

Yftah Ziser

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER · SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS

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Education

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

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

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

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.

Mentoring

2022-present Yifu Qiu, Ph.D. student, University of Edinburgh.

2021-present Marcio Fonseca, Ph.D. student, University of Edinburgh.

2021-present Zheng Zhao, Ph.D. student, University of Edinburgh.

2021-present Shun Shao, M.Sc. student, University of Edinburgh.

2021-present Waylon Li, M.Sc. student, University of Edinburgh.

2020-2021 Entony Lekhtman, M.Sc. student, Technion.

Summer 2020 Ohad Rozen, Ph.D. student, Bar-Ilan University (Summer internship at Amazon).

Summer 2020 Eilon Sheetrit, Ph.D. student, Technion (Summer internship at Amazon).

Summer 2020 Ido Hakimi, Ph.D. student, Technion (Summer internship at Amazon).

Academic Service

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.