

# Andrea Madotto

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## EDUCATION

**The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**, Hong Kong

*Ph.D.* candidate in Electronic & Computer Engineering, 2018 - Present

GPA: 4.3/4.3

**University of Pisa**, Italy

*Master's Degree* in Computer Science, 2015 - 2017

Final mark: 110/110 (Honours)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Research Scientist Intern**

FacebookAI

Remote

Aug 2020 – Dec 2020

Conducting research on Continual Learning for Task-Oriented Dialogue Systems. I proposed a large scale benchmark plus a novel architectural-based algorithm for the task.

**Data Science Intern**

UberAI

San Francisco, CA

Jun 2019 – Sept 2019

Conducting research on text-based games (i.e. TextWorld) using reinforcement learning (RL) algorithms. I am mainly worked on exploration-based algorithms (e.g. Go-Explore) for improving RL performance in large action space environments.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

**Tutorial** "Deeper Conversational AI" at NeurIPS 2020.

**Reviewer** NAACL 2019, EMNLP 2019, ACL 2019, AAAI 2020, ACL 2020, EMNLP 2020, ICLR 2020, NeurIPS 2020, AAAI 2021, ICML 2021, NAACL 2021, and and Computer Speech and Languages (Journal).

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

[**AAAI2021-Demo**] *Andrea Madotto*, Zhaojiang Lin, Yejin Bang, Pascale Fung. The Adapter-Bot: All-In-One Controllable Conversational Model. Accepted at AAAI 2021 Demo.

[**EMNLP2020-Findings**] *Andrea Madotto*, Etsuko Ishii, Zhaojiang Lin, Sumanth Dathathri, Pascale Fung. Plug-and-Play Conversational Models. Accepted at EMNLP 2020 Findings.

[**EMNLP2020-Findings**] *Andrea Madotto*, Samuel Cahyawijaya, Genta Indra Winata, Yan Xu, Zihan Liu, Zhaojiang Lin, Pascale Fung. Learning Knowledge Bases with Parameters for Task-Oriented Dialogue Systems. Accepted at EMNLP 2020 Findings.

[**EMNLP2020**] Zhaojiang Lin, *Andrea Madotto*, Genta Indra Winata, Pascale Fung. Mintl: Minimalist transfer learning for task-oriented dialogue systems. Accepted at EMNLP 2020.

[**ICLR2020**] Sumanth Dathathri, *Andrea Madotto*, Janice Lan, Jane Hung, Eric Frank, Piero Molino, Jason Yosinski, Rosanne Liu. Plug and Play Language Models: a Simple Approach to Controlled Text Generation. Accepted at ICLR 2020.

[**IJCAI2020**] *Andrea Madotto*, Mahdi Namazifar, Joost Huizinga, Piero Molino, Adrien Ecoffet, Huaixiu Zheng, Alexandros Papangelis, Dian Yu, Chandra Khatri, Gokhan Tu. Exploration Based Language Learning for Text-Based Games. Accepted at IJCAI 2020.

[**NeurIPS-ConvAI**] *Andrea Madotto*, Zhaojiang Lin, Chien-Sheng Wu, Jamin Shin, Pascale Fung. Attention over Parameters for Dialogue Systems. Accepted at NeurIPS-ConvAI Workshop 2019, **Oral and Best Paper Award**.

[**EMNLP2019**] *Andrea Madotto*, Zhaojiang Lin, Jamin Shin, Peng Xu and Pascale Fung. MoEL: Mixture of Empathetic Listeners. Accepted at EMNLP 2019.

[**ACL2019**] Chien-Sheng Wu, *Andrea Madotto*, Ehsan Hosseini-Asl, Caiming Xiong, Richard Socher, Pascale Fung. Transferable Multi-Domain State Generator for Task-Oriented Dialogue Systems. Accepted at ACL 2019, **Oral and Outstanding Award (Top 0.1% of the submission)**.

[**ACL2019**] *Andrea Madotto*, Zhaojiang Lin, Chien-Sheng Wu, Pascale Fung. Personalizing Dialogue Agents via Meta-Learning. Accepted at ACL 2019.

[**ACL2018**] *Andrea Madotto*, Chien-Sheng Wu, Pascale Fung. Mem2Seq: Effectively Incorporating Knowledge Bases into End-to-End Task-Oriented Dialog Systems. Accepted at ACL 2018.

Full list available in [Google Scholar](#) or my personal [website](#).

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

**Languages:** Italian (mother tongue) • English (Full-Proficiency) • Chinese (basic)

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

### **Mentor**

Feb 2016 – Jun 2017

A volunteering activity to teach programming languages to children (mostly Scratch and Python). Pisa CoderDojo is part of the CoderDojo international initiative. I was also one of the organizers of the first [Toscana DojoCon](#) held in Pisa.

CODERDOJO

Pisa, IT