Reza (Rey) Sanayei

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EDUCATION

University of Arizona   **Tucson, Arizona**
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (**Honors**)   May 2024
Minor: Statistics & Data Science   **GPA:** 3.95/4.0
• **Phi Beta Kappa Membership** (**Top 5% of class**)
• **Galileo Circle Scholar (**Selected as **one of six top performers among 1,277 undergraduates** in Computer Science)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Honors Thesis - "Analyzing the Performance of LLMs on Natural Language Arguments"   **Tucson, Arizona**
University of Arizona - Honors College   August 2023 – Present
• **Advisor**: Dr. Mihai Surdeanu
• Evaluated **LLM** performance against state-of-the-art formal **Computational Argumentation Theory** semantics
• Proposed frameworks to enhance LLM performance, laying groundwork for future advancements in argument semantics

Undergraduate Research Assistant   **Tucson, Arizona**
University of Arizona - Computational Language Understanding Lab   August 2023 – Present
• Investigated hallucinations and machine-generated text detection under the guidance of Dr. Steven Bethard
• Orchestrated ensemble models using **language models** and **text retrieval libraries** for diverse hallucination detection
• Designed a multilayer model for learning **LLM** authorship styles to detect machine-generated text

Undergraduate Research Assistant & Software Developer   **Tucson, Arizona**
University of Arizona - Pauli Lab   April 2023 – Present
• Developed high-throughput phenotyping pipelines for data from the world's largest plant phenotyping robot
• Utilized the university's **High-Performance Computing** cluster for efficient, distributed data processing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Coordinator - Object-Oriented Programming & Design   **Tucson, Arizona**
University of Arizona, Department of Computer Science   August 2022 – Present
• Trained and supervised 8 TAs, enhancing course delivery and student engagement for over 160 students
• Designed 3 key programming assignments and oversaw a comprehensive 5-week final group project

Teaching Assistant - Analysis of Discrete Structures, Software Development   **Tucson, Arizona**
University of Arizona, Department of Computer Science   August 2021 – August 2022
• Conducted detailed grading and provided personalized feedback for programming assignments and exams
• Mentored a cohort of 20 students through weekly office hours, improving their understanding in key course concepts
• Led supplemental instruction sessions focused on development environment setup and exam preparation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Engineering Intern - NLP   **Remote**
Pido - One of the largest fuel delivery companies in the Middle East   May 2023 – August 2023
• Led an NLP project analyzing Persian social media data for traffic insights, optimizing fuel delivery vehicle allocation
• Engineered sentiment analysis and location extraction ML models to enhance fuel allocation strategies

Software Engineering Intern   **Remote**
Namava - VOD service with +6 million users in the Middle East   May 2022 – August 2022
• Enhanced backend services and database query efficiency, achieving a **20% reduction in latency**
• Played a key role in integrating third-party payment APIs, streamlining the user subscription process

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

President, Google Developer Student Club, *University of Arizona*   August 2023 – Present
• Revitalized the chapter, **growing active participation from 15 to over 70 members**
• Hosted a series of workshops on Google technologies, ML, NLP, Computer Vision, and Android Development

College of Science Ambassador, *University of Arizona*   August 2023 – Present
• Nominated as the sole representative by the Department of Computer Science to engage with and represent the college
• Facilitated new student orientations and departmental tours, led info sessions for prospective students and parents

Computer Science Peer Mentor, *University of Arizona*   February 2023 – Present
• Guided first-year students with academic and research advice, fostering social integration and a sense of community
• Organized information sessions on course selection, sharing experiences to inspire and inform students

Campus Pantry Student Volunteer, *University of Arizona*   August 2022 – Present
• Volunteered **two hours weekly**, aiding in food distribution

COURSEWORK

Undergraduate Courses: Neural Networks, Text Retrieval & Web Search, Algorithms, OS, Computer Graphics (audit), Computer Vision (audit), Linear Algebra, Vector Calculus
Graduate Courses: Statistical Natural Language Processing, Algorithms for NLP, Intro to Machine Learning

HONORS & AWARDS

Computer Science TA of the Month - *University of Arizona*   September 2022
• Nominated by faculty for exceptional contributions as a TA, recognized among the **top 2 in the department**

Business Consulting Competition Winner - *University of Arizona, Eller College of Management*   April 2021
• Spearheaded a winning team strategy in a sales data analysis case, achieving **first place among 20 teams**

Global Wildcat Scholarship - *University of Arizona*   August 2019
• Awarded for outstanding academic performance

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, Java, C, SQL, R
Tools & Frameworks: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, NumPy, Hugging Face, Open3D, Docker, Git, Bash, RESTful APIs