

EDUCATION

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkiye
M.Sc., Data Science
Advisor: Assistant Prof. Onur Varol
GPA: 3.95/4.0

Sep. 2022 - Aug. 2024

Erciyes University, Kayseri, Turkiye
M.Sc., Civil Engineering
Thesis: Comparison of regional and general machine learning models for reference evapotranspiration prediction in Turkiye
Advisor: Associate Prof. Hatice Citakoglu
GPA: 4.0/4.0

Sep. 2020 - Aug. 2022

Damascus University, Damascus, Syria
B.Sc., Civil Engineering,
Grade: 87.0/100 (Ranked 3rd in class)

Sept. 2013 - Aug. 2018

WORK
EXPERIENCE

AI Research Engineer - Huawei (Jan. 2024 - Present)
Task-specific and general instruction SFT of LLMs
Synthetic data generation for SFT
Developing customized RAG and agentic workflows
Textual data curation, processing, and analysis
Experimenting with latest research on model structure and training improvement

PUBLICATIONS
GOOGLE SCHOLAR

Journal Articles

- J.1 **Zouzou Y.**, Varol O., “**Unsupervised detection of coordinated fake-follower campaigns on social media.**”, EPJ Data Science (2024)
- J.2 Najafi A., Mugurtay N., **Zouzou, Y.**, Demirci E., Demirkiran S., Karadeniz H. A., Varol O., “**First public dataset to study 2023 Turkish general election**”, Scientific Reports (2024)
- J.3 **Zouzou Y.**, Citakoglu H., “**General and regional cross-station assessment of machine learning models for estimating reference evapotranspiration.**” Acta Geophysica (2023)

CONDUCTED
RESEARCH AND
ACADEMIC
EXPERIENCE

VRLLAB, Istanbul, Turkiye

Nov, 2022 - Aug. 2024

– **Effect of YouTube programs on polarization**

Feb, 2023 - Aug. 2024

- * Analyzed the effect of a political “open-discussion” program on polarization in Turkish social media
- * Conducted a longitudinal study of Tweet volume, Twitter followers, Google Trends, and Wikipedia PageView statistics of the program guests to examine the engagement rates
- * Compared the newly gained followers of the guests before and after the program based on their political leanings

– **Signaling political affiliations through profile pictures**

Aug, 2023 - Aug. 2024

- * Clustered Twitter profile images using their embeddings from CLIP model
- * Exploring the signals in the profile pictures of users from different political leanings (ongoing)

INVITED

LECTURER AND TALKS

1. Presented “Unsupervised detection of coordinated fake-follower campaigns on social media.” paper in [Turkiye Computational Social Sciences Conference \(TCSS\) 2023](#), Koc University, Turkiye.
 2. Applications of Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) in industry, Sabanci University Altunizade Digital Campus, Turkiye.
 3. Real world applications of LLMs and RAG, 2024, Sabanci University, Turkiye.
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MENTORING AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Experience

Sabanci University - Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences

CS514: Network Science

Spring 2023-2024

CS412: Machine Learning

Fall 2023-2024

CS210: Introduction to Data Science

Spring 2022-2023

IF100: Computational Approaches to Problem Solving

Fall 2022-2023

As a teaching assistant, my responsibilities include preparing recitation materials and assignments, giving recitations, hosting office hours, and grading exams.

Mentoring Experience

VRL Lab, Sabanci University

Sabanci Program for Undergraduate Research

Summer 2022-2023

Mentored one undergraduate research intern who worked on the “Signaling political affiliations through profile pictures” project during the summer period.

COMPUTER AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

Skills:

Programming Languages: Python

Frameworks: Pytorch

Librares: Pandas, Numpy, Matplotlib, Seaborn, NetworkX

Other: MySQL, Gephi (Network Visualization), Dify (Agent Orchestration)

Languages: Arabic (Native), English (Fluent), Turkish (Fluent)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Sabanci University Teaching Awards

December 2023

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkiye

Second place in the teaching assistant yearly awards

TUBITAK Scholarship

Aug. 2023 - Aug. 2024

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkiye, Turkiye

Awarded a 100% tuition waiver and a monthly stipend as a researcher in the project [CON-NET](#) funded by CHIST-ERA, EU, and TUBITAK 1071 programs

Sabanci University Scholarship

Sep. 2022 - Aug 2023

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkiye

Awarded a 100% tuition scholarship and a monthly stipend as an MSc student

Turkiye Scholarships

Sep. 2019 - Aug 2022

Erciyes University, Kayseri, Turkiye

Awarded a 100% tuition scholarship and a monthly stipend as an MSc student