Mert Bülent SARIYILDIZ

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Research Scientist at NAVER LABS Europe

Education

– Inria Grenoble Rhône-Alpes & Université Grenoble Alpes **Grenoble, France**
Ph.D. in Computer Science *09/2020 - 06/2023*
- Thesis title: "On the evaluation and generalization of visual representations"
- Advisors: Karteek Alahari, Diane Larlus and Yannis Kalantidis
- Jury: Matthieu Cord (Reviewer), Yannis Avrithis (Reviewer), Jocelyn Chanussot, Cordelia Schmid, Thomas Mensink

– Bilkent University **Ankara, Turkey**
M.Sc. in Computer Engineering *09/2016 - 09/2019*
- Advisors: Ramazan Gökberk Cinbiş, Selim Aksoy, GPA: 3.71
- Includes a 6-months internship at NAVER LABS Europe

– Anadolu (now Eskisehir Technical) University **Eskişehir, Turkey**
B.Sc. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering *09/2011 - 05/2016*
- Ranked 1st in the Engineering Faculty, GPA: 3.72
- Includes a 1-year English language program

Research and Work Experience

– NAVER LABS Europe **Grenoble, France**
Research Scientist *07/2023 - present*

– NAVER LABS Europe & Inria Grenoble Rhône-Alpes **Grenoble, France**
Doctoral Researcher *09/2019 - 04/2023*
Worked on learning visual representations that can generalize to many tasks and datasets, and evaluating the properties of such representations, under the supervision of Karteek Alahari, Diane Larlus and Yannis Kalantidis.

– NAVER LABS Europe **Grenoble, France**
Intern *02/2019 - 08/2019*
Worked on multi-modal vision and language models under the supervision of Diane Larlus and Julien Perez.

– Bilkent University and METU ImageLab **Ankara,Turkey**
Researcher *09/2016 - 02/2019*
Worked on weakly supervised visual recognition problems and image generative models under the supervision of Gökberk Cinbiş. Partially funded by TUBITAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey), project title: "Learning Visual Recognition Models with Incomplete Supervision" (No: 116E445).

– Visea Innovative Inc. **Eskişehir, Turkey**
Project Engineer *09/2015 - 08/2016*
Worked on developing computer vision algorithms to address several industrial problems under the supervision of Cihan Topal.

Scientific Achievements

International Journal and Conference Papers, and Preprints *(Google Scholar Link)*:
- Tailoring retrieval representations to long-term visual localization, **ICLR 2024**
  Y. Kalantidis*, M. B. Sariyildiz*, R. S. Rezende, P. Weinzaepfel, D. Larlus, G. Csurka.
- Fake it till you make it: Learning transferable representations from synthetic ImageNet clones, **CVPR 2023**
  M. B. Sariyildiz, K. Alahari, D. Larlus, Y. Kalantidis.
- No reason for no supervision: Improving the generalization of supervised models, **ICLR 2023** (spotlight)
  M. B. Sariyildiz, Y. Kalantidis, K. Alahari, D. Larlus.
- Concept generalization in visual representation learning, **ICCV 2021**
  M. B. Sariyildiz, Y. Kalantidis, D. Larlus, K. Alahari.
- Hard negative mixing for contrastive learning, **NeurIPS 2020**
  Y. Kalantidis, M. B. Sariyildiz, N. Pion, P. Weinzaepfel, D. Larlus.
- Learning visual representations with caption annotations, **ECCV 2020**
  M. B. Sariyildiz, J. Perez, D. Larlus.

- Key protected classification for collaborative learning, **Pattern Recognition 2020**, M. B. Sariyildiz, R. G. Cinbis, E. Ayday.
- Gradient matching generative networks for zero-shot learning, **CVPR 2019** (oral), M. B. Sariyildiz, R. G. Cinbis.

Citations: 906, **Patents:** 2 US patents, **Awards:** Outstanding reviewer at CVPR 2021, ECCV 2022

Book Translations

- Derin Öğrenme, Buzdağı Yayınevi 2018, (translation of Deep Learning by Goodfellow et al. 2016), H. Aydın, R. G. Cinbiş, Y. Çetin, B. Demirel, S. Kalkan, H. Moğultay, M. B. Sarıyıldız, G. Sümbül, F. Yarman Vural

Teaching Experience

- *TA* – Bilkent University, CS102 - Algorithms and Programming - 1
- *TA* – Bilkent University, CS102 - Algorithms and Programming - 2
- *TA* – Bilkent University, CS113 - Introduction to Computing
- *TA* – Bilkent University, CS464 - Image Analysis

Talks

- **Google Research, Grenoble**, 04/2023, "*On the evaluation and generalization of visual representations*".
- **Valeo AI**, 04/2023, "*On the evaluation and generalization of visual representations*".
- **ENPC, IMAGINE Team**, 04/2023, "*On the evaluation and generalization of visual representations*".
- **EPFL, LIONS Lab**, 04/2023, "*On the evaluation and generalization of visual representations*".
- **MIAI Days**, 05/2021, "*Concept generalization in visual representation learning*".
- **METU ImageLab**, 01/2021, "*Learning from captioned images, self-supervised learning and generalization*".
- **Element AI**, 01/2021, "*Concept generalization in visual representation learning*".
- **METU ImageLab**, 11/2018, "*Generative Models for Zero-shot Learning*".
- **Bilkent University**, 11/2017, "*Exploiting Unsupervised Data for Zero-shot Learning*".

Professional Activities

- Reviewer for IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2019, 2021 (outstanding reviewer), 2022, 2024.
- Reviewer for IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2021.
- Reviewer for European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), 2020, 2022 (outstanding reviewer).
- Reviewer for International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2024.
- Reviewer for Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2020.

Honors and Awards

- NAVER LABS Europe the intern day 2019 session-1 winner award. 07/2019
- Research & teaching assistantship, full tuition award by Bilkent University. 09/2016
- Ranked 1st at graduation from Anadolu University, Engineering Faculty. 05/2016
- 6 certificates of high honor by Anadolu University, Electrical and Electronics Engineering. 2012-2016

Research Grants

- *Virtual Eye*, assistive device for visually impaired people. Fundings granted by TUBITAK(Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) 2209B Undergraduate Research Project Support and Savronik, 2016.

Skills

- Favorite tools: Python, PyTorch, LaTeX, Git
- Other tools: C/C++, JAVA, OpenCV, Linux
- Language: Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (beginner)