

Hossein A. (Saeed) Rahmani

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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UCL Centre for Artificial Intelligence
Dept. of Computer Science
90 High Holborn
University College London
United Kingdom, WC1V 6BH

🔗 **Internship:** *Actively seeking internship or student research opportunities throughout the year.*

RESEARCH
INTERESTS

❑ **LLM Evaluation**
❑ **Automatic Evaluation (LLM-as-a-Judge)**
❑ Responsible RecSys/Search

❑ **Synthetic Data Generation**
❑ **Personalised LLM**
❑ Search and Retrieval

EDUCATION

University College London
Ph.D. in Computer Science
• **Affiliation:** UCL Web Intelligent Group
• **Advisors and Mentors:** Prof. Emine Yilmaz and Nick Craswell

London, United Kingdom
Dec. 2022 – Nov. 2026 (*Expected*)

University of Zanjan
M.Sc. in Computer Engineering (Distinction)
• **Thesis:** Context-aware Point-of-Interest Recommender System
• **Advisors and Mentors:** Prof. Mohsen Afsharchi and Dr. Mitra Baratchi

Zanjan, Iran
Sep. 2016 – Feb. 2020

INTERSHIP
EXPERIENCE

Thomson Reuters Labs
Applied Scientist Intern - NLP
• Supervised by Prof. Dell Zhang and Dr. Grace Lee
• Working on LLMs for Legal Tasks Evaluation

London, United Kingdom
Sep. 2023 – July. 2024

Amazon Alexa AI
Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge
• \$250,000 Research Grant

London, United Kingdom
Apr. 2021 – Apr. 2022

Università della Svizzera italiana (USI)
Research Intern, Information Retrieval Group
• Supervised by Prof. Fabio Crestani
• Working on Context-aware Recommendation Systems

Lugano, Switzerland
Sep. 2019 – Dec. 2019

SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS

Preprints & Under Submission

Full list, see

G SCHOLAR

18. **LLMs-as-a-Rel: Ensembling LLMs for Automatic Relevance Judgment** *Working Progress*
[Hossein A. Rahmani](#), Emine Yilmaz

17. **Construction of Benchmarks for Evaluating Agentic Behavior and Tool Usage of LLMs** *Working Progress*
[Hossein A. Rahmani](#), Emine Yilmaz, Roberta Raileanu

16. **Beyond Internal Data: Constructing Complete Datasets for Fairness Testing** *Under Review*
Submitted to NeurIPS 2024
Varsha Ramineni, [Hossein A. Rahmani](#), David Berber, Emine Yilmaz

15. **Large Language Models for Legal Tasks Evaluation** *Under Review*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Risako Owan, Grace E. Lee, Sally Gao, Frank Schilder,
Dell Zhang, Emine Yilmaz
 14. **LLMJudge: LLMs for Relevance Judgments** *arXiv 2024*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Emine Yilmaz, Nick Craswell, Bhaskar Mitra, Paul Thomas, Charles
L. A. Clarke, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Clemencia Siro, Guglielmo Faggioli
 
 13. **SynDL: A Large-Scale Synthetic Test Collection for Passage Retrieval** *arXiv 2024*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Xi Wang, Emine Yilmaz, Nick Craswell, Bhaskar Mitra, Paul Thomas
Submitted to *The Web Conference (TheWebConf)* 2025
  
 12. **Understanding the Role of User Profile in the Personalization of LLMs** *arXiv 2024*
Bin Wu, Zhengyan Shi, Hossein A. Rahmani, Varsha Ramineni, Emine Yilmaz
 
- (Selected) Peer-reviewed Conference**
11. **LLM4Eval: Large Language Model for Evaluation in IR** *SIGIR, 2024*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Clemencia Siro, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Nick Craswell,
Charles L. A. Clarke, Guglielmo Faggioli, Bhaskar Mitra, Paul Thomas, Emine Yilmaz

 10. **Synthetic Test Collections for Retrieval Evaluation** *SIGIR, 2024*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Nick Craswell, Emine Yilmaz, Bhaskar Mitra, Daniel Campos
 
 9. **Natural Language User Profiles for Transparent and Scrutable Recommendations** *ACL, 2024*
Jerome Ramos, Hossein A. Rahmani, Xi Wang, Xiao Fu, Aldo Lipani
 
 8. **Clarifying the Path to User Satisfaction: An Investigation into Clarification Usefulness** *EACL, 2024*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Xi Wang, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Mohammadmehdi Naghiaei,
Emine Yilmaz
 7. **Improving Conversational Recommendation Systems via Bias Analysis and Language-Model-Enhanced Data Augmentation** *EMNLP, 2023*
Xi Wang, Hossein A. Rahmani, Jiqun Liu, Emine Yilmaz
 6. **Do LLMs Selectively Encode the Goal of an Agent's Reach?** *TOM@ICML, 2023*
Laura Ruis, Arduin Findeis, Herbie Bradley, Hossein A. Rahmani,
Kyoung Whan Choe, Edward Grefenstette, Tim Rocktaschel
 5. **A Survey on Asking Clarification Questions Datasets in Conversational Systems** *ACL, 2023*
Hossein A. Rahmani, Xi Wang, Yue Feng, Qiang Zhang, Emine Yilmaz, Aldo Lipani
 4. **When and What to Ask Through World States and Text Instructions** *IGLU@NeurIPS, 2023*
Zhengxiang Shi, Jerome Ramos, To Eun Kim, Xi Wang, Hossein A. Rahmani, Aldo Lipani
 3. **Towards Confidence-aware Calibrated Recommendation** *CIKM, 2022*
Mohammadmehdi Naghiaei, Hossein A. Rahmani, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Nasim Sonboli
 

