

# Yarkin Ergin

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## SUMMARY

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I am a quantitative scientist with six years of research and project-based data analysis experience. I am experienced with statistical techniques to process, analyze, and visualize both quantitative and qualitative data and work independently. I am currently looking for opportunities to apply my skills and knowledge I gathered in academia to solve practical data-oriented industry-based problems.

## SKILLS

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- **Experience:** R, Python, SQL, Power BI, Tableau, Looker Studio, GitHub, JASP, Praat, Adobe, MS Office, Advanced Excel (VLOOKUP, pivot tables)
- **Quantitative:** machine learning (ML), artificial intelligence (AI), data analysis, data visualization, data processing pipelines, mixed-effects models, Bayesian model comparison, analytical thinking, exploratory and inferential statistics, predictive modeling, survey analysis, field studies, usability tests
- **Soft Skills:** excellent verbal and written communication, 1:1 interviews, behavioral study design, problem solving, identifying patterns, strategic thinking, translate research findings into strategic narratives, adaptable, open-minded, detail-oriented, resourceful, biased towards action, time management, quick-learner, team-player

## EXPERIENCE

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### Rutgers University: New Brunswick, NJ, Statistical Consultancy for Departments

Oct 2022 – Present

- Processed the complex higher education related diversity, equity, and inclusion survey data for the departments of philosophy and Eng. Lit for personnel, analyzed & visualized the results describing the levels of discrimination and bias
- Communicated the report to administrative committees in a meaningfully interpretable way, suitable for non-technical audiences
- The findings of this report provided data-driven insights that largely impacted the decision-making process of the DEI Committee for the following year to take proactive measures to prevent discrimination. Using project-management tools, the philosophy department project was successfully completed three months ahead of schedule

### Rutgers University: New Brunswick, NJ, Instructor

Jul 2018 – Mar 2023

- Taught 4 introductory level courses on statistics and cognitive science at the undergraduate level
- Trained a diverse student body of 700+ on using appropriate statistical tools and writing up results as a report

### KUAR: Istanbul, Turkey, Researcher for Human-Computer Interaction

Jul 2016 – Jan 2017

- Designed and conducted a user study on preference between free-hand or on-skin gestures when interacting with wearable computing devices
- Analyzed data using, created visualizations, and [published results](#) in top-level conference proceedings
- Discovered free-hand gestures to be 23% more intuitive and fun, but on-skin gestures are preferred due to being physically less demanding and socially more acceptable. The project-owner considered the results for product design

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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### Research

Aug 2017 – present

- Personally conducted 7+ experiments, and tested 100+ participants both in-person and remotely to study the linguistic features and cognitive mechanisms involved in sentence processing
- Managed a team of undergraduate students, delegated responsibilities, mentored them individually for their own academic advancement and pursuit of publication in conference proceedings
- Using R and Python, processed, analyzed, and presented [my research](#) findings in 10+ domestic and international conferences

### Erdős Institute Data Science Bootcamp

May-Jun 2020, Sep-Dec 2023

- Lead a team of data scientists for a project to detect cases of music plagiarism using Python and SQL. Applied image-recognition machine learning techniques (i.e., using the Siamese convolutional neural network (CNN) method) to popular songs' spectrograms to assess cases of music plagiarism. Model achieved 74% accuracy to distinguish plagiarized from non-plagiarized cases
- Gathered temperature data across United States using Python web-scrappers and SQL. Used time-series analyses to investigate the relationship between COVID-19 related lockdowns in spring of 2020 and deviation from carbon emissions and their effects on the cyclical temperature changes.

## EDUCATION

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**Rutgers University, Ph.D.** Cognitive Psychology, focus on Psycholinguistics and Data Analysis

May 2020 – Jan 2025

**Rutgers University, M.Sc.** Cognitive Psychology, focus on Cognitive Science

Aug 2017 – May 2020

**Bogazici University, B.A.** Psychology with a minor in Linguistics

Sep 2012 – June 2017