

# RAMI AL-RFOU

ralrfou@cs.stonybrook.edu  
www.cs.stonybrook.edu/~ralrfou

+1 631 371 3165  
350 Circle Rd. Stony Brook, NY 11790

## Education

---

- SEP 10 - MAY 15 **PhD in Computer Science**, *Stony Brook University*, Stony Brook, NY.  
Thesis: *Polyglot: Massive multilingual Natural Language Processing Pipeline*.  
Adviser: *Steven Skiena*.
- SEP 04 - FEB 09 **BSc. in Computer Engineering**, *University of Jordan*, Amman, Jordan.  
GPA: 3.79/4.0, ranked 4<sup>th</sup> of a 128-student class.
- SEP 02 - JUN 04 **Secondary Education Diploma**, *Tafila Secondary School*, Tafila, Jordan.  
Percentage average: 97.4%, 99.9<sup>th</sup> percentile nationwide.

## Research Experience

---

- SEP 11 - *present* **Research Assistant**, *Stony Brook University*, Stony Brook, NY.  
Working in the Data Science Lab under the supervision of Prof. Steven Skiena developing a multilingual NLP pipeline.
- MAY - AUG 13 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft*, New York City, NY.  
Worked with Léon Bottou on active learning and prior knowledge integration.
- MAY - AUG 12 **Research Intern**, *Google*, Mountain View, CA.  
Designed a multilingual coreference resolution system with Jay Ponte.

## Teaching Experience

---

- AUG 10 - MAY 11 **Teaching Assistant**, *Stony Brook University*, Stony Brook, NY.  
Fall 2010: • Computer Science I (CSE114) • Computer Science III (CSE219)  
Spring 2011: • Analysis of Algorithms (CSE373)
- FEB 09 - JULY 10 **Lab Instructor**, *Middle East Technical University*, TRNC.  
Designed new experiments for the Microprocessors lab (EE347) and wrote new manual for the Electricity and Magnetism Lab.

## Development Experience

---

- JUN - AUG 11 **Software Engineering Intern**, *Google*, Mountain View, CA.  
Worked on visualizing Google network infrastructure.
- APR - DEC 08 **Software Developer**, *Jovision*, Amman, Jordan.  
Developed new image processing fault detection algorithms for the JoInspector software using C# and MATLAB, the software is used in tire factories QA departments.

## Publications

---

- MAY 15 **Statistically Significant Detection of Linguistic Change**.  
Vivek Kulkarni, Rami Al-Rfou, Bryan Perozzi, and Steven Skiena. 24<sup>th</sup> WWW, Florence, Italy.
- APR 15 **Polyglot-NER: Massive Multilingual Named Entity Recognition**.  
Rami Al-Rfou, Vivek Kulkarni, Bryan Perozzi, and Steven Skiena. SDM '15, Vancouver, Canada.
- AUG 14 **DeepWalk: Online Learning of Social Representations**.  
Bryan Perozzi, Rami Al-Rfou, and Steven Skiena. 20<sup>th</sup> ACM SIGKDD 2014, NYC, USA.
- MAR 14 **Inducing Language Networks from Continuous Space Word Representations**.  
Bryan Perozzi, Rami Al-Rfou, Vivek Kulkarni and Steven Skiena. 5<sup>th</sup> Workshop on Complex Networks, Bologna, Italy.
- AUG 13 **Polyglot: Distributed Word Representations for Multilingual NLP**.  
Rami Al-Rfou, Bryan Perozzi, and Steven Skiena. CoNLL 2013, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- JUN 13 **The Expressive Power of Word Embeddings**.  
Yanqing Chen, Bryan Perozzi, Rami Al-Rfou, and Steven Skiena. ICML Workshop 2013, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
- DEC 12 **SpeedRead: A Fast Named Entity Recognition Pipeline**.  
Rami Al-Rfou and Steven Skiena. COLING 2012, IIT Bombay, Mumbai, India.

## Technical Reports

---

- APR 12 **Detecting English Writing Styles For Non-native Speakers**.  
Rami Al-Rfou

## Service

Reviewer COLING 2014, EMNLP 2014.

## Open Source Software

polyglot	Multilingual NLP pipeline.	<a href="https://github.com/aboSamoor/polyglot">https://github.com/aboSamoor/polyglot</a>
deepwalk	Representation extractor of social networks.	<a href="https://github.com/phanein/deepwalk">https://github.com/phanein/deepwalk</a> .
word2embeddings	Word embeddings trainer.	<a href="http://bit.ly/embeddings">http://bit.ly/embeddings</a>

## Honors and Awards

AUG 10	<b>Stony Brook Computer Science Fellowship.</b>
JUL 09	<b>IEEE Student Branch Membership Growth Award for Region 8.</b>
APR 09	<b>IEEE Darrel Chong Student Activity Bronze Award.</b>
OCT 04	<b>The Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship</b>
MAY 02	<b>The National Mathematics/Physics Olympiad</b> Scored the first in both Mathematics and Physics National Olympiads in the southern region of Jordan and 7 <sup>th</sup> nationwide.

## Voluntary Work

OCT 08 - SEP 09	<b>Mentor</b> , <i>IEEE student branch</i> , University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan.
OCT 07 - SEP 08	<b>Chairman</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organized the National Technology Parade.</li><li>• Participated in the IEEE Region 8 Student Branch and GOLD Congress.</li><li>• Constructed a new website for the branch (<a href="http://ju-ieee.com">ju-ieee.com</a>).</li></ul>
JAN - JUNE 08	<b>Designer and Administrator</b> , <i>Theoretical Physics Lab</i> , Uni of Jordan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participated in designing, building and administrating a beowulf linux cluster, in response to the lab's demand for faster computation.</li></ul>
OCT 06 - JAN 08	<b>Team Leader</b> , " <i>We Are All Jordan</i> " <i>Youth Commission</i> , Jordan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participated in the efforts that established and founded the youth commission.</li><li>• Represented the Jordanian youth as a part of the official delegation during the state visit of His Majesty King AbduAllah II to China, from Oct.27<sup>th</sup> - Nov.1<sup>st</sup> 2007.</li></ul>

## Skills

Languages	• Arabic: Native	• English: Fluent
Hobbies	• Hiking	• Cooking
Programming	Python, C/C++.	
Scientific Software	Theano, Scikits-learn, NLTK, Numpy, IPython, Pandas.	
Computer Skills	Experienced in building and maintaining networks infrastructure and managing Linux systems.	

## References

<b>Steven Skiena</b> Department of Computer Science Stony Brook University Stony Brook, NY 11794 ✉ <a href="mailto:skiena@cs.stonybrook.edu">skiena@cs.stonybrook.edu</a>	<b>Léon Bottou</b> Microsoft Research 641 Avenue of Americas New York, NY 10011 ✉ <a href="mailto:leonbo@microsoft.com">leonbo@microsoft.com</a>	<b>Jay Ponte</b> Google Research 1600 Amphitheatre Pkwy Mountain View, CA 94043 ✉ <a href="mailto:jay.ponte@gmail.com">jay.ponte@gmail.com</a>
---	--	--