ZARA SIDDIQUE

EDUCATION

Cardiff University

2021 - Present PhD, Computer Science

2020 - 2021 MSc Artificial Intelligence, *Distinction*

2015 - 2018 BSc Computing & Mathematics, First Class Honours

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Spring 2024 Machine Learning Engineer (6 month PhD Placement) Amplyfi

- Built an end-to-end pipeline for detecting and creating timelines of events using ML
- Worked on automated generative reports and cross-checking sources for factuality
- Deployed using Docker, AWS OpenSearch, Lambda and ECR

Spring 2023 Machine Learning Research Intern

Eunice Al

- Researched and built a SoTA Twitter bot detection model for the crypto industry
- Deployed using AWS EC2 and Sagemaker

Summer 2021 Machine Learning Intern

Factmata

- Integrated interpretability visualisations to existing models
- Intergrated Human-in-the-Loop feedback to models using a Chrome extension
- Trained a new sentiment analysis model using HuggingFace

PUBLICATIONS

Who is better at math, Jenny or Jingzhen? Uncovering Stereotypes in Large Language Models Zara Siddique, Liam D. Turner, Luis Espinosa-Anke. EMNLP, 2024.

How Are Metaphors Processed by Language Models? The Case of Analogies

Joanne Boisson, Asahi Ushio, Hsuvas Borkakoty, Kiamehr Rezaee, Dimosthenis Antypas, **Zara Siddique**, Nina White, Jose Camacho-Collados. CoNLL, 2024.

PROJECTS

Stag Alliance - CNFT project, Web and Blockchain Developer

Building a digital world of art, literature and immersive experiences, shaped by passionate communities. I helped to develop NFT collection and its metadata, as well as using ML for calculating engagement from members of the community.

News + Networks - Python package to visualise news data

This tool allows users to visually analyse news trends and topics and the correlation between different news topics using natural language processing and web scraping. Code available on GitHub.

SKILLS

I have experience with the following programming languages, libraries and software:

Python PyTorch/TensorFlow AWS Docker HuggingFace Django Git HTML5/CSS3 React/Redux NodeJS Express.js MongoDB Adobe Suite

OTHER

Reviewer: COLING 2025.

Lead Organizer: DjangoGirls PyCon 2023, Cardiff NLP Hackathon 2022.

Organizing Committee: Cardiff NLP Workshop 2024, 2023. PyCon UK 2023, 2022.

Co-founder: Glitter Sisters (BAME LGBT+ group), Lez Read (book club), Rhetorik (sustainable clothing).

Recipient of the Master's Excellence Scholarship 2020-21.

President and 2018 BUCS Gold Medallist, Cardiff Uni Boxing Club.

Speaker at PyConUK in 2016, 2017 and 2018.