

# KUTAY BERK SEZGINEL

4103 W Street NW, Washington, DC  
+1 (619) 576 64 78 | [kutaybs@gmail.com](mailto:kutaybs@gmail.com)

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Senior Data Scientist**

Othot Inc.

Jan 2020  
Pittsburgh, PA

- Develop data science and machine learning solutions using Python
- Design, implement and maintain new features in the data science engine for use by the platform
- Automate data science activities and apply best software practices

Jan 2019 – May 2019

### **Computational Engineering Fellow**

NuMat Technologies, Inc.

Skokie, IL

- Development of a proprietary Python library for computational materials design. Automation and simplification of various molecular simulations tools and integration with high-performance cloud computing (AWS). Creating a workflow to perform reproducible and trackable experiments. Using the tools developed, research was performed to discover next generation candidate materials.
- Design and 3D printing of a custom part to improve speed and decrease material loss during production.
- Process controller development (hardware and software) with a web interface.

## EDUCATION

### **Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical & Petroleum Engineering**

University of Pittsburgh, Swanson School of Engineering

Sep 2015 – Jan 2020  
Pittsburgh, PA

- Dissertation Title: “*Computational materials design for molecular machinery: From nanoporous crystals to nanoscale racecars*”
- Adviser: Dr. Christopher E. Wilmer

### **Master of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering**

Koc University, Graduate School of Science and Engineering

Sep 2013 – June 2015  
Istanbul, Turkey

- Dissertation Title: “*Computational and Experimental Investigation of Methane Adsorption in Pure and Ionic Liquid Modified Metal-Organic Frameworks*”

### **Bachelor of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering**

Koc University, School of Engineering

Sep 2008 – June 2013  
Istanbul, Turkey

*Energy and Environmental Engineering Track*

### **Erasmus Exchange Program**

Eindhoven University of Technology, School of Engineering

Feb 2012 – Aug 2012  
Eindhoven, The Netherlands

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Hypothetical Materials Lab (WilmerLab), University of Pittsburgh

Sep 2015 – Jan 2020  
Pittsburgh, PA

- Computational method development for functional materials design including materials such as metal-organic frameworks, supramolecular cages, and artificial molecular machines. Performing molecular simulations using high-performance computing and data analysis using available and self-developed Python libraries.
- Organization of world’s first computational nanocar race: [Formula Nano](#).
- Recreation of the lab website ([wilmerlab.com](http://wilmerlab.com)) on GitHub and maintenance as web administrator.

**Teaching Assistant and Graduate Mentor**

Hypothetical Materials Lab (WilmerLab)

Spring 2016 – 2020  
University of Pittsburgh, PA

- Mentored three undergraduate and two master students in data collection and analysis for various projects.
- Guided the students in preparation and presentation of research findings.
- Helped prepare teaching material, graded exams and Teaching assistant for 6 classes
- Instructed weekly lab sessions for teaching Aspen HYSYS software. Prepared and graded quizzes for lab sessions, assigned four design projects and evaluated them, proctored the midterms and finals.

**Graduate Research Assistant**Nanomaterials, Energy and Molecular Modelling Research Group, Koc University  
Koc University Tups Energy Center (KUTEM)Sep 2013 – June 2015  
Istanbul, Turkey

- High-throughput screening of porous materials (MOFs) for gas storage and separation applications using molecular simulations. First lab member to automate many in-house computational procedures.
- Investigated the structural and thermodynamic properties of MOFs to understand methane adsorption mechanism and constructed models to predict natural gas storage of MOFs at various conditions.
- Post-synthetic modifications of porous materials using ionic liquids to improve gas storage/selectivity performances. Characterization by TGA, XRD, FT-IR, surface area and gas adsorption measurements.

**Visiting Research Assistant**Energy Materials & Devices Research Group, Eindhoven University of Technology  
Post-syntheticFeb 2012 - July 2012  
Eindhoven, Netherlands

- Designed, fabricated and analyzed enzyme (glucose oxidase) dispersed carbon nanotube electrodes. Measured their glucose oxidation performances using various electrochemical measurements.

**PUBLICATIONS**

9. [Sezginel, K. B., and Wilmer C. E. Modeling diffusion of nanocars on a Cu \(110\) surface. \*Molecular Systems Design & Engineering\*, 5 \(2020\): 1186-1192.](#)
8. [Sezginel, K. B., Lee S., Babaei, H. and Wilmer, C. E. Effect of flexibility on thermal transport in breathing porous crystals. \*Journal of Physical Chemistry C\*, 124 \(2020\): 18604–18608.](#)
7. [Chao, Z., Sezginel, K. B., Xu, K., Crouch, G. M., Gray, A. E., Wilmer, C. E., Bohn, P. W., Go, D. B., and Fullerton-Shirey, S. K. Silver Nanofilament Formation Dynamics in a Polymer-Ionic Liquid Thin Film by Direct Write \*Advanced Functional Materials\*, 20 \(2019\): 1-8.](#)
6. [Gülsoy, Z., Sezginel, K. B., Uzun, A., Keskin, S. and Yildirim, R. Analysis of CH<sub>4</sub> Uptake over Metal–Organic Frameworks Using Data-Mining Tools. \*ACS Combinatorial Science\*, 21 \(2019\): 257-268.](#)
5. [Sezginel, K. B., Asinger, P. A., Babaei, H., and Wilmer, C. E. Thermal transport in interpenetrated metal-organic frameworks. \*Chemistry of Materials\*, 30 \(2018\): 2281-2286.](#)
4. [Sezginel, K. B., Feng, T. and Wilmer, C. E. Discovery of hypothetical hetero-interpenetrated MOFs with arbitrarily dissimilar topologies and unit cell shapes. \*CrystEngComm\* 19.31 \(2017\): 4497-4504.](#)
3. [Sezginel, K. B., Keskin, S. and Uzun, A. Tuning the gas separation performance of CuBTC by ionic liquid incorporation. \*Langmuir\* 32.4 \(2016\): 1139-1147.](#)
2. [Basdogan, Y., Sezginel, K. B. and Keskin, S. Identifying highly selective metal organic frameworks for CH<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> separations using computational tools. \*Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research\* 54.34 \(2015\): 8479-8491.](#)
1. [Sezginel, K. B., Uzun, A. and Keskin S. Multivariable linear models of structural parameters to predict methane uptake in metal–organic frameworks. \*Chemical Engineering Science\* 124 \(2015\): 125-134.](#)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (ORAL)

