DUYGU SEZEN ISLAKOGLU

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Computer Science, Utrecht University, Netherlands — Oct 2021 - Sep 2026
- Research interests: Knowledge representation learning, large language models
- *Oxford Machine Learning Summer School, ACM Summer School on Data Science*

Master of Science, Artificial Intelligence, KU Leuven, Belgium — Sept 2020 - June 2021

Bachelor of Science, Computer Engineering, Koc University, Turkey — Sept 2015 - June 2020
- Data Analytics Track

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics, Koc University, Turkey — Feb 2017 - June 2020

SKILLS

Technical Skills	Python, PyTorch, TensorFlow, pandas, numpy, scikit-learn
Experience with	C/C++, SQL, SPARQL, Java, R, MATLAB, Julia, LISP, Prolog
Languages	Turkish (Native), English (Advanced), Dutch (Beginner)

EXPERIENCE

Co-founder, epoka, Istanbul — June 2020 - Aug 2022
- Founded a startup, epoka, specializing in B2B services and led a team in developing state-of-the-art deep learning methods to virtually and realistically replace furniture

Machine Learning Engineer, parkpilot, Istanbul — July 2020 - Sept 2020
- Developed a real-time computer vision application that counts the vehicles in the videos

Machine Learning Engineer, Migraine AI, Silicon Valley Palo Alto, CA — Apr 2019 - Sept 2019
- Predicted migraine attacks and the triggers based on self-reports of the patients
- Performed clustering, worked on time series and missing data

Undergrad Researcher, Koc University AI Lab, Istanbul — Feb 2017 - Aug 2019
- Contributed to the Turkish Morphology Project by data preprocessing and worked on NLTK with ambiguous words (8 months in total)

Long Term Intern, FalconAI (now a Y Combinator company senpai.gg), Istanbul — Feb 2019 - June 2019
- Developed TensorFlow object detection projects for a fashion application FashionI

Summer Intern, Miletos Research and Development, Istanbul — July 2018 - Aug 2018
- Trained an image classifier for documents in PyTorch

Summer Researcher, Koc University IUI Lab, Istanbul — July 2017 - Aug 2017
- Worked on IMOTION Project which develops and evaluates multi-modal UIs

PUBLICATIONS

[1] D. S. Islakoglu*, M. Chekol, Y. Velegrakis, *Leveraging Pre-trained Language Models for Time Interval Prediction in Text-Enhanced Temporal Knowledge Graphs*, Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC) 2024, **Best Research Paper Award** (Paper)

[2] D. S. Islakoglu*, Jan-Christoph Kalo*, *ChronoSense: Exploring Temporal Understanding in Large Language Models with Time Intervals of Events*, Under review

[3] D. S. Islakoglu*, I. Saccardi*, A. Neerincx, F. L. Vinella, *Symbiotic Child Emotional Support with Social Robots and Temporal Knowledge Graphs*, Workshop on Human-centered Design of Symbiotic Hybrid Intelligence, Hybrid Human Artificial Intelligence (HHAI) 2022 (Paper)

TEACHING

Co-instructor: Knowledge and Data Engineering (MSc) x 2
Assistantship: Data Wrangling (MSc) x 3, Databases x 3, Game Technology x 2
Supervision: 9 Master Theses (Applied Data Science Program) and 1 Bachelor Thesis (AI Program)

HONORS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Utrecht University Teaching Award 2021, Koc University Vehbi Koc Honor Scholar 2016,
Çiçek Sepeti Success Scholarship 2020, So Chic Success Scholarship 2011-2020

LEADERSHIP/VOLUNTEERING/SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Reviewer, International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING) 2025 — Oct 2024

Conference Volunteer, IEEE International Data Engineering (ICDE) 2024 — May 2024

Founder, Open Office Hours (a meeting platform for 1500+ students and academics) — Feb 2021 - June 2023

Co-founder, Audio Book Project (an online library for individuals with visual disabilities) — Sept 2016 - June 2020

Academic Coordinator & Board Member, Koc University ACM Student Chapter — Sept 2019 - June 2020

Head Mentor (for 200+ mentors and 25 newcomer students), Koc University — Sept 2017 - June 2020