

Sari Sadiya

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Sari Saba-Sadiya, I am a Palestinian graduate student pursuing a dual Ph.D in computer science under Dr Mohammad Ghassemi and neuroscience under Taosheng Liu as a member of the Neuroimaging of Perception and attention Laboratory. My main areas of interest are computational linguistics, attention, and neural representations.

EDUCATION

- **Dual PhD in Psychology and Computer Science** Michigan State University
Academic advisers are Dr Taosheng Liu (PSY) and Dr Mohammad Ghassemi (CSE) Aug. 2017 – present
- **MSc Computer Science with a Cognitive Science specialization** Michigan State University
Academic adviser was Dr Joyce Chai. Sponsored by the Fulbright program. GPA 3.8 Aug. 2015 – May. 2017
- **BSc Mathematics** Technion - Israel Institute of Technology
Final Grade equivalent to a 3.6 GPA Dec. 2009 – Apr. 2013
- **BSc Computer Science** Technion - Israel Institute of Technology
Final Grade equivalent to a 3.6 GPA Dec. 2009 – Apr. 2013

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020: **S. Sadiya**, T. Alhanai, T. Liu, M. Ghassemi; *EEG Channel Interpolation Using Deep Encoder-decoder Networks*. Submitted to IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC).
- 2018: S. Yang, **S. Sadiya**, Q. Gao, Y. Chai; *Commonsense Action Explanation in Human-Agent Communication*. In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP).
- 2018: J. Chai, Q. Gao, L. She, S. Yang, **S. Sadiya**, G. Xu; *Language to Action: Towards Interactive Task Learning with Physical Agents*. In Proceedings of the International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence Organization (IJCAI).
- 2018: H. Karimi, P.C. Roy, **S. Sadiya**, J. Tang; *Multi-Source Multi-Class Fake News Detection*. The 27th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING).
- 2016: C. Liu, S. Yang, **S. Sadiya**, N. Shuka, Y. He, S. Zhu, and J. Y. Chai; *Joint Learning Task Structures from Language Instruction and Visual Demonstration*. In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP).

AWARDS

- **Graduate Office Fellowship** 2020
Fully covers assistanceship during the summer semesters I and II
- **Fulbright Scholarship program for international educational exchange** 2015 – 2017
Full Scholarship, Granted by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- **Dean Honour List, Technion - Israeli Institute for Technology.** 2013
Academic Award Given to top 10% of students in program

EXPERIENCE

- **Michigan State University** East Lansing, MI
Instructor Spring 2019
 - **Instructor: Pen-Pal App Independent Study (CSE 490):** Under the supervision of Dr Josh Nahum, and in cooperation with the Refugee Outreach Collective NGO. In this independent study 3 students from the MSU CSE department and 3 students from the AppFactory in Dzaleka refugee camp Malawi collaborated on building a PenPal app to facilitate intercultural relationship building.

Teaching Assistant Aug. 2018 – present

- **Teaching Assistant - Introduction to AI:** Held lab, identified and invited guest lecturers, and contributed to designing course work. The course was Taught by Dr. Joshua Nahum and focused on fundamental issues in intelligent systems. Knowledge representation, reasoning, search and constraint satisfaction.

Research Assistant

Aug. 2015 – Aug 2018

- **Research Assistant - Natural Language Processing:** Research on Human Robot Interaction, Dialogue Management and multi-modal task learning from demonstration. Research projects funded by the DARPA SIMPLEX program and the DARPA XAI project.

- **Apple Inc.** Matam Center, Haifa, Israel
VLSI Engineer *Mar. 2013 - Aug. 2015*
- **Technion - Israeli Institute for Technology.** Haifa, 3200003, Israel
 - **Industrial Project in Computer Science:** A Technion and IBM joint industrial project under the guidance of Dr Tamer Salaman
 - **Self Study Project in Applied Mathematics:** Completed an Applied Mathematics project researching the *Stable Marriage Problem* under the guidance of prof Gershon Wolansky during my Mathematics studies in the Technion.
 - **Self Study Project in Mathematical Analysis:** Completed a project on *Andronov Hopf bifurcations* under the guidance of prof. Michail Zhitomerski during my Mathematics studies in the Technion.

SERVICE

- **Computer Environment Committee** Michigan State University
Department of Computer Science Graduate Student representative *2017-present*
- **Engineering Graduates Studies Committee** Michigan State University
Department of Computer Science Graduate Student representative *2017-Aug. 2018*
- **Reviewer**
EMNLP-IJCNLP Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language (2019). IEEE Conference on Big Data (2018). IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (2018), AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (2017), ACM Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces (2016).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Coding in Python, specifically for Natural Language Processing.

Extensive knowledge of SVA (System Verilog Assertions) for hardware design and verification.

Coding in C / C++, Android app development and using openCV for image processing.

Coding in Matlab, using MGL for experimental psychophysics.

Experience with Tcl, CShell and Unix environments

LANGUAGES

- **Arabic:** Native Language.
- **Hebrew:** Native Language.
- **English:** High Level of writing, reading, and speaking abilities (107 Tofel Score).
- **French:** Intermediate level.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- **Community Relations Coordinator at The Refugee Outreach Collective** 2018 - present
The Refugee Outreach Collective (established 2015), is a non profit that focuses on supporting recently resettled individuals in the Midwest and those awaiting resettlement in Refugee Camps general. As well as spreading awareness to the global migration crises and connecting compassionate individuals with volunteering opportunities.
- **English Tutor through Paper Airplanes** 2018
Tutoring conflict-affected individual from the MENA region through Skype.
- **Co-founder at Almahata** 2013-2017
'Almahata - Palestinian Youth Cooperative', was a non-profit cooperative aiming to provide an open space for cultural activities in Haifa. The cooperative functioned daily, hosting over 300 lectures, workshops, book launchings and independent film screenings.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professional cellist. Worked at several orchestras (both western and Arab, most notably the Tarshiha Ensemble), collaborated with many contemporary artists. Performed both locally and internationally.