate with people	
<b>INTERESTS</b>	Human-Robot Interaction, Robot Learning, Explainability, Deep Learning	
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<i>Ph.D. in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology</i>	01.2018-03.2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Thesis: <i>Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities</i></li><li>– Thesis Advisor: Assoc. Prof. Iolanda Leite</li><li>– Thesis Committee: Prof. David Traum (Opponent, USC Institute for Creative Technologies), Assoc. Prof. Jean Oh (Carnegie Mellon University), Assoc. Prof. Luís Coheur (University of Lisbon) &amp; Dr. Emmanuel Senft (Idiap Research Institute)</li><li>– 61.0 ECTS credits in PhD-level courses (≈ one academic year; graded pass/fail basis)</li></ul>	
	<i>M.Sc. in Computer Engineering, Middle East Technical University</i>	09.2015-01.2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Thesis: <i>Hierarchical Incremental Context Modeling in Robots</i></li><li>– Thesis Advisor: Prof. Sinan Kalkan</li><li>– Graduated with High Honours degree - CGPA: 3.93/4.00</li></ul>	
	<i>B.Sc. in Computer Engineering, Middle East Technical University</i>	09.2010-06.2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Graduated with Honours degree</li></ul>	
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE</b>	<i>Postdoctoral researcher at University of Cambridge, UK</i>	04.2024-present
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Generating socially appropriate robot actions leveraging LLMs and explainability</li><li>– Projects: ARoEQ (UKRI project), Google GIG project &amp; MICRO (ESRC project)</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Hatice Gunes, Affective Intelligence and Robotics Laboratory (AFAR)</li><li>– Outputs: Publication J6, J5, J3, C24, C23, C22, C21, C20, C19, C17, C14</li></ul>	
	<i>Postdoctoral researcher at KTH Royal Institute of Technology</i>	03.2023-04.2024
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Continual learning &amp; explainability for robots to assist people's daily tasks</li><li>– Project: Partially involved in PerCorSo (WASP project)</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Iolanda Leite, Division of Robotics, Perception and Learning</li><li>– Outputs: Publication J4, C25, C16, C15, C13, C12, W6</li></ul>	
	<i>Doctoral researcher at KTH (employed for 80% research, 20% teaching)</i>	01.2018-03.2023
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Generating follow-up clarifications (either semantic or visual) for robots to resolve ambiguities in user instructions</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Iolanda Leite, Division of Robotics, Perception and Learning</li><li>– Outputs: Publication J2, J1, C18, C11, C10, C9, C8, C7, C6, C3, W5, W4, W3, W2</li></ul>	
	<i>Visiting scholar at Georgia Institute of Technology, USA</i>	11.2021-04.2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Developing a semantically-driven disambiguation method to handle ambiguous user requests with clarifying questions</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Sonia Chernova, Robot Autonomy and Interactive Learning (RAIL) Lab</li><li>– Outputs: Publication C18, C11</li></ul>	
	<i>Participating in Oxford Machine Learning Summer School</i>	07.2021-08.2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Selected to participate in the highly selective summer school (~ 15% acceptance rate) for best-in-class training on machine learning and deep learning</li></ul>	
	<i>Participating in Amazon Alexa Prize, KTH Fantom Team</i>	02.2018-08.2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Through a highly competitive process, selected as one of the teams to create a social bot for Amazon Alexa (~ 4% acceptance rate)</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Gabriel Skantze, Division of Speech, Music and Hearing</li><li>– Outputs: Publication C6, C3</li></ul>	
	<i>Researcher at Middle East Technical University, Turkey</i>	09.2015-01.2018
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Topics: Incremental context modelling for robots in real-world environments</li><li>– Project: Context in Robots (TUBITAK project)</li><li>– Advisor: Prof. Sinan Kalkan, Kovan Robotics Lab</li><li>– Outputs: Publication C5, C4, C1, W1, T1</li></ul>	

