alpöktem

contact

alp@collectivat.cat

http://alpoktem.github.io

LinkedIn://alp-oktem
Github://alpoktem
Twitter://OktemAlp

languages

turkish native
english fluent
spanish intermediate
german beginner

programming

Python, Linux bash,
Processing, MATLAB,
Java, C, C++

interests

speech technology,
computational linguistics,
machine translation,
prosody, deep neural
networks

hobbies

illustration, thai boxing,
playing drums and guitar,
biking, hiking

experience

2019 - Now **TRANSLATORS WITHOUT BORDERS**   Remote

Computational Linguist

Work currently carried out for *Gamayun, the language equality initiative*
- Development of spoken/written machine translation for marginalized languages

2017 - Now **COL·LECTIVAT SCCL**   Barcelona, SPAIN

Co-founder / Computational Linguistics Expert

Advisor during the development of open-source ASR for Catalan language.
- Collection of open speech datasets from TV shows and parliament proceedings
- Releasing of open-source CMUSphinx ASR models
- Organising an ASR workshop with theory and hands-on sessions

2014 - 2019 **UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA**   Barcelona, SPAIN

Associate Professor

Data structures and algorithms II, Software engineering for web applications

2014 - 2018 *Researcher in Natural Language Processing Group (TALN)*

Work carried out for EU project *KRISTINA: A multilingual and interactive digital healthcare assistant*
- Developing a module for punctuation restoration of raw transcribed speech input
- Preparing and annotating a Turkish surface and deep syntax corpus

2012 - 2014 **FRAUNHOFER IAIS**   Bonn, GERMANY

Student Research Assistant

Work carried out for EU project *LinkedTV: Television linked to the web*
- Automatic generation of a speaker identification dataset from raw TV excerpts
- Automatic topic segmentation in news shows using word semantic distances

education

2014 - 2019 **PhD, Computational Linguistics**   Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, SPAIN

Thesis: *Incorporating Prosody into Neural Speech Processing Pipelines - Applications on automatic speech transcription and spoken language machine translation*

Main contributions:
- Pipeline for collecting, handling, prosodic annotation and visualization of monolingual and bilingual speech data
- An English-Spanish parallel expressive movie speech corpus
- Neural framework for spoken language punctuation restoration using lexical, syntactic and prosodic cues
- A framework for joint modelling of raw prosodic information with lexical information in sequence-to-sequence neural machine translation

Awards:
2018 María de Maeztu DTIC-UPF Open Science Award

2011 - 2014 **MsC, Computer Science**   University of Bonn, Bonn, GERMANY

Thesis: *Person identification and topic segmentation for news broadcast using banner text recognition*

Other course projects:
- *Score informed audio source separation,* decomposing right and left hand notes in piano recordings using score information from MIDI
- *German to English translator*, using n-gram based translation and language modelling

2006 - 2010 **BsC, Computer Science**   Bilkent University, Ankara, TURKEY

Senior project: *Line and Word Segmentation in Historical Manuscripts*
Skew tolerant segmentation of text lines and words from scanned images of M.K. Atatürk's handwritings and Ottoman manuscripts

2008 - 2009 **ERASMUS Exchange student**   University of Bath, Bath, UNITED KINGDOM

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publications

Prosodic phrase alignment for machine dubbing
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Antonio Bonafonte
September, 2019 - Proceedings of the 20th Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association (INTERSPEECH), Graz, Austria (accepted)

Building an open source automatic speech recognition system for Catalan
Baybars Külebi, Alp Öktem
November, 2018 - Proceedings of IberSPEECH, Barcelona, Spain

Bilingual prosodic dataset compilation for spoken language translation
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Antonio Bonafonte
November, 2018 - Proceedings of IberSPEECH, Barcelona, Spain

Visualizing punctuation restoration in speech transcripts with Prosograph
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Antonio Bonafonte
September, 2018 - Proceedings of the 19th Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association (INTERSPEECH), Hyderabad, India

Attentional parallel RNNs for generating punctuation in transcribed speech
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Leo Wanner
October, 2017 - International Conference on Statistical Language and Speech Processing (SLSP), Le Mans, France

Revising the METU-Sabancı Turkish Treebank: An exercise in surface-syntactic annotation of agglutinative languages
Alicia Burga, Alp Öktem, Leo Wanner
September, 2017 - Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Dependency Linguistics (Depling), Pisa, Italy

Prosograph: A tool for prosody visualisation of large speech corpora
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Leo Wanner
August, 2017 - Proceedings of the 18th Annual Conference of the International Speech Communication Association (INTERSPEECH), Stockholm, Sweden

Automatic extraction of parallel speech corpora from dubbed movies
Alp Öktem, Mireia Farrús, Leo Wanner
August, 2017 - Proceedings of the 10th Workshop on Building and Using Comparable Corpora (BUCC), Vancouver, Canada

From raw data to semantically enriched hyperlinking: Recent advances in the LinkedTV analysis workflow
D. Stein, A. Öktem, E. Apostolidis, V. Mezaris, J.-L. Redondo García, R. Troncy, M. Sahuguet, B. Huet
October, 2013 - Proceedings of Networked & Electronic Media (NEM) Summit, Nantes, France

Processing the manuscripts of Atatürk
T. Soysal, H. Adiguzel, A. Öktem, A. Haman, E.F. Can, P. Duygulu, M. Kalpakli
April, 2010 - IEEE 18th Signal Processing and Communications Applications Conference (SIU), Diyarbakir, Turkey