

# Mehmet Ali Akyol

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## EDUCATION

### Middle East Technical University — *Ph.D.*

SEPTEMBER 2017 - PRESENT

Department of Information Systems

### Middle East Technical University — *M.Sc.*

SEPTEMBER 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2017

Department of Information Systems

### University of Essex — *Summer School*

JULY 2017 - AUGUST 2017

Took courses on Big Data and Analytics

### Bilkent University — *B.Sc.*

AUGUST 2008 - JUNE 2013

Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering

## EXPERIENCE

### Thundra — *Growth Engineer*

AUGUST 2020 - Currently working

- Worked on product analytics and created dashboards to visualize product usage metrics via funnels and cohort analysis.
- Created integrations between the core product and product analytics tools building microservices using AWS Lambda, Serverless framework, and Node.js.

### Startup Buffer — *Founder/Software Developer*

June 2016 - Currently maintaining on the side

- Developed a web directory for emerging startups along with the iOS and Android applications using PHP, MySQL, AngularJS, Ionic, and Codeigniter. Featured 10,000+ startups across the world.

## INTERESTS

Data Science  
Big Data  
Machine Learning  
Cloud Computing  
Project Management

## SKILLS / TOOLS

#Python #R #SQL #Java  
#Scala #Keras #Hadoop  
#Flink #Spark #Kafka  
#Node.js #PHP #Codeigniter  
#MySQL #MongoDB

## AWARDS

Honorable mention in D4R  
Big Data Challenge aiming  
social good for refugees in  
Turkey among 60+ finalist  
research groups around the  
globe including the ones from  
MIT Media Lab, Imperial  
College London, and Nokia  
Bell Labs, 2019.

First place in the StartupBus  
Europe Hackathon among 6  
buses, 40 projects around  
Europe, 2014.

Full scholarship from Bilkent  
University, 2008-2013

## Middle East Technical University — Research Assistant

DECEMBER 2014 - AUGUST 2020

- Conducted research on cloud computing, big data, data mining, and machine learning. Worked as a teaching assistant for courses like Cloud Computing, Data Mining, and Data Science.
- Developed projects on distributed computing using Apache Flink and Apache Kafka in addition to machine learning models such as clustering based on Self Organizing Maps, image classification models and segmentation models using Keras and Python.

## Aselsan — Systems Design Engineer

JANUARY 2013 - SEPTEMBER 2014

- Worked on the design of radio networks and maintenance of related software for various government agencies.

Ranked in top 222 in  
Nationwide University  
Entrance Exam (OSS) among  
1.5 million students in Turkey,  
2008.

### LANGUAGES

Turkish / Native  
English / Advanced  
German / Basic

### SELECTED ACADEMIC PAPERS

- Kılıç, Ö. O., Akyol, M. A., Işık, O., Kılıç, B. G., ... & Taşkaya-Temizel, T. (2019). The use of big mobile data to gain multilayered insights for Syrian refugee crisis. In *Guide to Mobile Data Analytics in Refugee Scenarios* (pp. 347–379). Springer, Cham.
- Gökalp, M. O., Kayabay, K., Akyol, M. A., Koçyiğit, A., & Eren, P. E. (2018). Big data in mHealth. In *Current and Emerging mHealth Technologies* (pp. 241–256). Springer, Cham.
- Akyol, M. A., Gökalp, M. O., ..., & Koçyiğit, A. (2017, September). A Context Aware Notification Architecture Based on Distributed Focused Crawling. In *European, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern Conference on Information Systems* (pp. 29–39). Springer, Cham.
- Gokalp, M. O., Kayabay, K., Akyol, M. A., Eren, P. E., & Koçyiğit, A. (2016, December). Big Data for Industry 4.0: A Conceptual Framework. In *Computational Science and Computational Intelligence (CSCI), 2016 International Conference on* (pp. 431–434). IEEE.

### VOLUNTEER WORK

#### Web Summit

NOVEMBER 2015, IRELAND

Worked as a volunteer and participated at one of the biggest technology events in the world, having more than 42,000 attendees.

#### Ampion

SEPTEMBER 2015, MOROCCO

Participated in a social entrepreneurship hackathon to increase awareness of entrepreneurship in Africa. Worked on a platform for connecting donors to the right NGOs.