	<i>Senior Design Project at Middle East Technical University</i>	09.2014-06.2015
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Topics:</b> 3D animation of fMRI data to visualise the cognitive processes in the brain</li> <li>- <b>Advisor:</b> Prof. Fatos Tunay Yarman Vural, ImageLab</li> <li>- <b>Outputs:</b> Publication C2</li> </ul>	
	<i>Research intern at University of Southern Denmark</i>	06.2014-09.2014
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Topics:</b> A plugin providing a GUI for automated calibration of UR robot arms</li> <li>- <b>Project:</b> Erasmus internship</li> <li>- <b>Advisor:</b> Prof. Norbert Krueger, SDU Robotics</li> </ul>	
	<i>Research intern at Middle East Technical University</i>	06.2013-09.2013
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Topics:</b> Visualising the 2D and 3D representations of the iCub robot's vision</li> <li>- <b>Advisor:</b> Prof. Sinan Kalkan, Kovan Robotics Lab</li> </ul>	
	<i>Part time software developer at Özgür Yazılım Company</i>	02.2013-06.2013
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Topics:</b> Taking a role in the development of the Tekir Accounting Program</li> </ul>	
<b>HONORS AND AWARDS</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Outstanding Women in Robotics &amp; Automation Paper Award</b> Finalist 2025            Topic: Top 3 Finalist for Early Career Contribution Award (Publication C19)            Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Robotics &amp; Automation (ICRA)</li> <li>- <b>KROS Interdisciplinary Research Award in Social HRI</b> 2025            Topic: "Robot-Led VLM Wellbeing Assessment of Children" (Publication C17)            Awarded by: IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)</li> <li>- <b>IEEE Best Paper Award</b> and <b>IEEE Best Student Paper Award</b> Finalist 2025            Topic: Top 3 Finalist for both award categories (Publication C17)            Awarded by: IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)</li> <li>- <b>Future Digileader</b>, Digitalize in Stockholm Conference 2025            Topic: The event brings together selected global research leaders and rising stars working to drive digital transformation across academia, industry, government, and civil society            Awarded by: Digital Futures Research Center, KTH Royal Institute of Technology</li> <li>- <b>Seal of Excellence Project Proposal Award</b> 2025            Topic: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship for top applicants above 85% score            Awarded by: European Commission            Project: "Socially Appropriate and Adaptive Robot Behaviour (SAARO)"</li> <li>- Special Recognition for Outstanding Reviews 2024            Awarded by: ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction</li> <li>- Research Associate at Darwin College 2024            Topic: Competitive selection process based on research excellence and academic merit            Awarded by: Darwin College, University of Cambridge</li> <li>- <b>DAAD AInet Fellowship</b> 2022            Topic: Research fellowship for outstanding early-career researchers in AI and robotics            Awarded by: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)</li> <li>- <b>RSS Pioneers</b>, Robotics: Science and Systems 2021            Topic: Pioneers award that gathers the world's top early-career researchers in robotics            Awarded by: Robotics: Science and Systems (Publication W5)</li> <li>- <b>Honourable mention paper award</b>, ACM CUI 2019            Topic: "Crowdsourcing a self-evolving dialog graph" (Publication C6)            Awarded by: ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI)</li> <li>- High honour certificates (Spring 2014-2015, Fall 2014-2015, Spring 2013-2014, Fall 2013-2014) &amp; honour certificate (Spring 2012-2013)            Awarded by: Middle East Technical University</li> </ul>	

<b>GRANTS AND FUNDS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Contributor to the <b>School of Technology Seed Fund Grant</b> 2024  <b>Awarded by:</b> University of Cambridge  <b>Project:</b> “Can social robots help for mediation and advocacy for students with disabilities?”  <b>Budget:</b> £10.000 GBP</li> <li>– Travel grant from ACL Annual Conference of NAACL-HLT 2019  <b>Awarded by:</b> North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics  <b>Budget:</b> \$500 USD</li> <li>– Travel grant from IEEE ICRA 2018  <b>Awarded by:</b> IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation  <b>Budget:</b> \$1137.15 USD</li> <li>– Travel grant from IEEE/RSJ IROS 2018  <b>Awarded by:</b> IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems  <b>Budget:</b> Up to €500.00 EUR</li> </ul>
<b>INVITED TALKS</b>	<p><b>Title:</b> “<i>Shaping Robot Behaviour through Explanations and Expectations in HRI</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Keynote speaker on Robo-Identity Workshop</b>, IEEE RO-MAN 2025</li> </ul> <p><b>Title:</b> “<i>Autonomous and Explainable Robots in Human Environments</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Keynote speaker on CHIA Early Career Conference</b> 2025</li> <li>– Seminar talk at the Designing Intelligence Lab, Delft University of Technology 2025</li> <li>– Interaction Division Colloquium, Utrecht University 2025</li> <li>– Science seminar, Darwin College, University of Cambridge 2025</li> </ul> <p><b>Title:</b> “<i>Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Google DeepMind Research Ready Program</b>, University of Cambridge 2024</li> <li>– <b>Talking Robotics</b>, a series of seminars about Robotics and AI 2021</li> <li>– <b>Oxford Machine Learning Summer School</b>, Unconference Track 2021</li> <li>– Seminar talk at RAIL Research Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology 2021</li> <li>– Seminar talk at Image Lab, Middle East Technical University 2021</li> </ul>
<b>SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<p><b>Journal Articles</b></p> <p><b>J6</b> F. I. Doğan, Y. Weiss, K. Patel, J. Cheong, and H. Gunes ‘Investigating Associational Biases in Inter-Model Communication of Large Generative Models’. (under review for <i>Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research</i>)</p> <p><b>J5</b> N. Churamani*, F. I. Doğan*, S. Checker, Y. Malladi, H. L. Chiang, and H. Gunes ‘More Robots, Better Manners? Federated Continual Learning and A Multi-robot, Multi-view Dataset’. (under review for <i>Advanced Robotics Research</i>)</p> <p><b>J4</b> E. Yadollahi*, F. I. Doğan*, Y. Zhang, B. Nogueira, T. Guerreiro, S. Levy-Tzedek, and I. Leite, ‘Expectations, Explanations, and Embodiment: Attempts at Robot Failure Recovery’. (under review for <i>Int. Journal of Human-Computer Studies</i>)</p> <p><b>J3</b> W. Tang, F. I. Dogan, L. Qing, H. Gunes, ‘AsyReC: A Multimodal Graph-based Framework for Spatio-Temporal Asymmetric Dyadic Relationship Classification’, <i>IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology</i>, 2025.</p> <p><b>J2</b> F. I. Doğan, G. I. Melsión, and I. Leite, ‘Leveraging Explainability for Understanding Object Descriptions in Ambiguous 3D Environments’, <i>Frontiers in Robotics and AI</i>, Volume 9, p. 937772, 2023.</p> <p><b>J1</b> F. I. Doğan, S. Gillet, E. J. Carter, and I. Leite, ‘The Impact of Adding Perspective-Taking to Spatial Referencing during Human-Robot Interaction’, <i>Robotics and Autonomous Systems (RAS)</i>, Volume 134, p. 103654, 2020.</p>

