

# FETHİYE IRMAK DOĞAN

Postdoctoral Research Associate

University of Cambridge, UK

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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: <a href="#">Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities</a></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. Luísa 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: <a href="#">Hierarchical Incremental Context Modeling in Robots</a></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 <a href="#">University of Cambridge</a>, 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 J3, C22, C21, C20, C19, C17, C14</li></ul>	
	<i>Postdoctoral researcher at <a href="#">KTH Royal Institute of Technology</a></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, 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 <a href="#">Georgia Institute of Technology</a>, 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 <a href="#">Oxford Machine Learning Summer School</a></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 <a href="#">Amazon Alexa Prize</a>, 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 <a href="#">Middle East Technical University</a>, 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, Kovancılar 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>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>	- Contributor to the <b>School of Technology Seed Fund Grant</b> Awarded by: University of Cambridge Project: "Can social robots help for mediation and advocacy for students with disabilities?" Budget: £10.000 GBP	2024
	- Travel grant from ACL Annual Conference of NAACL-HLT Awarded by: North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics Budget: \$500 USD	2019
	- Travel grant from IEEE ICRA Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation Budget: \$1137.15 USD	2018
	- Travel grant from IEEE/RSJ IROS Awarded by: IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems Budget: Up to €500.00 EUR	2018
<b>INVITED TALKS</b>	<b>Title:</b> "Shaping Robot Behaviour through Explanations and Expectations in HRI" - <b>Keynote speaker on Robo-Identity Workshop</b> , IEEE RO-MAN	2025
	<b>Title:</b> "Autonomous and Explainable Robots in Human Environments" - <b>Keynote speaker on CHIA Early Career Conference</b>	2025
	- Seminar talk at the <b>Designing Intelligence Lab</b> , Delft University of Technology	2025
	- Interaction Division Colloquium, Utrecht University	2025
	- Science seminar, Darwin College, University of Cambridge	2025
<b>SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>Title:</b> "Robots That Understand Natural Language Instructions and Resolve Ambiguities" - <b>Google DeepMind Research Ready Program</b> , University of Cambridge	2024
	- <b>Talking Robotics</b> , a series of seminars about Robotics and AI	2021
	- <b>Oxford Machine Learning Summer School</b> , Unconference Track	2021
	- Seminar talk at <b>RAIL Research Lab</b> , Georgia Institute of Technology	2021
	- Seminar talk at <b>Image Lab</b> , Middle East Technical University	2021
<b>Journal Articles</b>		
<b>J4</b>	E. Yadollahi*, <b>F. I. Doğan</b> *, 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> )	
	<b>J3</b> W. Tang, <b>F. I. Dogan</b> , 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> .	
	<b>J2</b> <b>F. I. Doğan</b> , 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.	
	<b>J1</b> <b>F. I. Doğan</b> , 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.	
<b>Conference Proceedings</b>		
<b>C22</b>	J. Huang, <b>F. I. Doğan</b> , and H. Gunes, 'Reimagining Social Robots as Recommender Systems: Foundations, Framework, and Applications', <i>Proceedings of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)</i> , 2026. (Accepted)	
	<b>C21</b> A. Markelius, <b>F. I. Doğan</b> , J. Bailey, G. Laban, J. I. Gibson, and H. Gunes, 'Social Robotics for Disabled Students: An Empirical Investigation of Embodiment, Roles and Interaction', <i>Proceedings of ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI)</i> , 2026. (Accepted)	

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\* Equal Contribution

- 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.
- 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.

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\* Equal Contribution  
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- 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.

#### 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

- Guest Lecture in the Affective AI Course, University of Cambridge* 11.2024 & 11.2025
  - 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: around 25 students
- Teaching Assistant at Interaction Design, University of Cambridge* 04.2024-06.2024
  - 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
- Lecturer at Social Robotics Course, KTH* 10.2023-01.2024
  - 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
- Teaching Assistant at Machine Learning Course, KTH* 01.2019-03.2022
  - 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
  - # 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"> <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>	<i>PhD Students</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Massimiliano Nigro (visiting student at Cambridge) <span style="float: right;">2025-present</span>  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> PhD student 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) <span style="float: right;">2024-present</span>  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> PhD candidate 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 <span style="float: right;">2023-2024</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> PhD student 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 <span style="float: right;">2023-2024</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> PhD student 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</li> </ul>	
	<i>MS Students</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rafal Karpiński (visiting student at Cambridge) <span style="float: right;">2024-present</span>  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> MS student in Computer Science, Utrecht University  <b>Thesis:</b> Continual learning for socially appropriate robot actions in home and office contexts  <b>Role:</b> MS thesis supervisor</li> <li>- Jesher Joshua (visiting student at Cambridge) <span style="float: right;">2024-2025</span>  <b>Program &amp; Home Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, Vellore Institute of Technology  <b>Project:</b> Unsupervised clustering of user nonverbal cues in journaling sessions  <b>Role:</b> Project co-supervisor</li> <li>- Alexander Leszczynski <span style="float: right;">2024-2025</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  <b>Thesis:</b> Leveraging LLMs and Behavior Trees for Understanding User Instructions  <b>Role:</b> MS thesis supervisor (Publication <a href="#">C16</a>, senior author)</li> <li>- Aiman Shenawa <span style="float: right;">2024-2025</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  <b>Thesis:</b> Task specific evaluation of LLMs: A study for human-robot interaction  <b>Role:</b> MS thesis supervisor</li> <li>- Georgios Hadjiantonis <span style="float: right;">2023-2024</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  <b>Thesis:</b> ML for topic change in robot-moderated discussions using non-verbal features  <b>Role:</b> MS thesis supervisor (Publication <a href="#">C13</a>, senior author)</li> <li>- Amrita Panesar <span style="float: right;">2021-2022</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  <b>Thesis:</b> Improving visual question answering with depth and adapting explainability  <b>Role:</b> MS thesis supervisor (Publication <a href="#">C8</a>)</li> <li>- Aswin Gururaj Prakash <span style="float: right;">2022</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, Georgia Institute of Technology  <b>Project:</b> Fusing semantic object understanding to the robot's semantic mapping  <b>Role:</b> Project co-supervisor</li> <li>- Jiaming Huang <span style="float: right;">2022</span>  <b>Program &amp; Institution:</b> MS in Computer Science, KTH Royal Institute of Technology  <b>Project:</b> Concise unambiguous referring expression generation to handle uncertain requests  <b>Role:</b> Robotics project course supervisor</li> </ul>	

- 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
- Yasarwi 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 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*

- 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