

# Shuhail Mehri

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am broadly interested in human-centered AI. My current research explores (1) multi-turn and mixed-initiative conversational agents, (2) continual learning throughout multi-session interactions, and (3) reliable and realistic user simulation.

## EDUCATION

- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** Aug. 2024 - Present  
*Ph.D. in Computer Science, Advisor: Prof. Dilek Hakkani-Tür*
- University of British Columbia** Sep. 2019 - May 2024  
*B.Sc. Honours Computer Science, Advisors: Prof. Vered Shwartz, Giuseppe Carenini*

## PUBLICATIONS

- [1] **Long-Term Collaborative Agents with Lifelong Memory** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
(In Progress)
- [2] **Mitigating Catastrophic Forgetting in Non-Parametric Memory** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Sumuk Shashidhar, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
(In Progress)
- [3] **Goal Alignment in LLM-Based User Simulators for Conversational AI** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Xiaocheng Yang, Takyung Kim, Gokhan Tur, Shikib Mehri, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
*TACL 2025*
- [4] **Intrinsic-RAG: Orchestrating LLM Intrinsics for Enhanced Retrieval-Augmented Generation** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Krishnateja Killamsetty, Vraj Shah, Lucian Popa, Marina Danilevksy.  
*TMLR 2025 (under submission)*
- [5] **Must Read: A Systematic Survey of Computational Persuasion** [🔗](#)  
Nimet Beyza Bozdag, Shuhail Mehri, Xiaocheng Yang, Hyeonjeong Ha, Zirui Cheng, Esin Durmus, Jiaxuan You, Heng Ji, Gokhan Tur, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
*TMLR 2025 (under submission)*
- [6] **PIPA: A Unified Evaluation Protocol for Diagnosing Interactive Planning Agents** [🔗](#)  
Takyung Kim\*, Janvijay Singh\*, Shuhail Mehri\*, Emre Can Acikgoz, Sagnik Mukherjee,  
Nimet Beyza Bozdag, Sumuk Shashidhar, Gokhan Tur, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
*NeurIPS 2025 MTI-LLM*
- [7] **Persuade Me if You Can: A Framework for Evaluating Persuasion Effectiveness and Susceptibility Among Large Language Models** [🔗](#)  
Nimet Beyza Bozdag, Shuhail Mehri, Gokhan Tur, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
*ICLR 2026 (under submission)*
- [8] **Beyond Sample-Level Feedback: Using Reference-Level Feedback to Guide Data Synthesis** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Xiusi Chen, Heng Ji, Dilek Hakkani-Tür.  
*EACL 2025 (under submission)*
- [9] **Discourse Relation Recognition with Language Models Under Different Data Availability** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Chuyuan Li, Giuseppe Carenini.  
*EMNLP 2025 CODI*
- [10] **Exploiting Questions Under Discussion for Discourse Relation Recognition in Dialog** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Chuyuan Li, Giuseppe Carenini.  
*EACL 2024 CODI*
- [11] **Automatic Evaluation of Generative Models with Instruction Tuning** [🔗](#)  
Shuhail Mehri, Vered Shwartz.  
*EMNLP 2023 GEM*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### IBM Research

May. 2025 – Aug 2025

#### *Research Scientist Intern, Scalable Knowledge Intelligence Team*

- Built a dynamic routing system for RAG pipelines that orchestrates specialized LLM intrinsics based on real-time feedback signals to improve response efficiency and quality.

### iClinic Systems Inc.

Dec. 2023 – May 2024

#### *Research Scientist Intern*

- Awarded the Mitacs Accelerated Fellowship for Master's and PhD Students as an undergraduate student, under the recommendation of Prof. Vered Shwartz.
- Worked on an information extraction pipeline tailored for clinical documents, and designed evaluations using synthetic data generation.

### Amazon

Jan. 2023 – Aug. 2023

#### *Software Development Engineer Intern, Gurupa Team*

- Owned the end-to-end creation of an interactive data visualization tool that streamlined the migration from Amazon's core page rendering engine. Resulted in a fully operation web application deployed to production.

### Amazon

May 2022 – Aug. 2022

#### *Software Development Engineer Intern, Dram Team*

- Built a command line interface that uses cloud computing to generate and register consumer ready metadata, enabling developers to create/manage Amazon web pages.

### Clir Renewables

Sep. 2021 – Dec. 2021

#### *Software Development Engineer Intern*

- Built and deployed a management software solution for renewable energy assets.

## TEACHING

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### University of British Columbia

Sep 2020 – May 2024

Teaching Assistant for *Models of Computation (CPSC 121)* and *Intro to Software Engineering (CPSC 310)*

## AWARDS

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### Mitacs Accelerate Fellowship

2023