

# KUTAY BERK SEZGINEL

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<https://kut.ai> | Online version of this resume is available here: <https://kut.ai/cv/>

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Senior Data Scientist**

Jan 2020 - present

Liaison International

Remote (US)

- Build, validate, and troubleshoot machine learning models using internal tools and metrics and perform individual research on various modeling problems.
- Create product roadmaps to determine and implement specific release features for the data science engine (including unit and integration tests for validation) on a quarterly basis while ensuring compliance with SOC 2 Type 2 certification and integration with CI/CD tools to improve process efficiency and code quality.
- Create and maintain an internal website to document library usage, modeling approaches, research experiments and communicate data science results and insights to team members and customers.
- Periodically review customer data and models to identify significant changes and/or issues in the data or predictions, develop software to automate stringent data checks to identify and address inconsistent data issues and leak variables.

### **Computational Engineering Fellow**

Jan 2019 - May 2019

NuMat Technologies, Inc.

Skokie, IL

- Developed a proprietary Python library for computational materials design that integrates various molecular simulations tools with high-performance cloud computing (AWS). Created a workflow to perform reproducible and trackable experiments. Ran a high-throughput screening study and built machine learnings to discover next generation candidate materials.
- Designed and 3D printed custom parts to improve speed and decrease material loss during production. Developed process controllers (hardware and software) with a web interface.

## EDUCATION

### **Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical & Petroleum Engineering**

Sep 2015 - Jan 2020

University of Pittsburgh, Swanson School of Engineering

Pittsburgh, PA

- Dissertation Title: "*Computational materials design for molecular machinery: From nanoporous crystals to nanoscale racecars*"
- Adviser: Dr. Christopher E. Wilmer

### **Master of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering**

Sep 2013 - June 2015

Koc University, Graduate School of Science and Engineering

Istanbul, Turkey

- Dissertation Title: "*Computational and Experimental Investigation of Methane Adsorption in Pure and Ionic Liquid Modified Metal-Organic Frameworks*"

### **Bachelor of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering**

Sep 2008 - June 2013

Koc University, School of Engineering

Istanbul, Turkey

*Energy and Environmental Engineering Track*

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Sep 2015 – Jan 2020

Hypothetical Materials Lab, University of Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, PA

- Developed computational methods for functional materials design including materials such as metal-organic frameworks, supramolecular cages, and artificial molecular machines. Ran high-throughput screening studies with molecular simulations. Performed data analysis and built ML models using open-source and self-developed Python libraries.
- Organization of world's first computational nanocar race: [Formula Nano](#).
- Recreation of the lab website ([wilmerlab.com](http://wilmerlab.com)) on GitHub and maintenance as web administrator.

### **Teaching Assistant and Graduate Mentor**

Spring 2016 – 2020

Hypothetical Materials Lab, University of Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, PA

- Mentored three undergraduate and two master students in data collection and analysis for various projects.
- Guided the students in preparation and presentation of research findings.
- Helped prepare teaching material, graded exams and Teaching assistant for 6 classes
- Instructed weekly lab sessions for teaching Aspen HYSYS software. Prepared and graded quizzes for lab sessions, assigned four design projects and evaluated them, proctored the midterms and finals.

### **Graduate Research Assistant**

Sep 2013 – June 2015

Nanomaterials, Energy and Molecular Modelling Research Group &

Istanbul, Turkey

Koc University University Tüpras Energy Center (KUTEM)

- High-throughput screening of porous materials (MOFs) for gas storage and separation applications using molecular simulations. First lab member to automate many in-house computational procedures.
- