

Wasi Uddin Ahmad

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<https://wasiahmad.github.io>

Research Objective

(1) Develop robust and generalizable language understanding and generation techniques; (2) make them inclusive, accessible, and equitable; and (3) apply them in applications that foster social good.

Education

Ph.D. in Computer Science University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) CGPA: 3.78 on a scale of 4.00 <i>Advisor:</i> Dr. Kai-Wei Chang	09.2017 - 09.2021
Master of Computer Science University of Virginia (UVA) CGPA: 4.00 on a scale of 4.00 <i>Advisor:</i> Dr. Kai-Wei Chang	08.2015 - 08.2017
B.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) CGPA: 3.81 on a scale of 4.00 Position: Ranked 8 th in a class of 142 students	01.2008 - 02.2013

Publications [\[Google Scholar\]](#)

(* indicates equal contribution)

1. Wu, D., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Dev, S., & Chang, K. W. (2022). Representation Learning for Resource-Constrained Keyphrase Generation. In Findings of the ACL: EMNLP.
2. Bhattacharjee, A.*, Hasan, T.*, **Ahmad, W. U.**, Samin, K., Islam, M. S., Iqbal, A., Rahman, M. S., & Shahriyar, R. (2022). BanglaBERT: Language Model Pretraining and Benchmarks for Low-Resource Language Understanding Evaluation in Bangla. In Findings of the ACL: NAACL.
3. Huang, K. H., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Improving Zero-Shot Cross-Lingual Transfer Learning via Robust Training. In Proceedings of EMNLP.
4. Parvez, R. M., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Retrieval Augmented Code Generation and Summarization. In Findings of the ACL: EMNLP.
5. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Li, H., Mehdad, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Syntax-augmented Multilingual BERT for Cross-lingual Transfer. In Proceedings of ACL.
6. **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.
7. **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.

8. 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.
9. **Ahmad, W. U.***, Chakraborty, S.* , Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Unified Pre-training for Program Understanding and Generation. In Proceedings of NAACL-HLT.
10. **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.
11. Chakraborty, S.* , Tafseer, M. T.* , & **Ahmad, W. U.** (2021). Simple or Complex? Learning to Predict Readability of Bengali Texts. In Proceedings of AAAI.
12. **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.
13. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2020). A Transformer-based Approach for Source Code Summarization. In Proceedings of ACL.
14. **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.
15. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2019). Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion. In Proceedings of SIGIR.
16. **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.
17. 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.
18. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Intent-aware query obfuscation for privacy protection in personalized web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.
19. 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.
20. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Multi-task learning for document ranking and query suggestion. In Proceedings of ICLR.
21. **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Chang, K. W. (2018). A Corpus to Learn Refer-to-as Relations for Nominals. In Proceedings of LREC.
22. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Rahman, M. M., & Wang, H. (2016). Topic model based privacy protection in personalized Web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

Preprints

1. Jain, N.* , Zhang, D.* , **Ahmad, W. U.***, Wang, Z., Feng, N., Li, X., Tan, M., Nallapati, R., Ray, B., Bhatia, P., Ma, X., & Xiang, B. (2022). ContraGen: Effective Contrastive Learning For Causal Language Model. arXiv preprint arXiv:2210.01185.
2. Haque, M. M. A., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Lourentzou, I., & Brown, C. (2022). FixEval: Execution-based Evaluation of Program Fixes for Competitive Programming Problems. arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.07796.

3. Parvez, M. R., Chi, J., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2022). Retrieval Enhanced Data Augmentation for Question Answering on Privacy Policies. arXiv preprint arXiv:2204.08952.
4. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2022). Summarize and Generate to Back-translate: Unsupervised Translation of Programming Languages. arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.11116.
5. Bhattacharjee, A., Hasan, T., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Shahriyar, R. (2022). BanglaNLG: Benchmarks and Resources for Evaluating Low-Resource Natural Language Generation in Bangla. arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.11081.
6. Hasan, T., Bhattacharjee, A., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Li, Y. F., Kang, Y. B., & Shahriyar, R. (2021). CrossSum: Beyond English-Centric Cross-Lingual Abstractive Text Summarization for 1500+ Language Pairs. arXiv preprint arXiv:2112.08804.
7. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Tushar, M. G. R., Chakraborty, S., & Chang, K. W. (2021). AVATAR: A Parallel Corpus for Java-Python Program Translation. arXiv preprint arXiv:2108.11590.
8. 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.
9. **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

AWS AI Labs, Santa Clara, CA Applied Scientist II, AWS AI Labs	10.2021 - Present
Facebook AI, Menlo Park, CA Research Intern, Language and Translation Technology	06.2020 - 09.2020
Yahoo Research, Sunnyvale, CA Research Intern, Ad Quality Science	06.2019 - 09.2019
Microsoft AI & Research, Redmond, WA Research Intern, Business Applications Group	06.2018 - 09.2018
Walmart Labs, Reston, VA Research Intern, Wireless Fraud Prevention	06.2016 - 08.2016
REVE Systems, Dhaka, Bangladesh Software Development Engineer, Android	02.2013 - 10.2013

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

Research/Invited 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 Services

Senior Program Committee

- 2023: AAAI

Program Committee/Reviewer

- 2023: ICLR, ARR
- 2022: ICML, SIGIR, IJCAI, KDD, ARR, LREC, AAAI, 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), TOIS (journal)

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

References

Dr. Kai-Wei Chang

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