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\* Equal Contribution

Refereed Conference Publications

- C25 A. Deichler, J. O'Regan, **F. I. Doğan**, A. Klezovich, Lubos Marcinek, I. Leite, and J. Beskow, 'Speak, Point, Look: A Multimodal Benchmark for Context-Aware Grounding in 3D Dialogue', *ACL International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C24 J. Huang, **F. I. Doğan**, and H. Gunes, 'Reimagining Social Robots as Recommender Systems: Foundations, Framework, and Applications', *Proceedings of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C23 A. Markelius, **F. I. Doğan**, J. Bailey, G. Laban, J. I. Gibson, and H. Gunes, 'Social Robotics for Disabled Students: An Empirical Investigation of Embodiment, Roles and Interaction', *Proceedings of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C22 **F. I. Doğan\***, A. Markelius\*, and H. Gunes, 'Designing Social Robots with Ethical, User-Adaptive Explainability in the Era of Foundation Models', *Companion of ACM/IEEE Int. Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C21 J. Borgstedt, R. Wullenkord, **F. I. Doğan**, A. Markelius, Y. Lou, E. Geijer-Simpson, E. S. Cross, F. Eyssel, T. Ford, J. L. Gibson, H. Gunes, G. Warner, and G. Castellano, 'Advancing Child Wellbeing Assessment with AI and Robotics across At-Risk Populations', *Companion of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C20 J. Cheong\*, **F. I. Doğan\***, A. Markelius\*, E. S. Cross, F. Eyssel, G. Castellano, and H. Gunes, 'Equitable Robotics for Wellbeing (EqRoW)', *Companion of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2026. (Accepted)
- C19 **F. I. Doğan**, U. Ozturk, G. Cinar, and H. Gunes, 'GRACE: Generating Socially Appropriate Robot Actions Leveraging LLMs and Human Explanations', *Proceedings of IEEE Int. Conf. on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, pp. 4330-4336, 2025.
- C18 **F. I. Doğan**, M. Patel, W. Liu, I. Leite, and S. Chernova, 'A Model-Agnostic Approach for Semantically Driven Disambiguation in Human-Robot Interaction', *Proceedings of IEEE International Conference on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, 2025.
- C17 N. I. Abbasi\*, **F. I. Dogan\***, G. Laban\*, J. Anderson, T. Ford, P. B. Jones, H. Gunes, 'Robot-Led Vision Language Model Wellbeing Assessment of Children', *Proceedings of IEEE International Conference on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, 2025.
- C16 A. Leszczynski, S. Gillet, I. Leite, and **F. I. Dogan**, 'BT-ACTION: A Test-Driven Approach for Modular Understanding of User Instruction Leveraging Behaviour Trees and LLMs', *Proceedings of IEEE International Conference on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, 2025.
- C15 E. Bartoli, **F. I. Doğan**, and I. Leite 'STREAK: Streaming Network for Continual Learning of Object Relocations under Household Context Drifts', *Proceedings of IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Comm. (RO-MAN)*, 2025.
- C14 E. Yadollahi, **F. I. Doğan**, M. Romeo, D. Kontogiorgos, P. Qian, and Y. Zhang, '3rd Workshop on Explainability in Human-Robot Collaboration: Real-World Concerns,' *Proceedings of ACM/IEEE HRI*, pp. 1994–1996, 2025.
- C13 G. Hadjiantonis, S. Gillet, M. Vázquez, I. Leite, and **F. I. Doğan**, 'Let's move on: Topic Change in Robot-Facilitated Group Discussions', *Proceedings of IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Comm. (RO-MAN)*, pp. 2087-2094, 2024.

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\* Equal Contribution

- C12* E. Yadollahi, M. Romeo, **F. I. Doğan**, W. Johal, M. D. Graaf, S. Levy-Tzedek and I. Leite, ‘Explainability for Human-Robot Collaboration,’ *Companion of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, pp. 1364-1366, 2024.
- C11* M. Pattel\*, **F. I. Doğan**\*, Z. Zeng, K. Baraka, and S. Chernova, ‘Semantic Scene Understanding for Human-Robot Interaction ,’ *Companion of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, pp. 941 - 943, 2023.
- C10* **F. I. Doğan**, I. Torre , and I. Leite, ‘Asking Follow-Up Clarifications to Resolve Ambiguities in Human-Robot Conversation’, *Proceedings of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)*, pp. 461-469, 2022.
- C9* M. Iovino, **F. I. Doğan**, I. Leite, and C. Smith, ‘Interactive Disambiguation for Behavior Tree Execution’, *Proceedings of IEEE International Conference on Humanoid Robots (Humanoids)*, pp. 82-89, 2022.
- C8* A Panesar, **F. I. Doğan**, and I. Leite, ‘Improving Visual Question Answering by Leveraging Depth and Adapting Explainability’, *Proceedings of IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, pp. 252-259, 2022.
- C7* **F. I. Doğan**, S. Kalkan, and I. Leite, ‘Learning to Generate Unambiguous Spatial Referring Expressions for Real-World Environments’, *Proceedings of IEEE/RSJ International Conf. on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, pp. 4992-4999, 2019.
- C6* P. Jonell, P. Fallgren, **F. I. Doğan**, J. Lopes, U. Wennberg, and G. Skantze, ‘Crowdsourcing a self-evolving dialog graph’, *Proceedings of the ACM International Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI)*, pp. 1-8, 2019.
- C5* **F. I. Doğan**\*, İ. Bozcan\*, M. Celik, and S. Kalkan, ‘Cinet: A learning based approach to incremental context modeling in robots’, *Proceedings of IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, pp. 4641-4646, 2018.
- C4* **F. I. Doğan**, H. Çelikkamat, and S. Kalkan, ‘A Deep Incremental Boltzmann Machine for Modeling Context in Robots’, *Proceedings of IEEE ICRA*, pp. 2411-2416, 2018.
- C3* P. Jonell, M. Bystedt, **F. I. Doğan**, P. Fallgren, J. Ivarsson, M. Slukova, U. Wennberg, J. Lopes, J. Boye, and G. Skantze, ‘Fantom: A crowdsourced social chatbot using an evolving dialog graph’, *Proceedings of Alexa Prize SocialBot Grand Challenge*, 2018.
- C2* O. Yıldız, **F. I. Doğan**, İ. Öztekin, E. Mızrak, and F. T. Y. Vural, ‘A robust normalization method for fMRI data for brain decoding’, *Proceedings of IEEE Signal Processing and Communication Application Conference (SIU)*, pp. 2269-2272, 2016.
- C1* **F. I. Doğan**, S. Kalkan, ‘The Hierarchical Nature of Context’, *Turkey Robotics Conference (ToRK)*, 2016. (written in Turkish)

#### Refereed Workshop Contributions

- W6* E. Bartoli, **F. I. Doğan**, and I. Leite, ‘Contextualized Knowledge Graph Embeddings for Activity Prediction in Service Robotics’, *Workshop on SSU for HRI*, HRI 2023.
- W5* **F. I. Doğan**, ‘Social Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities’, *RSS Pioneers Workshop*, RSS 2021.
- W4* I. Torre, **F. I. Doğan**, and D. Kontogiorgos, ‘Voice, Embodiment, and Autonomy as Identity Affordances’, *Workshop on Robo-Identity*, HRI 2021.
- W3* **F. I. Doğan**, and I. Leite, ‘Open Challenges on Generating Referring Expressions for Human-Robot Interaction’, *Workshop on NLG for HRI*, INLG 2020.
- W2* **F. I. Doğan**, S. Kalkan, and I. Leite, ‘Learning to Generate Unambiguous Spatial Referring Expressions for Real-World Environments’, *SpLU-RoboNLP Workshop*, Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of ACL (NAACL-HLT), 2019.
- W1* **F. I. Doğan**, H. Çelikkamat, I. Bozcan, and S. Kalkan, ‘Learning to Increment A Contextual Model’, *Workshop on Continual Learning*, NeurIPS 2018.

