

Utku Umur Acikalin

Research Interests: Combinatorial Optimization, Algorithms
Applications of NLP on Economics & Finance

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EDUCATION

TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara/Turkey 2019–2022

Master of Science, Computer Engineering, GPA:4.00

Advisor: Asst. Prof. Bugra Caskurlu

TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara/Turkey 2015–2019

Bachelor's Degree, Computer Engineering, GPA:3.74

PUBLICATIONS

J1. Caskurlu B, **Acikalin UU**, Kizilkaya FE, & Ekici O. “On approximate Nash equilibria of the two-source connection game”, *Turkish Journal of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences*, 30(6), 2206-2220. 2022.

C5. **Acikalin UU**, Kutlu M. “Patent Search Using Triplet Networks Based Fine-Tuned SciBERT”, 3rd Workshop on Patent Text Mining and Semantic Technologies at ACM SIGIR, 2022.

C4. **Acikalin UU** & Caskurlu B. “Multilevel memetic hypergraph partitioning with greedy recombination”. In Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference Companion (ACM SIGEVO GECCO '22), ACM. 2022. (Presented Online)

C3. **Acikalin UU**, Caskurlu B, P Wojciechowski, K. Subramani. “New Results on Test-Cost Minimization in Database Migration”, 2021, *International Symposium on Algorithmic Aspects of Cloud Computing (ALGO CLOUD)*, 2021.

C2. **Acikalin UU**, B Bardak, M Kutlu. “Turkish Sentiment Analysis Using BERT”, 28th *Signal Processing and Communications Applications Conference (SIU)*. IEEE, 2020.

C1. Subramani K, Caskurlu B, **Acikalin UU**. “Security-Aware Database Migration Planning”, *International Symposium on Algorithmic Aspects of Cloud Computing (ALGO CLOUD)*. 2019. (Presented in Munich)

WORKING PAPERS

Acikalin UU, Caskurlu T, Hoberg G, Phillips GM. “Intellectual Property Protection Lost and Competition: An Examination Using Machine Learning”, (Submitted to *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*)

Presented by coauthors at: NBER Big Data and High-Performance Computing for Financial Economics, NBER Summer Institute Innovation workshop, EFA 2022, (scheduled) AEA 2022, University of Alberta, University of Amsterdam, Columbia University, Harvard Business School, John Hopkins University, University of Minnesota, University of Maryland, and University of Notre Dame, Peking University, UCLA, Yeshiva University

Caskurlu B, Subramani K, **Acikalin UU**, Velasquez A, Wojciechowski P. “Models for test cost minimization in database migration”, (Submitted to ACM Transactions on Database Systems (TODS))

Acikalin UU, Gorgun MK, Kutlu M, Tas BKO. “How You Describe Procurement Calls Matters: Predicting Competition and Cost-Effectiveness of European Union Public Procurement Calls Using Their Description”, (Submitted to Natural Language Engineering)

Acikalin UU, Caskurlu B, Subramani K. “Security-Aware Database Migration Planning”, (R&R Constraints)

Caskurlu B, Ekici O, **Acikalin UU**. “Geometric hitting set problem for disks with a point in the center”, (Submitted to Turkish J Math)

Acikalin UU, Caskurlu B. “Ant-colony based coarsening scheme for Multilevel Hypergraph Partitioning”.

Acikalin UU, Kutlu M, Tas BKO, “Key Features of Public Procurement of Innovation: Evidence from the US Public Procurement Market”.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2020-2022 TUBITAK 2210 M.S. Scholarship

2019-2021 TOBB Univ. of Economics and Technology Graduate Program Special Merit Scholarship

2019 TUBITAK Undergraduate Research Project Contest 2nd prize

2017 Android Academy Entrepreneurship Foundation Contest Semi-finalist

2017-2019 TOBB Univ. of Economics & Technology Undergraduate Program Merit Scholarship

2016-2017 Undergraduate TA (selected by the head of the department)

2011 Mersin University Math Contest for Elementary Schools - 1st place

2009 1. Turkish Child’s Right Congress Representative

2009 Mersin University Math Contest for Elementary Schools - 3rd place

2007 European Chess Festival U10 – 2nd place

2006 Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education Chess Championship - 3rd place

2005 Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education Chess Championship - 9th place

2004 Mersin Sisecam Soda Industry Painting Contest - 3rd place

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Introduction to Computer Programming (4 Semesters)
Design and Analysis of Algorithms (4 Semesters)
Social Networks (2 Semesters)
Combinatorics (2 Semesters)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviver for: IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I

SKILLS

Programming Languages: (proficient) Java, Python, C++, (familiar) C, Javascript, Ruby
ML & Optimization Frameworks, Libraries : Pytorch, Sklearn, Transformers, Spacy, Lucene,
CPLEX, Minizinc, Google OR Tools

REFERENCES

Assistant Professor Bugra Caskurlu,
Head of Artificial Intelligence Engineering Department,
TOBB University of Economics and Technology,
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Tolga Caskurlu, Assistant Professor of Finance,
Amsterdam Business School, University of Amsterdam
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Assistant Professor Mucahid Kutlu,
Computer Engineering Department, TOBB University of Economics and Technology,
E-mail: m.kutlu@etu.edu.tr