

# Duygu Sezen Islakoglu

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## PROFILE

Highly motivated PhD student. Fascinated by the intersection of computer science and mathematics. Well-experienced in both deep learning research and industry. Involved heavily in leadership.

## SKILLS

Python, PyTorch, TensorFlow, pandas, numpy, scikit-learn  
, Experience with C/C++, Java, R, MATLAB, Julia, LISP, SPARQL, SQL, Prolog

## EDUCATION

- **Utrecht University, Faculty of Science, Utrecht, Netherlands** 2021 – Present  
Second-year PhD Student in Data Intensive Systems Group, **Data Science & AI Division**  
Research interest: **Knowledge graph completion with pre-trained language models**  
Advisors: Asst. Prof. Mel Chekol and Prof. Yannis Velegarakis
  - **Oxford Machine Learning Summer School** 2022
- **KU Leuven, Faculty of Engineering Science, Leuven, Belgium** 2020 – 2021  
Master of Science in **Artificial Intelligence**  
Thesis: **Understanding Events in Continuous-time Dynamic Graphs**  
Advisors: Asst. Prof. Sebastijan Dumančić and Prof. Hendrik Blockeel
- **Koc University, College of Engineering, Istanbul, Turkey** 2015 – 2020  
Bachelor of Science in **Computer Engineering**  
**Data Analytics Track**
- **Koc University, College of Science, Istanbul, Turkey** 2017 – 2020  
Bachelor of Science in **Mathematics**

## PUBLICATIONS

- **D. S. Islakoglu\***, I. Saccardi\*, A. Neerincx, F. L. Vinella, 2022  
Symbiotic Child Emotional Support with Social Robots and Temporal Knowledge Graphs,  
Workshop on Human-centered Design of Symbiotic Hybrid Intelligence,  
**Hybrid Human-Artificial Intelligence Conference, 2022**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Co-founder, epoka, Istanbul** 2020 – 2022
  - Founded a startup that provides a B2B service that can virtually and realistically swap furniture in images with new ones using state-of-the-art deep learning methods
- **Machine Learning Engineer, parkpilot, Istanbul** 2020 – 3 months
  - Used YOLO and SORT algorithms to count the number of vehicles in a particular parking area for a real-time application
- **Machine Learning Engineer, Migraine AI, Palo Alto** 2019 – 5 months
  - The main purpose for this Silicon Valley based startup was to predict migraine attacks and the triggers based on self-reports of the patients
  - Performed clustering, worked on time series and missing data
  - Worked on REST API's and tools for passive monitoring
- **Undergrad Researcher, Koc University AI Lab, Istanbul** 2017 – 2019  
8 months
  - Contributed to the Turkish Morphology Project by data preprocessing and worked on NLTK with ambiguous words
- **Long Term Intern, FalconAI (now a YC company senpai.gg), Istanbul** 2019 – 4 months
  - Developed object detection projects with TensorFlow Object Detection API for personalized fashion application FashionI
  - Fine-tuned models for 20 classes with DeepFashion dataset
- **Summer Intern, Miletos Research and Development, Istanbul** 2018 – 2 months
  - Trained an image classifier for documents in PyTorch
- **Summer Researcher, Koc University IUI Lab, Istanbul** 2017 – 2 months
  - Contributed to the IMOTION Project which develops and evaluates innovative multi-modal user interfaces

## TEACHING

### Assistantship

- Data Wrangling (MSc), Knowledge and Data Engineering (MSc), Databases 2022 – 2023
- Knowledge and Data Engineering (MSc) (**Received a teaching award**) Databases, Game Design 2021 – 2022

### Supervised Master Theses

- "Knowledge Graph Expansion Using Question Answering by Leveraging Pre-Trained Language Models", Hagen Fock 2022
- "Knowledge Graph Expansion Using Cloze Statements by Leveraging Language Models", Ignasi Oliveres 2022

### Tutoring

- Assisted a University of Toronto Computer Science student by private lectures 2020 – 2021

### LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- **Founder, Open Office Hours, Turkey** 2021 – Present
  - Created a platform where almost 1700 undergraduate and high school students can easily reach out academicians and ask their questions
- **Co-founder, Audio Book Project, Koc University** 2016 – Present
  - Built an online library which includes educational materials for individuals with visual disabilities
- **Academic Coordinator, Koc University ACM Student Chapter** 2019 – 2020
  - Prepared study materials for Machine Learning Study Group, organized faculty meetings
- **Head Mentor, Koc University Office of Dean of Students, Istanbul** 2017 – 2020
  - Mentored +200 mentors and 25 newcomer students

### HONORS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Çiçek Sepeti Success Scholarship** 2020
- **So Chic Success Scholarship** 2011–2020
- **Koc University Vehbi Koc Honor Scholar** 2016

### LANGUAGES & INTERESTS

**Languages:** Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), Dutch (Beginner)

**Interests:** Adobe Photoshop, Painting, Photography, Volleyball