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
- **supervisor:** 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 & Research

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 autonomous web navigation with LLMn, advised by Siva Reddy.

PhD Internship

Heriot-Watt University

📅 10/2021 – 12/2021 📍 Edinburgh, UK

Research on natural language generation, advised by Ioannis Konstas.

Research Internship

KDDI Research, Inc.

📅 06/2018 – 09/2018 📍 Saitama, Japan

Developing an augmented reality annotation system for optical see-through head-mounted displays.

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

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

Python   Bash   Javascript   C   C++

Machine Learning   NLP   Computer Vision   Computer Science

LANGUAGES

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

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

👥 Conference Proceedings

- **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)*.
- 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., Platek, O., & Dusek, 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.

📄 arXiv Preprints

- **Kasner, Z.**, Libovický, J., & Helcl, J. (2020). Improving Fluency of Non-Autoregressive Machine Translation.

TEACHING

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

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

Statistical Dialogue Systems
📅 09/2022 – 02/2023   📍 MFF UK, Prague, Czechia

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

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

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- 💬 **Natural Language Generation**
  - Data-to-text Generation
  - Evaluation
- ⚗️ **Miscellaneous**
  - Low-Resource NLP
  - Model interpretability
  - Knowledge editing
  - Logical reasoning

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.

AWARDS

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

REFEREES

Ondřej Dušek
👤 PhD Advisor
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Siva Reddy
👤 PhD Internship Supervisor
✉️ siva.reddy@mila.quebec

Ioannis Konstas
👤 PhD Internship Supervisor
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