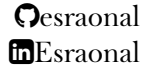


# Esra Onal

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## Education

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### Indiana University of Bloomington

Jan 2021 – Present

*Joint Ph.D., Computational Linguistics & Cognitive Science*

*Bloomington, IN, USA*

- Advisor: Francis M. Tyers (Linguistics)
- Co-advisor: Joshua Brown (Psychological and Brain Sciences)

### Boğaziçi University

August 2017 – August 2021

*M.A., Cognitive Science*

*Istanbul, Türkiye*

- Advisor: Arzucan Özgür Türkmen (Computer Engineering)
- Co-advisor: Balkız Öztürk (Linguistics)
- Thesis: "MorphLaz: A finite-state morphological analyzer for Laz"

### Boğaziçi University

August 2012 – August 2017

*B.A., Foreign Language Education with a minor in Linguistics*

*Istanbul, Türkiye*

## Experience

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### Associate Instructor

January 2022 - Present

*Indiana University, Linguistics Department*

*Bloomington, IN, USA*

- P155 - Public Oral Communication, Fall 2024/Spring 2025
- C104 - Thinking about language, Spring 2023/2024
- C103 - Language and Religion, Fall 2022/2023
- L103 - Introduction to the study of language, Spring 2022

### Data Analyst & Research Assistant

Summer 2021 & 2022

*Indiana University, Digital Arts & Humanities*

*Bloomington, IN, USA*

- Gender & Jewish studies

### Research Assistant

January 2021 – January 2022

*Indiana University, Linguistics Department*

*Bloomington, IN, USA*

- Lab: Language Technologies for Marginal Languages

### Visiting Scholar

January 2019 – May 2019

*Indiana University, Computational Linguistics*

*Bloomington, IN, USA*

- Project: Developing a morphological analyser for the endangered Laz Language

## Conference Papers and Presentations

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**Onal, Esra** (2025, March). Interpretation and Antecedent Biases of Null and Overt Pronouns in Turkish [Presentation]. *38th Annual Conference on Human Sentence Processing (HSP 2025)*. University of Maryland, DC, USA

**Onal, Esra** and Tyers F. M. (2025, Feb-March). Rethinking the Distinction Between Depictives and Adverbials in Turkish [Presentation]. *Workshop on Turkic and Languages in Contact with Turkic 2025 (Tu+10)*. University of Southern California, CA, USA

Mirzakhlov, J., Babu, A. S., Ataman, D., Kariev, S., Tyers, F. M., Abduraufov, O., Hajili, M., Ivanova, S., Khaytbaev, A., Laverghetta, A., Moydinboyev, B., **Onal, E.**, Pulatova, S., Wahab, A., Firat, O., Chellappan, S. (2021). A Large-Scale Study of Machine Translation in the Turkic Languages. In *Proceedings of Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing EMNLP 2021*

**Onal, E.** and Tryers, F. M. (2019). Building a Morphological Analyser for Laz. In *Proceedings of the International Conference Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing RANLP 2019*, (p. 870-878). Varna, Bulgaria.

**Onal, E.** and Tryers, F. M. (2019, Dec). A Finite-State Morphological Analyser for Pazar Laz) [Presentation]. *International Conference Language and Modern Technologies V: Issues of Historical and Etymological Lexicography LMT 2019*. Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

**Onal, E.** (2017) Action Research: How to motivate students who keep silent in language classrooms and how to get them to participate in class discussions[poster]. ‘*Teachers Research Istanbul 2017*’ *International Conference IATEFL 2017*. Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, Turkey.

#### *Awards & Honors*

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##### **Visiting Graduate Fellowship**

*Indiana University of Bloomington, Indiana IN, US*

2023-2024

##### **IU Graduate Fellowship**

*Indiana University of Bloomington, Indiana IN, US*

2021

##### **Research Travel Award (twice)**

*UYGAR Language Center, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey*

2019

##### **Visiting Scholar Fellowship**

*Indiana University of Bloomington, Indiana IN, US*

2019

##### **Graduate Scholarship**

*Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK)*

2018-2020

##### **Honors Certificate**

*Faculty of Education, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey*

2017

#### *Specialized Skills*

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**Programming Languages:** Python (TensorFlow, Pytorch, Keras, Scikit-Learn); Java (Object-oriented programming); C; Matlab

**Tools:** Unix, PyCharm, Jupyter, Git, Visual Studio, Google Colab, Protégé

**Languages:** Turkish (Native Language); English (Fluent, C2); Spanish (Beginner); German (Beginner) Laz (Research)

**Field interests:** NLP, Computational Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics, Cognitive Science, Human Sentence Processing, Language Modelling, Transformers, Ontology

#### *Interests/Activities*

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Member of *Turkic Interlingua* (TIL)

Member of *Tehlike Altindaki Diller* (TADNET) in Turkey (an endangered languages network based in Turkey)

Member of the *Inclusive Technology for Marginalised Languages* (ITML) lab in Department of Linguistics at Indiana University

2022-2023 Student representative of *Graduate and Professional Student Government* (GPSG) for Department of Linguistics at Indiana University of Bloomington in Indiana, US

2022-2024 President and Vice President of *Linguistics Club at Indiana University* (LCIU)