

MEHMET KEREM TURKCAN

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EDUCATION

- ◊ **Columbia University**, New York, United States September 2015 – December 2016 (Expected)
 - M.Sc. in Computer Science, Machine Learning/Thesis Track
 - Cumulative GPA: 3.90
 - *Course Assistant*: Neural Networks and Deep Learning
 - *Relevant Coursework*: Advanced Machine Learning, Bayesian Methods in Machine Learning, Neural Networks and Deep Learning, Introduction to Computational Learning Theory, Programming Languages and Translators, Analysis of Algorithms I, Computer Graphics
- ◊ **Istanbul Technical University**, Istanbul, Turkey September 2011 – July 2015
 - B.Sc. in Electronics and Communication Engineering
 - Cumulative GPA: 3.75
 - Presidential Merit Scholarship
- ◊ **École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne**, Lausanne, Switzerland September 2013 – December 2013
 - Erasmus Exchange for B.Sc. in Electronics and Communication Engineering
 - *Relevant Coursework*: Applied Machine Learning, Advanced Signal Processing, Information Theory and Coding

WORK EXPERIENCE

- ◊ *Graduate Researcher* May 2016 – September 2016
The Earth Institute at Columbia University New York, United States
 - Developed custom, high-performing machine learning and deep learning models for a number of unique configurations to control solar-powered microgrids in Africa.
 - Improved the models through a unique implementation of user schedules for revenue maximization.
- ◊ *Graduate Researcher* January 2016 – May 2016
Center for Computational Learning Systems at Columbia University New York, United States
 - Designed and implemented machine learning algorithms to target structures requiring repairs in Con Edison infrastructure using features extracted from thermal images.
- ◊ *Student Intern* August 2014 – September 2014
ArtGe Technologies Istanbul, Turkey
 - Designed, implemented and benchmarked novel machine learning algorithms to perform automatic agriculture related data extraction from images, as part of the TARBIL (Agricultural Monitoring and Information System) Project funded by the Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock.

RESEARCH

- ◊ *Graduate Research Assistant* September 2016 – Present
Center for Computational Learning Systems at Columbia University New York, United States
 - Working on a number of projects involving reinforcement learning, causal inference and computer vision.
- ◊ *Graduate Student* September 2015 – January 2016
Columbia University New York, United States
 - Worked under the advisement of Professor Daniel Hsu and built a substitute for Google's recently discontinued Google Flu Trends project.
- ◊ *Undergraduate Scholar* March 2014 – December 2014
Istanbul Technical University Signal Processing Laboratory Istanbul, Turkey
 - Worked on a TUBITAK backed research project on automated sketch and caricature recognition.
 - Designed, implemented and evaluated a new metric learning algorithm that achieved state of the art matching accuracy on metric learning problems for cross-modal face recognition.
- ◊ *Research Intern* June 2013 – July 2013
Istanbul Technical University Signal Processing Laboratory Istanbul, Turkey
 - Considered the use of some unconventional integral transforms like the dual Mellin variable in relation to time and frequency for feature extraction against the state of the art.
 - Investigated the use of such feature extraction methods for the analysis of sequential time series data, achieving improved performance on a number of market prediction problems compared to previous literature.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- ◊ **Programming Languages**: Python, C/C++, OCaml, MATLAB, 8051 Assembly, GML, HTML, CSS
- ◊ **Operating Systems**: Windows, Linux
- ◊ **Design Software**: LaTeX, Photoshop, InDesign