

# Ali Asgarov

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🎓 Ali Asgarov    🌐 aliasgerovs.github.io

## Research Interests

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**I work in the areas of computer vision and natural language processing, with a primary focus on multimodal learning and vision-language models. My research interests include:**

- Reasoning in vision-language models
- Cross-modal retrieval across images, text, video, and audio
- Structured information extraction from multimodal data
- Knowledge representation for multimodal reasoning

## Education

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### Virginia Tech

*PhD in Computer Science*

*Aug 2024 – Present*

- **GPA:** 4.0/4.0
- **Advisor:** Dr. Chris Thomas
- **Coursework:** Multimodal Vision, Comparison of Learning Algorithms

### George Washington University

*MSc in Computer Science*

*Aug 2022 – Dec 2023*

- **GPA:** 3.76/4.0
- **Advisor:** Dr.Rebecca Hwa & Dr.Samir Rustamov
- **Coursework:** Machine Learning, Neural Networks & Deep Learning, Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data & Analytics, Database Management Systems, Advanced Software Paradigms, Computer System Architecture, Design & Analysis of Algorithms

### Baku Higher Oil School

*BEng in Automation Engineering*

*Aug 2017 – May 2022*

- **GPA:** 91/100
- **Advisor:** Dr.Ali Parsayan
- **Coursework:** Calculus I , Calculus II, Calculus III, Numerical Methods, Algorithms and Data Structures I, Algorithms and Data Structures II, Algorithms and Data Structures III, Image Pattern Recognition

## Experience

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### Lead Machine Learning Engineer

*Polygraf AI*

*Austin, TX*

*Dec 2023 – Aug 2024*

- Achieved a **92% F1** score in detecting **AI-generated** content and enhanced data governance by fine-tuning advanced NLP models (BERT, RoBERTa, DeBERTa, T5) and deploying production-ready pipelines using AWS SageMaker, Lambda, and GCP services.

### Lead Machine Learning Engineer

*Revenue AI*

*Amsterdam, NL*

*Feb 2022 – Aug 2022*

- Improved decision-making processes by deploying machine learning models like **anomaly detection, classification, regression, video summarization** and optimizing data pipelines using Azure services.

### Middle Machine Learning Engineer

*Voiceloft*

*Middletown, DE*

*Jan 2021 – Feb 2022*

- Achieved **93% ASR** accuracy (**23%** higher than Google Translate) by developing models for low-resource languages using PyTorch, Kaldi, collecting diverse data, and fine-tuning for 11 English accents.

## Publications

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**ENTER: Event Based Interpretable Reasoning for VideoQA,** Oct 2024  
Multimodal Algorithmic Reasoning Workshop, **NeurIPS 2024, Spotlight Paper**  
Hammad Ayyubi, Junzhang Liu, Zhecan James Wang, Hani Alomari, Chia-Wei Tang, **Ali Asgarov**,  
Md. Atabuzzaman, Najibul Haque Sarker, Zaber Ibn Abdul Hakim, Shih-Fu Chang,  
Chris Thomas

[paper](#) [🔗](#)

**LowCLIP: Adapting the CLIP Model Architecture for Low-Resource** June 2024  
**Languages in Multimodal Image Retrieval Task**

Submitted to **COLING 2025**

Ali Asgarov, Samir Rustamov

[paper](#) [🔗](#)

**3D-CNNs-Based Touchless Human-Machine Interaction** Sep 2023  
International Conference on Interactive Collaborative Robotics, **ICR 2023**, Springer,  
Berlin

**Ali Asgarov**, Ali Parsayan

[paper](#) [🔗](#)

## Honors & Awards

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**2022** State Program on Education of Azerbaijani Youth Abroad Scholarship

**2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Place (3x), National AI Competition in ML Applications (2020–2022)

**2020** Ranked among the top 15 teams at the III World Robot Olympiad in Győr, Hungary

**2019** Gold Medal at the III World Robot Olympiad in Azerbaijan

**2018 Presidential Scholarship** for Exceptional Academic Performance

**2017** Scored 690 out of 700 on the University Entrance Exam

**2017** High School Graduate with a Gold Medal, placing in the top 2% among 90,000 graduating students

## Patents

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**US Patent Application No. 4883-5431-3873 (2024):** System and Method for Identifying and Determining  
a Content Source.

## Technologies

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**Languages:** Python, C/C++, **SQL (Postgres)**, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, **R**, Matlab, Scala

**Frameworks:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, **FastAPI**, Flask, **Docker**, MLlib, Apache Spark, Apache Hadoop

**Developer Tools:** Git, TravisCI, Google Cloud Platform, Compute Engine, AWS Sagemaker, AWS  
Lambda, AWS S3, GCP Deep Learning, GCP BigQuery, GCP AI Platform, *Eclipse*

**Libraries:** Hugging Face Transformers, Sentence Transformers, OpenCV, Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn,  
NLTK, Spacy, Plotly, Matplotlib, Gradio, Streamlit

**Bold** = Expert, Underlined = Intermediate.

## Teaching

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Fall **2024** CS5644: Machine Learning with Big Data, Virginia Tech

## Languages

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**English** (fluent) **Turkish** (fluent) **Azerbaijani** (native)