	<p>2. Exploring the Impact of Temporal Bias in Point-of-Interest Recommendation <i>RecSys, 2022</i></p> <p><u>Hossein A. Rahmani</u>, Mohammadmehdi Naghiaei, Ali Tourani, Yashar Deldjoo</p> <p> </p>
	<p>1. Experiments on Generalizability of User-Oriented Fairness in Recommender Systems <i>SIGIR, 2022</i></p> <p><u>Hossein A. Rahmani</u>, Mohammadmehdi Naghiaei, Mahdi Dehghan, Mohammad Aliannejadi</p> <p> </p>
	<p>0. CPFair: Personalized Consumer and Producer Fairness Re-ranking for Recommender Systems <i>SIGIR, 2022</i></p> <p>Mohammadmehdi Naghiaei, <u>Hossein A. Rahmani</u>, Yashar Deldjoo</p> <p> </p>
<p> AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FUNDING</p>	<p>Alan Turing Enrichment Schema Placement Award, The Alan Turing Institute, UK 2024</p> <p>Ranked 1st in TREC iKAT 2023, LLMs for Conversational Search 2023</p> <p>NeurIPS 2022 IGLU Challenge Research Prize 2022</p> <p>Amazon Alexa Prize Competition Research Grant 2022</p> <p>UCL PhD Studentship, UKRI CDT in Foundational AI, UCL 2022 – 2026</p> <p>School of AI Scholarship, Pi School, Italy 2021</p> <p>Student Registration Grant for attending CSCW 2021</p> <p>Student Registration Grant for attending CIKM 2021</p> <p>Third-rank Graduate Amongst MSc Students, University of Zanjan, Iran 2020</p> <p>Student Registration and Travel Grant for attending MediaEval Benchmark 2019</p> <p>Student Registration Grant for attending CLEF 2019</p> <p>SERI Mobility Grant, Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), Switzerland 2019</p> <p>Data Science Winter School Grant, University of Bonn, Germany 2018</p> <p>Third-rank Graduate Amongst BSc Students, University of Zanjan, Iran 2016</p> <p>Ranked 3rd in Technical University Olympiad, Technical and Vocational University, Iran 2013</p> <p>Honorary Admission to Bachelor Program, Technical University of Shiraz, Iran 2013</p>
<p>WORK EXPERIENCE</p>	<p>Virtual Manufacturing Inc. California, US</p> <p>Applied Scientist Oct. 2021 – Nov. 2022</p> <p>TVConal Singapore, Singapore</p> <p>Machine Learning Engineer Jul. 2021 – Oct. 2021</p> <p>Pi School Room, Italy</p> <p>Research Scholar Apr. 2021 – Jun. 2021</p> <p>Sanay Co. Zanjan, Iran</p> <p>Data Scientist Apr. 2020 – Jan. 2021</p>
<p>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</p>	<p>University College London, Teaching Assistant London, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Development</i> (Prof. Maria Perez-Ortiz)</p> <p><i>Foundation of Artificial Intelligence</i> (Dr. Sahan Bulathwela)</p> <p><i>Information Retrieval and Data Mining</i> (Prof. Emine Yilmaz)</p>
<p>INVITED TALKS</p>	<p>Fairness and Bias in Recommender Systems 2023</p> <p>QIAU, Iran</p> <p>Generazibility of User Fairness in Recommender Systems 2023</p> <p>Mila x Vector Institute, Canada</p> <p>Personalized Context-Aware POI Recommendation 2019</p> <p>Universita della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland</p>

SERVICES

Organizational Activities

- Organizing [LLMJudge Challenge](#) at SIGIR 2024 Feb. 2024 – Aug. 2024
- Co-organizing [LLM4Eval Workshop](#) at SIGIR 2024 Feb. 2024 – Jul. 2024
- Co-organizing TREC Deep Learning Track 2023 Jul. 2023 – Nov. 2023
- WITalk: WI Talk Series on NLP and IR, UCL AI Center Oct. 2023 – Feb. 2024

Program Committee and/or Reviewer

- NLP Venues: ACL ARR (Feb. 2023 – Present), ACL (2023, 2024), EMNLP (2022 – 2024)
- IR Venues: ECML/PKDD (2021), WSDM (2021), SIGIR (2022, 2023), ECIR (2022 – 2024)
- ML Venues: NeurIPS (2024), AAAI (2023, 2024)

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C#
- **Tools:** PyTorch, HuggingFace, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Seaborn, NLTK, Matplotlib, Flask, RESTful API
- **Database Systems:** MS SQL Server, MySQL, SQLite, MongoDB
- **Soft Skills:** Time Management, Team working, Problem-solving, Fast-Learning
- **Languages:** Persian (Native), Tabari (Fluent), English (Proficient), Arabic (Familiar)