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Nash J. and Wilmer, C.E., "How to Design a Fast Nanocar.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL, November 11, **2019**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Nash J. and Wilmer, C.E., "Tools for computational design of artificial molecular machines.", *ACS 2019*, Orlando, FL, April 4, **2019**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Computational Screening of Thermal Conductivity of MOFs.", *MOF 2018 Young Investigator Symposium*, Rotorua, NZ, Dec. 8, **2018**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in interpenetrated metal-organic frameworks.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 31, **2018**.

**Sezginel, K. B.** and Wilmer, C.E., "Surface Diffusion of Large Molecules: A Computational Study.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 28, **2018**.

**Sezginel, K. B.** and Wilmer, C.E., "Tools for computational design of artificial molecular machines.", *Avogadro User Group Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, August 25, **2018**

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in entangled metal-organic frameworks.", *Simulators Meeting*, Midwest Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, June 4, **2018**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in entangled metal-organic frameworks.", *Simulators Meeting*, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, May 22, **2018**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Feng T., Wilmer, C.E., "Theoretical Prediction of Interpenetrating Metal-Organic Frameworks", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, Nov. 15, **2016**.

**Sezginel, K. B.**, Feng T., Wilmer, C.E., "Theoretical Prediction of Interpenetrating Metal-Organic Frameworks", *Simulators Meeting*, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, May 25, **2016**.

**Sezginel K. B.**, Uzun A., Keskin S., "Prediction of CH<sub>4</sub> Storage Performance of Metal-Organic Frameworks", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 17, **2014**.

**Sezginel K. B.**, Uzun A., Keskin S., "Prediction of CH<sub>4</sub> Storage Properties of Metal-Organic Frameworks", *NanoTR*, Yeditepe University Istanbul, Turkey, June 21, **2014**.

## HONORS & AWARDS

- Braskem America Inc. Award (outstanding PhD student in Chemical Eng. Department, University of Pittsburgh)
- IBM BlueHack Competition, Second Place (2019)
- Molecular Sciences and Software Institute (MoSSI) Fellow (2018 Phase I)
- Startup Blitz Pitch Competition, First Place, University of Pittsburgh (\$1500 prize)
- Best Graduate Paper Award (Summer '17), Chemical Engineering Department, University of Pittsburgh
- Foresight Institute 2017 Workshop: *Artificial Intelligence for Molecular Machines*
- Innocentive challenge entitled *Chemical Sorbents for Fixed Bed Mercury (Hg<sup>0</sup>) Control* (\$5000 prize)
- Full Merit Scholarship – University of Pittsburgh PhD & Koc University, BS and MS
- Best Chemical and Biological Engineering Senior Project Award (Biodiesel Production from Algae Oil)

## SKILLS

<b>Language</b>	Turkish (Native), English (Advanced), Dutch (Beginner)
<b>Software</b>	<a href="https://github.com/kbsezginel">https://github.com/kbsezginel</a>
<b>Development</b>	Python (Advanced), JavaScript (Advanced), HTML (Intermediate), Jekyll (Intermediate)
<b>Scientific</b>	HPC, Cloud computing, RASPA, Lammmps, Orca, CP2K, Materials Studio, Aspen HYSYS
<b>Graphics/Video</b>	Blender (Advanced), Inkscape (Advanced), Gimp (Intermediate), Adobe Premiere (Beginner)
<b>Audio</b>	Ableton (Advanced), Audacity (Advanced)
<b>Laboratory</b>	FT-IR, PXRD, High Pressure Volumetric Analyzer, Chemisorption Analyzer, TGA, Glovebox

## PERSONAL

- Interested in electronic and jazz music, for original songs: [https://soundcloud.com/kbs\\_music](https://soundcloud.com/kbs_music)
- Scientific visualization portfolio: <https://kbsezginel.github.io/visualization/portfolio>
- 3-D printing, Raspberry PI, woodworking, running
- Favorite Writers: Ray Kurzweil, Eric Drexler, Franz Kafka

## REFERENCES

**Mark Voortman** (Supervisor at Othot)

Data Science Architect, Othot Inc.

mvoortman@othot.com

**Christopher E. Wilmer** (Primary Investigator during PhD)

Asst. Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

wilmer@pitt.edu

**Christopher Brown** (Research collaborator/employer)

Asst. Professor, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

cbrown1@pitt.edu