

# Dr. Andrea Madotto

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Research Scientist

Burlingame, CA

Conducting research at Meta Reality Lab.

Meta

Jan 2022 – Present

### Research Scientist Intern

Remote

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.

Facebook

Aug 2020 – Dec 2020

### Data Science Intern

San Francisco, CA

Conducting research on text-based games (i.e. TextWorld), using reinforcement learning (RL) algorithms, and on controllable language generation.

UberAI

Jun 2019 – Sept 2019

### Research Assistant

Hong Kong, HK

Conducting research on deep learning algorithms at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. I mainly worked on building end-to-end architectures to model dialogue responses.

HKUST

Sept 2017 – Sept 2018

## EDUCATION

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

*Ph.D.* in Electronic & Computer Engineering, Sept 2018 - Nov 2021

GPA: 4.3/4.3

**University of Pisa**, Italy

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

Final mark: 110/110 (Honours)

**Hong Kong Baptist University**, Hong Kong

*M.Sc.* in Advanced Information Systems, 2014 - 2015

GPA: 3.86/4 (Distinction)

**University of Perugia**, Italy

*B.Sc.* in Computer Science, 2011 - 2014

Final mark: 110/110 (Honours)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

**General Chair** ACL Student Research Workshop (SRW) 2022.

**Area Chair** ACL Rolling Review (ARR).

**Tutorial** presenter at NeurIPS 2020. Title: "Deeper Conversational AI".

**Reviewer** NAACL 2019, EMNLP 2019, ACL 2019, AAAI 2020, ACL 2020, EMNLP 2020, ICLR 2020, NeurIPS 2020, AAAI 2021, ICML 2021, NAACL 2021, ACL 2021, EMNLP 2021, NeurIPS 2021, AAAI 2022, ICLR 2022, ARR and Computer Speech and Languages (Journal).

## AWARD

**Outstanding Paper Award ACL 2019** (5 papers were selected out of 2905 submissions) for Transferable Multi-Domain State Generator for Task-Oriented Dialogue Systems.

**Best Paper Award ConvAI-NeurIPS 2019** for Attention Over Parameters for Dialogue Systems.

**PhD Award 2019-20** School of Engineering (SENG) Academic Award for PhD Students.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

**MIT-Technology Review** for the paper: Plug and Play Language Models: a Simple Approach to Controlled Text Generation. Link: [Article](#).

**Venture Beats** for the paper: Plug and Play Language Models: a Simple Approach to Controlled Text Generation. Link: [Article](#).

**Venture Beats** for the paper: Exploration Based Language Learning for Text-Based Games.  
Link: [Article](#).

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

[EMNLP2021] **Andrea Madotto**, Zhaojiang Lin, Zhenpeng Zhou, Seungwhan Moon, Paul Crook, Bing Liu, Zhou Yu, Eunjoon Cho, Zhiguang Wang, Pascale Fung. Continual Learning in Task-Oriented Dialogue Systems. EMNLP 2021 (Oral).

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

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

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

[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. ICLR 2020 (Oral).

[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. IJCAI 2020 (Oral).

[NeurIPS-ConvAI] **Andrea Madotto**, Zhaojiang Lin, Chien-Sheng Wu, Jamin Shin, Pascale Fung. Attention over Parameters for Dialogue Systems. 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. EMNLP 2019 (Oral).

[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. ACL 2019, **Outstanding Paper Award (5 papers were selected out of 2905 submissions)**.

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

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

**CODERDOJO**

Pisa, IT

Pisa CoderDojo is part of the CoderDojo international initiative. I was also one of the organizers of the first [Toscana DojoCon](#) held in Pisa.