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\* Equal Contribution

<b>POSTERS AND DEMOS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AI-CARING Symposium 2022</li> <li>- Invited demo on SIGDIAL Conference 2019</li> <li>- SpLU-RoboNLP Workshop at the NAACL-HLT Conference 2019</li> <li>- <a href="#">SoRos</a> Workshop 2018 and 2019</li> <li>- Amazon Alexa Prize Summit 2018</li> </ul>	
<b>TEACHING</b>	<p><i>Guest Lectures in the Affective AI Course, University of Cambridge</i>      11.2024 &amp; 11.2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Provided Lecture:</b> “Explainability for Social/Affective AI”</li> <li>- <b>Course:</b> <a href="#">L344 Affective Artificial Intelligence</a></li> <li>- <b>Course level:</b> MPhil in Advanced CS and Part III (9-month taught master’s course)</li> <li>- <b># of students registered:</b> around 25 students per term</li> </ul> <p><i>Teaching Assistant at Interaction Design, University of Cambridge</i>      04.2024-06.2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Role:</b> Group project supervision for user-centred interaction design</li> <li>- <b>Course:</b> <a href="#">Interaction Design</a></li> <li>- <b>Course level:</b> Part IA CST (first year undergraduate in Computer Science)</li> <li>- <b># of students registered:</b> more than 100</li> </ul> <p><i>Lecturer at Social Robotics Course, KTH</i>      10.2023-01.2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Provided Lectures:</b> “Perception of human social signals”, “Dialogues, verbal/non verbal communication”, “Social Learning for robots” &amp; “Explainability &amp; Theory of Mind in HRI”</li> <li>- <b>Role:</b> Lectures, robotics tutorial, and group project supervision for social robot interaction</li> <li>- <b>Course:</b> <a href="#">DD2413 Social Robotics</a></li> <li>- <b>Course level:</b> MS students in Computer Science and Engineering programs</li> <li>- <b># of students registered:</b> 34 students</li> </ul> <p><i>Teaching Assistant at Machine Learning Course, KTH</i>      01.2019-03.2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Role:</b> Lab assignment support and examination on traditional ML methods (Bayes Classifiers and Boosting, Support Vector Machines, Decision Trees)</li> <li>- <b>Course:</b> <a href="#">DD2421 Machine Learning</a>, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 (offered twice per year)</li> <li>- <b>Course level:</b> MS students in Computer Science and Engineering programs</li> <li>- <b># of students registered:</b> more than 300 students per semester</li> </ul> <p><i>Teaching Assistant at C programming language course, METU</i>      02.2014-06.2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Role:</b> Lab examination support on C programming language course</li> <li>- <b>Course:</b> <a href="#">CENG140 C programming</a></li> <li>- <b>Course level:</b> BS students in Engineering programs</li> <li>- <b># of students registered:</b> more than 300 students</li> </ul>	
<b>SUPERVISION</b>	<p><i>PhD Students</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Massimiliano Nigro (visiting student at Cambridge)      2025-present  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> PhD in Computer Science, Politecnico di Milano  <b>Project:</b> Robot-led group discussion, context and referee prediction  <b>Role:</b> Project co-supervisor</li> <li>- Wang Tang (visiting student at Cambridge)      2024-2025  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> PhD in Computer Science, Sichuan University  <b>Project:</b> Asymmetric dyadic relationship classification  <b>Role:</b> Project co-supervisor (Publication <a href="#">J4</a>)</li> <li>- Ermanno Bartoli (PhD student at KTH)      2023-2024  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> PhD in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Tech.  <b>Project:</b> Continual learning for dynamic object location changes in household setups  <b>Role:</b> Project co-supervisor (Publications <a href="#">C15</a> and <a href="#">W6</a>)</li> <li>- Anna Deichler (PhD student at KTH)      2023-2024  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> PhD in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Tech.  <b>Project:</b> Multimodal dataset gathering for referential referring expressions in VR  <b>Role:</b> Project co-mentor (Publication C25)</li> </ul>	

