

FETHİYE IRMAK DOĞAN

Postdoctoral Research Associate

University of Cambridge, UK

✉️ irmakdогan.com ✉️ fid21@cam.ac.uk

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

<i>Senior Design Project at Middle East Technical University</i>	09.2014-06.2015
– Topics: 3D animation of fMRI data to visualise the cognitive processes in the brain	
– Advisor: Prof. Fatos Tunay Yarman Vural, ImageLab	
– Outputs: Publication C2	
<i>Research intern at University of Southern Denmark</i>	06.2014-09.2014
– Topics: A plugin providing a GUI for automated calibration of UR robot arms	
– Advisor: Prof. Norbert Krueger, SDU Robotics	
<i>Research intern at Middle East Technical University</i>	06.2013-09.2013
– Topics: Visualising the 2D and 3D representations of the iCub robot's vision	
– Advisor: Prof. Sinan Kalkan, Kovan Robotics Lab	
<i>Part time software developer at Özgür Yazılım Company</i>	02.2013-06.2013
– Topics: Taking a role in the development of the Tekir Accounting Program	
HONORS AND AWARDS	
– Outstanding Women in Robotics & Automation Paper Award	Finalist 2025
Topic: Top 3 Finalist for Early Career Contribution Award (Publication C19)	
Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Robotics & Automation (ICRA)	
– KROS Interdisciplinary Research Award in Social HRI	2025
Topic: “Robot-Led VLM Wellbeing Assessment of Children” (Publication C17)	
Awarded by: IEEE Int. Conf. on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)	
– IEEE Best Paper Award and IEEE Best Student Paper Award	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)	
– Future Digileader , 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	
– Seal of Excellence Project Proposal Award	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)”	
– Special Recognition for Outstanding Reviews	2024
Awarded by: ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction	
– Research Associate at Darwin College	2024
Topic: Competitive selection process based on research excellence and academic merit	
Awarded by: Darwin College, University of Cambridge	
– DAAD AInet Fellowship	2022
Topic: Research fellowship for outstanding early-career researchers in AI and robotics	
Awarded by: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)	
– RSS Pioneers , 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)	
– Honourable mention paper award , ACM CUI	2019
Topic: “Crowdsourcing a self-evolving dialog graph” (Publication C6)	
Awarded by: ACM Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI)	
– High honour certificates (Spring 2014-2015, Fall 2014-2015, Spring 2013-2014, Fall 2013-2014) & honour certificate (Spring 2012-2013)	
Awarded by: Middle East Technical University	

GRANTS AND FUNDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Contributor to the School of Technology Seed Fund Grant 2024 Awarded by: University of Cambridge Project: “Can social robots help for mediation and advocacy for students with disabilities?” Budget: £10.000 GBP – Travel grant from ACL Annual Conference of NAACL-HLT 2019 Awarded by: North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics Budget: \$500 USD – Travel grant from IEEE ICRA 2018 Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation Budget: \$1137.15 USD – Travel grant from IEEE/RSJ IROS 2018 Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems Budget: Up to €500.00 EUR
INVITED TALKS	<p>Title: “<i>Shaping Robot Behaviour through Explanations and Expectations in HRI</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Keynote speaker on Robo-Identity Workshop, IEEE RO-MAN 2025 <p>Title: “<i>Autonomous and Explainable Robots in Human Environments</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Keynote speaker on CHIA Early Career Conference 2025 – Seminar talk at the Designing Intelligence Lab, Delft University of Technology 2025 – Interaction Division Colloquium, Utrecht University 2025 – Science seminar, Darwin College, University of Cambridge 2025 <p>Title: “<i>Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Google DeepMind Research Ready Program, University of Cambridge 2024 – Talking Robotics, a series of seminars about Robotics and AI 2021 – Oxford Machine Learning Summer School, Unconference Track 2021 – Seminar talk ar RAIL Research Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology 2021 – Seminar talk at Image Lab, Middle East Technical University 2021
SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS	<p>Journal Articles</p> <p>J4 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>J3 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>.</p> <p>J2 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>J1 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>
	<p>Refereed Conference Publications</p> <p>C22 F. I. Doğan, G. Laban, and H. Gunes, ‘A Theoretical and Computational Framework for Aligning Verbal and Nonverbal Expressive Robot Behaviours’, <i>Under review for ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) 2026</i>.</p> <p>C21 J. Huang, F. I. Doğan, and H. Gunes, ‘Reimagining Social Robots as Recommender Systems: Foundations, Framework, and Applications’, <i>Under review for ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) 2026</i>.</p>

* Equal Contribution

- C20 A. Markelius, **F. I. Doğan**, J. Bailey, G. Laban, J. L. Laban, and H. Gunes, ‘Social Robotics for Disabled Students: An Empirical Investigation of Embodiment, Roles and Interaction’, *Under review for ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI) 2026*.
- 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.
- 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. Mizrak, 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.

