

Kerem Zaman

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EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC, USA

PhD in Computer Science (2022 - Present)

Advisor: Prof. Shashank Srivastava

Boğaziçi University

Istanbul, Turkey

BSc in Computer Engineering (2018 - 2022)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interpretable and explainable machine learning, AI safety, large language models, multilingual NLP, fairness

PUBLICATIONS

A Causal Lens for Evaluating Faithfulness Metrics

[Kerem Zaman](#), Shashank Srivastava

Under Review

INTERACT: Enabling Interactive, Question-Driven Learning in Large Language Models

Aum Kendapadi*, [Kerem Zaman](#)*, Rakesh R Menon*, Shashank Srivastava

Under Review

Fuse to Forget: Bias Reduction and Selective Memorization through Model Fusion

[Kerem Zaman](#), Leshem Choshen, Shashank Srivastava

EMNLP 2024

MaNtLE: Model-agnostic Natural Language Explainer

Rakesh R Menon, [Kerem Zaman](#), Shashank Srivastava

EMNLP 2023

A Multilingual Perspective Towards the Evaluation of Attribution Methods

[Kerem Zaman](#), Yonatan Belinkov

EMNLP 2022

Rank in Style: A Ranking-based Approach to Find Interpretable Directions in StyleGAN

Umut Kocasarı*, [Kerem Zaman](#)*, Mert Tiftikci*, Pinar Yanardag

CVPR 2022 5th Workshop on Computer Vision for Fashion, Art, and Design

BURST: Software and Simulation Solutions of an Autonomous Vehicle

Fatih Köse, İbrahim Özcan, Melih Dal, Metehan Yıldırım, Kadir Türksay, [Kerem Zaman](#), Tuna Meral, Sinan Öncü

2020 28th Signal Processing and Communications Applications Conference (SIU), Gaziantep, Turkey, pp. 1-4

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNC-NLP

Chapel Hill, NC, USA

Graduate Research Assistant | Advisor: Shashank Srivastava

August 2022 - Present

Working on explainable NLP, interpretability and fairness, model fusion

CATLAB at Bogazici University

Istanbul, Turkey

Undergraduate Research Assistant | Advisor: Pinar Yanardag

October 2021 - June 2022

Worked on improvement of text-based image manipulations for GANs by utilizing automatically extracted masks and improved text generation strategies

Independent Research

Remote

supervised by Yonatan Belinkov

April 2021 - June 2022

Worked on evaluating wide variety of attribution methods on the NLI task along with introducing a novel method for faithfulness evaluation

Independent Research

Remote

supervised by Tolga Birdal

September 2021 - September 2022

Worked on Riemannian replacement of GANs and the concepts like interpolation, random walk and latent manipulation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PragmaCraft

Istanbul, Turkey

Software Engineer

March 2020 - June 2022

Software Engineer Intern

July 2018 - March 2020

- Worked on design, implementation and optimization of retrieval and question-answering modules of the intelligent search assistant product
- Worked on abstractive summarization for Turkish texts
- Worked on text classification for redirecting the applications about COVID-19 related issues to the related departments for ISBANK (one of the largest banks in Turkey)
- Worked on the backend development of various services

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Reviewer at ICLR 2025, ACL Rolling Review (ARR) 2024, DaSH Workshop @ EMNLP 2022

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, C/C++
- **Technologies:** Git, ROS, Gazebo, MongoDB, Docker
- **Libraries:** PyTorch, numpy, scikit-learn, OpenCV, Transformers
- **Familiar with:** HTML, CSS, Javascript, SQL, C#, Verilog, LaTeX, AWS
- **Human Languages:** Turkish (native), English (advanced), Laz (elementary), Ancient Egyptian (elementary), German (elementary)

PROJECTS

- **Bogazici University Robotic Systems Team Autonomous EV project (2018 - 2022)** : Led Autonomous Software Team between 2020-2022, developed path planning and control systems, took part in traffic sign detection module, realized and tested them in simulation environment and on the real vehicle.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Most Original Software Award for Unique Vehicle Category at Teknofest Robotaxi-Full Scale Autonomous Vehicle Competition 2021
- 1st place in Preliminary Design and Simulation Stage at Teknofest Robotaxi-Full Scale Autonomous Vehicle Competition 2019 & 2020
- 242nd place among 2M+ students in University Entrance Exam (2018)
- 3rd place in Istanbul-Asia Region in TUBITAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) Research Projects Challenge for High School Students
- Gave introductory programming courses in high school organizations