ZDENĚK KASNER

PhD Student in Computational Linguistics

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EDUCATION

PhD in Computational Linguistics
Institute of Formal and Applied Linguistics, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University

📅 since 10/2019   📍 Prague, Czechia

- **thesis:** Domain Adaptation for Natural Language Generation
- **advisor:** Ondřej Dušek

Master in Artificial Intelligence
Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague

📅 07/2016 – 06/2019   📍 Prague, Czechia

- **thesis:** Incorporating Language Models into Non-autoregressive Neural Machine Translation
- dean award & minor degree in Computer Vision

Erasmus+
Faculty of Engineering Science, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

📅 09/2017 – 02/2018   📍 Leuven, Belgium

- courses from Master of AI

Bachelor in Computer Science
Faculty of Information Technology, CTU in Prague

📅 09/2013 – 06/2016   📍 Prague, Czechia

- **thesis:** Flow-Based Classification of Devices in Computer Networks
- graduated with honors

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research & Software Development
Robot Perception Group, CIIRC CTU in Prague

📅 01/2019 – 09/2019   📍 Prague, Czechia

Natural language understanding for an automated production line and a collaborative robotic workspace.

Software Development
AI Center, FEE CTU in Prague

📅 07/2016 – 08/2017   📍 Prague, Czechia

Implementing a search engine with intermodal routing for public transport.

Software Development
CESNET

📅 04/2015 – 07/2016   📍 Prague, Czechia

Developing a module for device classification in a high-throughput system for network traffic analysis (NEMEA).

INTERNSHIPS

PhD Internship
Mila – Quebec AI Institute

📅 02/2023 – 05/2023   📍 Montréal, Canada

Research on collaborative LLM agents, advised by Siva Reddy.

PhD Internship
Heriot-Watt University

📅 10/2021 – 12/2021   📍 Edinburgh, UK

Research on data-to-text generation from knowledge graphs, advised by Ioannis Konstas.

Research Internship
KDDI Research, Inc.

📅 06/2018 – 09/2018   📍 Saitama, Japan

Developing an augmented reality annotation system.

VOLUNTEERING

BEST Prague
Board of European Students of Technology

📅 10/2014 – 05/2019   📍 Prague, Czechia

Communication and cooperation with students of European universities of technology, organizing events (courses, engineering competitions).

CERTIFICATES

- **Certificate of Proficiency in English (C2)** – Cambridge Level 3 Certificate in ESOL International

AWARDS

- 🎖 **Honorable mention** – CU Grant Agency award (2023)
- 💬 **Outstanding reviewer** at EACL 2021
- 🏆 **Best short paper** at INLG 2020 (Dušek and Kasner, 2020)

LANGUAGES

Language	
Czech	●●●●●
English	●●●●○
French	●●●○○
Dutch	●●○○○

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- **Kasner, Z.**, & Dušek, O. (2024). Beyond Traditional Benchmarks: Analyzing Behaviors of Open LLMs on Data-to-Text Generation [To appear]. *Proceedings of the ACL 2024 (Volume 1: Long Papers).*
- **Kasner, Z.**, Plátek, O., Schmidtová, P., Balloccu, S., & Dušek, O. (2024). Factgenie: A framework for span-based evaluation of generated texts [To appear]. *Proceedings of the 17th International Natural Language Generation Conference (System Demonstrations).*
- Lu, X. H., **Kasner, Z.**, & Reddy, S. (2024). WebLINX: Real-world Website Navigation with Multi-Turn Dialogue [To appear]. *Proceedings of the ICML 2024.*
- **Kasner, Z.**, Garanina, E., Plátek, O., & Dušek, O. (2023). TabGenie: A Toolkit for Table-to-Text Generation. *Proceedings of the ACL (Volume 3: System Demonstrations)*, 444–455.
- **Kasner, Z.**, Konstas, I., & Dušek, O. (2023). Mind the Labels: Describing Relations in Knowledge Graphs With Pretrained Models. *Proceedings of the EACL 2023*, 2390–2407.
- **Kasner, Z.**, & Dušek, O. (2022). Neural Pipeline for Zero-Shot Data-to-Text Generation. *Proceedings of the ACL 2022 (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 3914–3932.
- Huidrom, R., Dušek, O., **Kasner, Z.**, Ferreira, T. C., & Belz, A. (2022). Two reproductions of a human-assessed comparative evaluation of a semantic error detection system. *Proceedings of the INLG 2022 (Generation Challenges)*, 52–61.
- **Kasner, Z.**, Mille, S., & Dušek, O. (2021). Text-in-Context: Token-Level Error Detection for Table-to-Text Generation. *Proceedings of the INLG 2021*, 259–265.
- **Kasner, Z.**, & Dušek, O. (2020a). Data-to-Text Generation with Iterative Text Editing. *Proceedings of the INLG 2020*, 60–67.
- **Kasner, Z.**, & Dušek, O. (2020b). Train Hard, Finetune Easy: Multilingual Denoising for RDF-to-text Generation. *Proceedings of the INLG 2020 (WebNLG+ Workshop)*, 171–176.
- Dušek, O., & **Kasner, Z.** (2020). Evaluating Semantic Accuracy of Data-to-Text Generation with Natural Language Inference. *Proceedings of the INLG 2020*, 131–137.

TEACHING

Large Language Models
📅 02/2024 – 06/2024   📍 MFF UK, Prague, Czechia

Helping to prepare lectures and assignments.

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Introduction to Machine Learning with Python
📅 09/2023 – 02/2024   📍 MFF UK, Prague, Czechia

Teaching labs, aiding students online.

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Introduction to Linux
📅 02/2022 – 06/2022   📍 MFF UK, Prague, Czechia

Teaching labs (inverted class: no lectures).

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Programming I & Introduction to Algorithms
📅 09/2020 – 02/2021   📍 MFF UK, Prague, Czechia

Teaching labs, preparing and evaluating assignments.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- 💬 **Natural Language Generation**
  - Data-to-text Generation
  - Evaluation
- ⚗ **Miscellaneous**
  - Low-Resource NLP
  - Model interpretability
  - Reasoning

ORGANIZER

- ● **PracticalD2T Workshop** @ INLG 2024
  Co-organizer
- ● **PracticalD2T Workshop** @ INLG 2023
  Main organizer
- ● **SIGDIAL & INLG 2023**
  Local organizer

WORKSHOPS

DeepLearn
IRDTA
📅 07/2021   📍 Las Palmas, Spain

Participanting in a series of lectures and workshops on recent advancements in deep learning.

REFEREES

Ondřej Dušek (Charles University)
👤 PhD Advisor
✉ odusek@ufal.mff.cuni.cz

Siva Reddy (Mila - Quebec AI Institute)
👤 PhD Internship Supervisor
✉ siva.reddy@mila.quebec

Ioannis Konstas (Heriot-Watt University)
👤 PhD Internship Supervisor
✉ i.konstas@hw.ac.uk