

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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 intrinsic 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

University of British Columbia*Sep 2020 – May 2024**Teaching Assistant for Models of Computation (CPSC 121) and Intro to Software Engineering (CPSC 310)***AWARDS**

*Mitacs Accelerate Fellowship**2023*