

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 [\[Google Scholar\]](#)

1. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Li, H., Mehdad, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Syntax-augmented Multilingual BERT for Cross-lingual Transfer. In Proceedings of ACL.
2. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Le, T., Norton, T., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Intent Classification and Slot Filling for Privacy Policies. In Proceedings of ACL.
3. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Bai, X., Lee, S., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Select, Extract and Generate: Neural Keyphrase Generation with Layer-wise Coverage Attention. In Proceedings of ACL.
4. Hasan, M., Muttaqueen, T., Ishtiaq, A. A., Mehrab, K.S., Haque, M. M. A., Hasan, T., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Iqbal, A., & Shahriyar, R. (2021). CoDesc: A Large CodeDescription Parallel Dataset. In Findings of ACL.
5. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Unified Pre-training for Program Understanding and Generation. In Proceedings of NAACL-HLT.
6. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). GATE: Graph Attention Transformer Encoder for Cross-lingual Relation and Event Extraction. In Proceedings of AAAI.
7. Chakraborty, S., Tafseer, M. T., & **Ahmad, W. U.** (2021). Simple or Complex? Learning to Predict Readability of Bengali Texts. In Proceedings of AAAI.
8. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2020). PolicyQA: A Reading Comprehension Dataset for Privacy Policies. In Findings of the ACL: EMNLP.

9. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2020). A Transformer-based Approach for Source Code Summarization. In Proceedings of ACL.
10. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Zhang, Z., Ma, X., Chang, K. W., & Peng, N. (2019). Cross-lingual Dependency Parsing with Unlabeled Auxiliary Languages. In Proceedings of CoNLL.
11. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2019). Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion. In Proceedings of SIGIR.
12. **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 NAACL-HLT.
13. 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.
14. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Intent-aware query obfuscation for privacy protection in personalized web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.
15. Yu, P., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Wang, H. (2018). Hide-n-Seek: An Intent-aware Privacy Protection Plugin for Personalized Web Search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.
16. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Multi-task learning for document ranking and query suggestion. In Proceedings of ICLR.
17. **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Chang, K. W. (2018). A Corpus to Learn Refer-to-as Relations for Nominals. In Proceedings of LREC.
18. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Rahman, M. M., & Wang, H. (2016). Topic model based privacy protection in personalized Web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

Preprints

1. Huang, K. H., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Improving Zero-Shot Cross-Lingual Transfer Learning via Robust Training. arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.08645.
2. Hasan, M., Mehrab, K.S., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Shahriyar, R. (2021). Text2App: A Framework for Creating Android Apps from Text Descriptions. arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.08301.
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.

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>
REVE Systems, Dhaka, Bangladesh Software Development Engineer, Android	<i>02.2013 - 10.2013</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

- Representation Learning for Low-resource Language Processing, AWS AI, May, 2021
- Representation Learning for Low-resource Language Processing, Microsoft, April, 2021
- Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion, SIGIR, July 2019
- Multi-Task Learning, Machine Learning Seminar, UCLA, November 2017

Professional Activities

Program Committee/Reviewer

- 2022: WSDM, ICLR
- 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*