POSTERS AND DEMOS

- AI-CARING Symposium 2022
- Invited demo on SIGDIAL Conference 2019
- SpLU-RoboNLP Workshop at the NAACL-HLT Conference 2019
- SoRos Workshop 2018 and 2019
- Amazon Alexa Prize Summit 2018

TEACHING

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| <i>Guest Lecture in the Affective AI Course, University of Cambridge</i> | 11.2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provided Lecture: “Explainability for Social/Affective AI” – Course: L344 Affective Artificial Intelligence – Course level: MPhil in Advanced CS and Part III (9-month taught master’s course) – # of students registered: 24 students | |
| <i>Teaching Assistant at Interaction Design, University of Cambridge</i> | 04.2024-06.2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Role: Group project supervision for user-centred interaction design – Course: Interaction Design – Course level: Part IA CST (first year undergraduate in Computer Science) – # of students registered: more than 100 | |
| <i>Lecturer at Social Robotics Course, KTH</i> | 10.2023-01.2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provided Lectures: “Perception of human social signals”, “Dialogues, verbal/non verbal communication”, “Social Learning for robots” & “Explainability & Theory of Mind in HRI” – Role: Lectures, robotics tutorial, and group project supervision for social robot interaction – Course: DD2413 Social Robotics – Course level: MS students in Computer Science and Engineering programs – # of students registered: 34 students | |
| <i>Teaching Assistant at Machine Learning Course, KTH</i> | 01.2019-03.2022 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Role: Lab assignment support and examination on traditional ML methods (Bayes Classifiers and Boosting, Support Vector Machines, Decision Trees) – Course: DD2421 Machine Learning, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 (offered twice per year) – Course level: MS students in Computer Science and Engineering programs | |

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - # of students registered: more than 300 students per semester 	
	<i>Teaching Assistant at C programming language course, METU</i>	02.2014-06.2014
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Role: Lab examination support on C programming language course - Course: CENG140 C programming - Course level: BS students in Engineering programs - # of students registered: more than 300 students 	
SUPERVISION	<i>PhD Students</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Massimiliano Nigro (visiting student at Cambridge) 	2025-present
	<i>Program & Home Institution:</i> PhD student in Computer Science, Politecnico di Milano	
	<i>Project:</i> Robot-led group discussion, context and referee prediction	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-supervisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wang Tang (visiting student at Cambridge) 	2024-present
	<i>Program & Home Institution:</i> PhD candidate in Computer Science, Sichuan University	
	<i>Project:</i> Asymmetric dyadic relationship classification	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-supervisor (Publication J4)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ermanno Bartoli 	2023-2024
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> PhD student in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Tech.	
	<i>Project:</i> Continual learning for dynamic object location changes in household setups	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-supervisor (Publications C15 and W6)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anna Deichler 	2023-2024
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> PhD student in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Tech.	
	<i>Project:</i> Multimodal dataset gathering for referential referring expressions in VR	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-mentor	
	<i>MS Students</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rafal Karpiński (visiting student at Cambridge) 	2024-present
	<i>Program & Home Institution:</i> MS student in Computer Science, Utrecht University	
	<i>Thesis:</i> Continual learning for socially appropriate robot actions in home and office contexts	
	<i>Role:</i> MS thesis supervisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jesher Joshua (visiting student at Cambridge) 	2024-2025
	<i>Program & Home Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, Vellore Institute of Technology	
	<i>Project:</i> Unsupervised clustering of user nonverbal cues in journaling sessions	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-supervisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alexander Leszczynski 	2024-2025
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology	
	<i>Thesis:</i> Leveraging LLMs and Behavior Trees for Understanding User Instructions	
	<i>Role:</i> MS thesis supervisor (Publication C16 , senior author)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aiman Shenawa 	2024-2025
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology	
	<i>Thesis:</i> Task specific evaluation of LLMs: A study for human-robot interaction	
	<i>Role:</i> MS thesis supervisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Georgios Hadjiantonis 	2023-2024
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology	
	<i>Thesis:</i> ML for topic change in robot-moderated discussions using non-verbal features	
	<i>Role:</i> MS thesis supervisor (Publication C13 , senior author)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amrita Panesar 	2021-2022
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology	
	<i>Thesis:</i> Improving visual question answering with depth and adapting explainability	
	<i>Role:</i> MS thesis supervisor (Publication C8)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aswin Gururaj Prakash 	2022
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> MS in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology	
	<i>Project:</i> Fusing semantic object understanding to the robot's semantic mapping	
	<i>Role:</i> Project co-supervisor	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jiaming Huang 	2022
	<i>Program & Institution:</i> 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 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
- Yuval Weiss 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
- Yasaswi Malladi 2025-present
- Program & Institution:** BS in Computer Science, University of Cambridge
- Project:** Generating animation of MannersDB+ scenes in Unity
- Role:** Project supervisor
- Lara Horne 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 Robotics and Auto. Letters (RA-L)*, HRI 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

- Robotics and Embodied Intelligence Workshop, CHIA, University of Cambridge, 2025
- Workshop on Expl. in Human-Robot Collaboration: Real-World Concerns, HRI 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
- Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction Conference (ACII), 2024
- Towards Autonomous Robotic Systems Conference (TAROS), 2021
- SpLU-RoboNLP Workshop, 2021 and 2023

Journal Article Referee

- Frontiers in Robotics and AI
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)
- Autonomous Robots (AURO)
- 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