

WASI UDDIN AHMAD

11811 Venice Blvd, Apt 228, Los Angeles, CA, 90066

(+1)434-202-9102 ✧ wasiahmad@ucla.edu

<https://wasiahmad.github.io/>

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

Developing computational algorithms that (1) reduce the need for large-scale annotated data to train NLP models from scratch; (2) adapt to new domains and languages with fewer labeled examples.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Computer Science

09.2017 - Present

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

CGPA: 3.78 on a scale of 4.00

Advisor: Dr. Kai-Wei Chang

Master of Computer Science

08.2015 - 08.2017

University of Virginia (UVA)

CGPA: 4.00 on a scale of 4.00

Advisor: Dr. Kai-Wei Chang

B.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering

01.2008 - 02.2013

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)

CGPA: 3.81 on a scale of 4.00

Position: Ranked 8th in a class of 142 students

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Unified Pre-training for Program Understanding and Generation. In Proceedings of the 2021 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, (to appear).
2. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). GATE: Graph Attention Transformer Encoder for Cross-lingual Relation and Event Extraction. In Proceedings of the 35th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
3. Chakraborty, S., Tafseer, M. T., & **Ahmad, W. U.** (2021). Simple or Complex? Learning to Predict Readability of Bengali Texts. In Proceedings of the 35th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI).
4. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2020). PolicyQA: A Reading Comprehension Dataset for Privacy Policies. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP.
5. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2020). A Transformer-based Approach for Source Code Summarization. In Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).
6. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Zhang, Z., Ma, X., Chang, K. W., & Peng, N. (2019). Cross-lingual Dependency Parsing with Unlabeled Auxiliary Languages. In Proceedings of the 23rd Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL).
7. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2019). Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion. In Proceedings of the 42nd International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval. ACM.

8. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Zhang, Z., Ma, X., Hovy, E., Chang, K. W., & Peng, N. (2019). On Difficulties of Cross-Lingual Transfer with Order Differences: A Case Study on Dependency Parsing. In Proceedings of the 2019 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies, Volume 1 (Long and Short Papers).
9. Duong, D., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Eskin, E., Chang, K. W., & Li, J. J. (2019). Word and sentence embedding tools to measure semantic similarity of Gene Ontology terms by their definitions. Journal of Computational Biology, 26(1), 38-52.
10. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Intent-aware query obfuscation for privacy protection in personalized web search. In The 41st International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval. ACM.
11. Yu, P., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Wang, H. (2018). Hide-n-Seek: An Intent-aware Privacy Protection Plugin for Personalized Web Search. In The 41st International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval. ACM.
12. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Multi-task learning for document ranking and query suggestion. In Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR).
13. **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Chang, K. W. (2018). A Corpus to Learn Refer-to-as Relations for Nominals. In Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC).
14. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Rahman, M. M., & Wang, H. (2016). Topic model based privacy protection in personalized Web search. In Proceedings of the 39th International ACM SIGIR conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval. ACM.

PREPRINTS

1. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Le, T., Norton, T., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2020). Intent Classification and Slot Filling for Privacy Policies. arXiv preprint arXiv:2101.00123.
2. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Bai, X., Lee, S., & Chang, K. W. (2020). Select, Extract and Generate: Neural Keyphrase Generation with Syntactic Guidance. arXiv preprint arXiv:2008.01739.
3. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Bai, X., Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2018). Learning Robust, Transferable Sentence Representations for Text Classification. arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.00681.

ONGOING RESEARCH

- Investigating the role of language syntax in cross-lingual transfer.
- Representation learning using limited labeled data to automate privacy policy analysis.
- Developing a unified model for source code summarization, generation, and translation.

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

Facebook AI, Menlo Park, CA Research Intern, Language and Translation Technology	<i>06.2020 - 09.2020</i>
Yahoo Research, Sunnyvale, CA Research Intern, Ad Quality Science	<i>06.2019 - 09.2019</i>
Microsoft AI & Research, Redmond, WA Research Intern, Business Applications Group	<i>06.2018 - 09.2018</i>
Walmart Labs, Reston, VA Research Intern, Wireless Fraud Prevention	<i>06.2016 - 08.2016</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Los Angeles

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Computer Science II. Instructor: David Smallberg. *01.2019 - 06.2019*
- Introduction to Machine Learning. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. *01.2018 - 03.2018*

University of Virginia

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Advanced Machine Learning. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. *01.2017 - 05.2017*
- Natural Language Processing. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. *08.2016 - 12.2016*
- Advanced Software Development. Instructor: Tom Horton. *08.2015 - 05.2016*
- Capstone Practicum I & II. Instructor: Aaron Bloomfield. *08.2015 - 05.2016*

Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology

Lecturer, Department of Computer Science

11.2013 - 08.2015

TALKS

- Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion, SIGIR 2019
- Multi-Task Learning, Machine Learning Seminar, UCLA, November 2017

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Program Committee/Reviewer

- 2021: NIPS, EMNLP, SIGIR, ACL-IJCNLP, IJCAI, NAACL, EACL, AAAI
- 2020: EMNLP, ICML, IJCAI, AAAI, LREC
- others: NAACL 2019, EMNLP 2018 (secondary reviewer), etc.

Internal Service, Department of Computer science, University of Virginia

- Student Volunteer in the Mentee-Mentor Program for new graduate students. 16'.
- Student Ambassador for assisting prospective students. 16'.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- SIGIR Student Travel Grant *2016, 2019*
- ICLR Travel Award *2018*
- Graduate Division Fellowships, UCLA *2017*
- William L Ballard Jr Endowed Graduate Fellowship, UVA *2017*
- Graduate Division Fellowships, UVA *2015 - 2016*
- Dean's List Award, BUET *2008-09 to 2010-11*
- University Merit Scholarship, BUET *2007-08 to 2010-11*