### *MS Students*

- Bob Zhang (MPhil student at Cambridge) 2024-present  
**Program & Institution:** MPhil in Advanced Computer Science, University of Cambridge  
**Thesis:** Mitigating Biases in Recomender Systemd  
**Role:** MS thesis co-supervisor
- Rafal Karpiński (visiting student at Cambridge) 2024-present  
**Program & Home Institution:** MS in Computer Science, Utrecht University  
**Thesis:** Continual learning for socially appropriate robot actions in home and office contexts  
**Role:** MS thesis supervisor
- Jesher Joshua (visiting student at Cambridge) 2024-2025  
**Program & Home Institution:** MS in Computer Science, Vellore Institute of Technology  
**Project:** Unsupervised clustering of user nonverbal cues in journaling sessions  
**Role:** Project co-supervisor
- Alexander Leszczynski (MS student at KTH) 2024-2025  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Thesis:** Leveraging LLMs and Behavior Trees for Understanding User Instructions  
**Role:** MS thesis supervisor (Publication [C16](#), senior author)
- Aiman Shenawa (MS student at KTH) 2024-2025  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Thesis:** Task specific evaluation of LLMs: A study for human-robot interaction  
**Role:** MS thesis supervisor
- Georgios Hadjiantonis (MS student at KTH) 2023-2024  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Thesis:** ML for topic change in robot-moderated discussions using non-verbal features  
**Role:** MS thesis supervisor (Publication [C13](#), senior author)
- Amrita Panesar (MS student at KTH) 2021-2022  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Thesis:** Improving visual question answering with depth and adapting explainability  
**Role:** MS thesis supervisor (Publication [C8](#))
- Aswin Gururaj Prakash (MS student at Georgia Tech) 2022  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology  
**Project:** Fusing semantic object understanding to the robot's semantic mapping  
**Role:** Project co-supervisor
- Jiaming Huang (MS student at KTH) 2022  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Project:** Concise unambiguous referring expression generation to handle uncertain requests  
**Role:** Robotics project course supervisor
- Shipra Jain (MS student at KTH) 2019  
**Program & Institution:** MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Project:** Referring Expression generation for human-robot interaction  
**Role:** Robotics project course supervisor

### *BS Students*

- Rahma Elsheikh (visiting student at Cambridge) 2024-present  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Math & Computer Science, Princeton University  
**Thesis:** Approaching Equalized Odds by Actively Forgetting in Deep-Learning Models  
**Role:** Senior thesis supervisor
- Kajal Patel (visiting student at Cambridge) 2025-present  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in CS, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
**Project:** Explanation generation for inter-model communication of generative models  
**Role:** Project supervisor (Publication J6)
- Yuval Weiss (BS student at Cambridge) 2025-present  
**Program & Institution:** BS in Computer Science, University of Cambridge  
**Project:** Bias detection for inter-model communication of generative models  
**Role:** Affective AI course project supervisor (Publication J6)
- Yasaswi Malladi (BS student at Cambridge) 2025-present  
**Program & Institution:** BS in Computer Science, University of Cambridge

- Project:** Generating animation of MannersDB+ scenes in Unity  
**Role:** Project supervisor
- Lara Horne (BS student at Cambridge) 2025  
**Program & Institution:** BS in Computer Science, University of Cambridge  
**Project:** Human activity detection and generating explanations  
**Role:** Part II project supervisor
  - Sujith Sai (visiting student at Cambridge) 2025  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Chemical Eng., Rourkela National Institute of Tech.  
**Project:** ML methods for children's wellbeing assessment in robot-led discussions  
**Role:** Project co-supervisor
  - Zeynep Altundal (visiting student at Cambridge) 2025  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Computer Engineering, Sabanci University  
**Project:** MannersDB+ dataset annotation examination and correction  
**Role:** Project supervisor
  - Umut Ozyurt (visiting student at Cambridge) 2024  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Computer Engineering, Middle East Tech. University  
**Project:** Uncertainty detection for social appropriateness of robot actions  
**Role:** Project supervisor (Publication [C19](#))
  - Gizem Cinar (visiting student at Cambridge) 2024  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Psychology, Bilkent University  
**Project:** User explanation categorisation of MannersDB+ dataset  
**Role:** Project supervisor (Publication [C19](#))
  - Yifei Shi (Google DeepMind intern at Cambridge) 2024  
**Program & Home Institution:** BS in Computer Science, King's College London  
**Project:** End-to-end detection of interaction ruptures and Grad-CAM explanations  
**Role:** Project supervisor
- Research Engineers*
- Alex Sleat 2023  
**Institution:** KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Project:** MTurk setup for dataset collection using Matterport 3D home scan videos  
**Role:** Project supervisor
  - Rasmus Rudling 2021  
**Institution:** KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Project:** System deployment (asking follow-up clarifications) to the Pepper robot  
**Role:** Project supervisor
  - Shreya Kohli 2020  
**Institution:** KTH Royal Institute of Technology  
**Project:** Deploying Grad-CAM explainability activations to AI Habitat platform  
**Role:** Project supervisor

