Metehan Cekic **PhD student**

CONTACT INFORMATION
Phone: (805) 452-6592
E-mail: metehancekic@ucsb.edu
Website: ece.ucsb.edu/~metehancekic/
Github: github.com/metehancekic

EDUCATION

University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, US **2017 - Present**
Ph.D. and M.S., *Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- Supervisor: Prof. Upamanyu Madhow
- Area: Machine Learning, Deep Learning and Signal Processing
- GPA: 4.0/4.0

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey **2012 - 2017**
B.S., *Electrical & Electronics Engineering*, **B.S.** *Physics*
- CGPA: 3.7/4.0, Dean's High Honors List

University of California Los Angeles, Los Angeles, US **2015 - 2016**
B.S. Study Abroad, *Electrical and Computer Engineering*
- GPA: 3.9/4.0

RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

Advisor: Prof. Upamanyu Madhow, UC Santa Barbara

- **Radio Frequency (RF) Machine Learning (ML)** **2018 - present**
  - Showed that complex-valued CNNs can learn RF signatures to distinguish between devices sending exactly the same message. Demonstrated effectiveness for two different wireless protocols: WiFi and ADS-B.
  - Studied robustness to spoofing, and to channel variations, noise and frequency drift occuring in data collected over different days/locations.
- **Adversarial Machine Learning** **2018 - present**
  - Working on a robust neural network against well-known adversarial perturbations (PGD, Iterative FGSM) by imposing sparsity in weights and activations.
- **Reinforcement Learning for Turkish Card Game Called "Batak"** **2019**
  - Programmed the game and the environment from scratch, and developed a competitive AI by utilizing LSTM and fully connected neural networks specifically designed for the game.
  - Compared different architectures and got a performance close to human-level.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Languages: Python, MATLAB, C/C++, Bash.
Libraries: Tensorflow, Pytorch, Scikit-learn, Numpy.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Machine Learning: A Signal Processing Perspective
- Deep Learning for NLP
- Theoretical Machine Learning
- Pattern Recognition
- Advanced Topics in Computer Vision
- Information Theory
- Matrix Analysis and Computation
- Game Theory
- Convex Optimization

PUBLICATIONS

M. Cekic*, S. Gopalakrishnan*, U. Madhow, "Robust Wireless Fingerprinting: Generalizing Across Space and Time", under review at *IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security.*

S. Gopalakrishnan*, **M. Cekic***, U. Madhow, "Robust Wireless Fingerprinting via Complex-Valued Neural Networks", *IEEE Global Communications Conference (Globecom)*, Hawaii, Dec. 2019.

* Joint first authors.

S. Gopalakrishnan, Z. Marzi, **M. Cekic**, U. Madhow, R. Pedarsani, Robust Adversarial Learning via Sparsifying Front Ends, under review at *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing.*

C. Bakiskan, S. Gopalakrishnan, **M. Cekic**, U. Madhow, R. Pedarsani, "Polarizing Front Ends For Robust CNNs", submitted to *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, Barcelona, Spain, May 2020.

Industrial Internships

Speech Enabled Software Technologies (SESTEK), Istanbul **Summer 2015**

- *Speech Processing Engineer*: Worked on how to detect edited tapes and speech processing techniques used in forensic incidents.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant experience in UCSB:

– *Graduate level courses*: ECE 283: Machine Learning from Signal Processing Perspective.

– *Undergraduate level courses*: ECE 130B: Signal Analysis, ECE 139: Probability Theory

Honors and Awards

UCSB, Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineering Teaching Assistant Award, 2018

Turkish Education Association, Outstanding Success Scholarship, 2012

Ranked 87^{th} out of 2 million students in Turkish University Entrance Exam, 2012

Akdeniz University, Mathematics olympiads, Honorable Mention, 2010

TUBITAK, 13^{rd} National Mathematics Olympiads, Silver Medal, 2008