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# Afra Feyza Akyürek

PhD Student in Computer Science

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I am a 5<sup>th</sup> year PhD student in Computer Science, with a focus on Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning. My research interests include continual learning, learning from human/machine feedback and multi-agent language technologies. I am interested in creating future-proof language models that can be continually improved through natural language feedback and language models that work in collaboration with each other.

## EDUCATION

<b>PhD in Computer Science</b> , <i>Boston University</i>	September 2019 — May 2024
<b>MSc in Statistics</b> , <i>Carnegie Mellon University</i>	August 2018 — July 2019
<b>BSc in Computer Engineering</b> , <i>Koc University</i> <i>Ranked 3rd in graduating class.</i>	September 2013 — July 2019

## TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

<b>Research Intern</b> <i>Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)</i>	<b>September 2022 — December 2022</b> Seattle, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Learning with natural language feedback with reinforcement learning.</li><li>Collaborative language models.</li></ul>	
<b>Machine Learning Research Intern</b> <i>Apple</i>	<b>June 2021 — August 2021</b> Cambridge, MA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Measuring and tackling social biases in large-scale language models.</li><li>Working on the paper titled “Challenges in Measuring Biases in Open-Ended Language Generation”.</li></ul>	
<b>Biostatistics Intern</b> <i>Novartis Pharmaceuticals</i>	<b>May 2019 — July 2019</b> East Hanover, NJ
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Creating an explainable predictive model for treatment efficacy and safety of CAR-T therapy.</li><li>Revealed outstanding findings and communicated them to stakeholders with different backgrounds.</li></ul>	

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Eric Pan, Garry Kuwanto, Derry Wijaya. <i>DUnE: Dataset for Unified Editing</i> . <b>EMNLP 2023</b> .	2023
• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Ekin Akyürek, Ashwin Kalyan, Peter Clark, Derry Wijaya, Niket Tandon. <i>RL4F: Generating Natural Language Feedback with Reinforcement Learning for Repairing Model Outputs</i> . <b>ACL 2023</b> .	2023
• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Muhammed Yusuf Kocyigit, Sejin Paik, and Derry Wijaya. <i>Challenges in Measuring Bias via Open-Ended Language Generation</i> . <b>4th Workshop on Gender Bias in NLP at NAACL 2022 (Oral)</b> .	2022
• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Sejin Paik, Muhammed Yusuf Kocyigit, Seda Akbiyik, Şerife Leman Runyun, and Derry Wijaya. <i>On Measuring Biases in Prompt-Based Learning</i> . <b>Findings of NAACL 2022</b> .	2022
• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Ekin Akyürek, Derry Wijaya and Jacob Andreas. <i>Subspace Regularizers for Few-Shot Class Incremental Learning</i> . <b>ICLR 2022</b> .	2022
• Ekin Akyürek, <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> and Jacob Andreas. <i>Learning to Recombine and Resample Data for Compositional Generalization</i> . <b>ICLR 2021</b> .	2021
• <b>Afra Feyza Akyürek</b> , Lei Guo, Randa Elanwar, Margrit Betke, Prakash Ishwar and Derry T. Wijaya. <i>Multi-label and Multilingual News Framing Analysis</i> . <b>ACL 2020</b> .	2020

## SKILLS

<b>Tools and Languages</b>	Python, Git, Docker
<b>Quantitative Research</b>	PyTorch, R, MySQL

## TALKS, HONORS AND AWARDS

<b>BU Artificial Intelligence Research Seminars</b> , Talk on Subspace Regularization for Continual Learning, Boston	Feb 2022
<b>Hariri Institute for Computing</b> , Graduate Student Fellow, Boston	May 2021
<b>Best Senior Design</b> , Self-Driving Cars in Unity with Deep Reinforcement Learning	June 2018
<b>UNESCO International Symposium on Girls' Education in STEM</b> , Invited Talk	August 2017
<b>31<sup>st</sup> Place in National University Entrance Exam</b> amid 2 million takers in Turkey	2013