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### *Editorial Role*

- Associate Editor, *IEEE ICRA*, Robot Learning Track, 2026
- Associate Editor, *IEEE RA-L*, Human-Robot Interaction Track, 2025-present

### *Conference Organization Committee & Chairing*

- Conference Chair, Oxbridge Conference, University of Oxford, 2026
- Chair of Human-Robot Interaction Session at IEEE ICRA 2025

### *Workshop Organisation Committee & Charing*

- Equitable Robotics for Wellbeing (EqRoW), ACM/IEEE HRI 2026
- Workshop on Expl. in Human-Robot Collaboration: Real-World Concerns, HRI 2025
- Robotics and Embodied Intelligence Workshop, CHIA, University of Cambridge, 2025
- Workshop on Explainability for Human-Robot Collaboration, HRI 2024
- Workshop on Semantic Scene Understanding for Human-Robot Interaction, HRI 2023
- Workshop on HRI for Explainable Robotics, RO-MAN 2023
- RSS Pioneers Workshop, Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), 2022

*Program Committee*

- European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI), 2025
- International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI), 2024 and 2025
- Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction Conference (ACII), 2024
- Towards Autonomous Robotic Systems Conference (TAROS), 2021
- SpLU-RoboNLP Workshop, 2021 and 2023

*Journal Article Referee*

- International Journal of Social Robotics
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)
- Autonomous Robots (AURO)
- Frontiers in Robotics and AI
- User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction (UMUAI)

*Conference Paper Referee*

- Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS)
- Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)
- IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)
- ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)
- IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)
- IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)
- ACM International Conference on Multimedia (ACMMM)
- ACM International Conference on Multimodal Interaction (ICMI)
- IEEE International Conf. on Robot & Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)
- IEEE Signal Processing and Communication Application Conference (SIU)
- Turkey Robotics Conference (ToRK)

*Student Volunteer*

- ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI), 2022
- Int. Conf. on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS), 2018

**SELECTED OUTREACH**

- Featured in **BBC Click by Spencer Kelly** for his 1000th and final episode, 2025
- **Human Machine Interaction Research Showcase**, University of Cambridge, 2025
- Sutton Trust Summer School Lecture, University of Cambridge, 2025
- Physics at Work Exhibition, University of Cambridge, 2025
- HE+ Hampshire Lecture, Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge 2025
- Trinity Hall Science Open Day, University of Cambridge 2025
- **Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF)**, 2023
- KTH School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Lab Tours, 2023
- Atlanta Science Festival, Georgia Tech Science and Engineering Day, 2022
- Featured in a documentary on **Sveriges Television (SVT)**, 2020
- **Sweden's Minister for Higher Edu. and Research (Matilda Ernkrans)**, 2019
- Robots Exhibition at the **Swedish Tekniska Museum**, 2019
- Giants event for female and non-binary high school students, 2018
- **Live broadcast on national TV (Kanal B)** on image processing and AI, 2017
- European Researchers' Night event for high school students, 2016

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

- Member of **Women@CL Committee**, University of Cambridge (2025-present)
- Member of the Dept. Research Staff Forum, University of Cambridge (2024-present)
- Theater (played in private theatres for 8 years and 5 plays)
- Computer Engineers' Association board member, 2016-2018
- Student Delegate Committee member at Middle East Technical University, 2010-2011