

# Yftah Ziser

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER · SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS

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## Education

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### TECHNION – ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Haifa, Israel

#### PH.D. (DIRECT PH.D. TRACK)

2015 - 2019

- Supervised by Prof. Roi Reichart.
- Thesis: "Domain Adaptation for Natural Language Processing - a Neural Network Based Approach."
- My Ph.D. research goal is to adapt models from domains and languages rich in labeled training data to domains and languages poor in such data through representation learning
- Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award, IE&M Faculty of Technion (2018).

### TECHNION – ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Haifa, Israel

#### B.Sc.

2011 - 2015

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

## Professional Experience

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### University of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, United Kingdom

#### POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

2021 - present

- Hosted by Dr. Shay Cohen.

### FACEBOOK

Tel-Aviv, Israel

#### RESEARCHER

2020 - 2021

- Designing state-of-the-art NLP solutions for e-commerce.

### AMAZON ALEXA

Haifa, Israel

#### RESEARCHER

2019 - 2020

- Designing state-of-the-art question-answering systems using Amazon community data.
- Leading multiple research internships.

### IBM

Haifa, Israel

#### PART-TIME RESEARCHER

2017 - 2018

- Designing and building machine learning algorithms for natural language problems.
- Designing and teaching an internal "Introduction to Deep Learning" course for IBM colleagues.

## Publications

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### PUBLISHED

Factorizing Content and Budget Decisions in Abstractive Summarization of Long Documents, Marcio Fonseca, **Yftah Ziser**, and Shay Cohen, EMNLP 2022.

Understanding Domain Learning in Language Models Through Subpopulation Analysis, Zheng Zhao, **Yftah Ziser**, and Shay Cohen, BlackboxNLP@EMNLP 2022.

Customized Pre-Training for Improved Domain Adaptation with Category Shift, Tony Lechtman, **Yftah Ziser**, and Roi Reichart, EMNLP 2021.

WikiSum: Coherent Summarization Dataset for Efficient Human-Evaluation, Nachshon Cohen\*, Oren Kalinsky\*, **Yftah Ziser\***, and Alessandro Moschitti, ACL 2021.

Answering Product-Questions by Utilizing Questions from Other Contextually Similar Products, Ohad Rozen, David Carmel, Avihai Mejer, Vitali Mirkis, and **Yftah Ziser**, NAACL 2021.

Humor Detection in Product Question Answering Systems, **Yftah Ziser**, Elad Kravi, and David Carmel, SIGIR 2020.

Task Refinement Learning for Improved Accuracy and Stability of Unsupervised Domain Adaptation, **Yftah Ziser**, and Roi Reichart, ACL 2019.

Deep Pivot-Based Modeling for Cross-language Cross-domain Transfer with Minimal Guidance, **Yftah Ziser**, and Roi Reichart, EMNLP 2018.

Pivot Based Language Modeling for Improved Neural Domain Adaptation, **Yftah Ziser** and Roi Reichart, NAACL 2018.

Neural Structural Correspondence Learning for Domain Adaptation, **Yftah Ziser** and Roi Reichart, CoNLL 2017.

## Teaching Experience

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2019 **Yearly Project in Data Science**, Project Mentor (while working at Amazon).

Fall 2018 **Natural Language Processing for the Social Sciences**, Project Mentor.

Spring 2017 **Learning Robust Representations for Natural Language Processing**, Project Mentor.

Fall 2017 **Introduction to Natural Language Processing**, Teaching Assistant in Charge.

2015-2016 **Introduction to Computer Science**, Teaching Assistant.

## Academic Service

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### INVITED TALKS

2022 *Guarded Information Removal for Better Debiasing*. Language Technology Lab group, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

2022 *Guarded Information Removal for Better Debiasing*. Department for Computational Linguistics, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany.

2020 *Domain Bias in Humor Detection*. Amazon Research Center, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

2018 *Cross-language Cross-domain Transfer with Minimal Guidance*. Israel Seminar on Computational Linguistics, Haifa, Israel.

2018 *Contextualized Representations for Domain Adaptation*. Computer Science department, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

2017 *Harnessing the Power of Neural Networks for Domain Adaptation*. Technion Computational Data Science seminar, Haifa, Israel.

### ORGANIZATION

2021 Co-Organizer of the *Domain Adaptation for NLP Workshop*. At EACL, virtual event.

2018 Committee member of the *Seminar of Computational Linguistics (ISCOL)*. Haifa, Israel.

### REVIEWING

2018-present Reviewing for main NLP venues, including NNACL, ACL, EMNLP, EACL and CoNLL.

2021-present Reviewing for ACL Rolling Review (ARR).

### PH.D. ADMISSIONS

2021-present Evaluating Ph.D. candidates for the European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS) Ph.D. program.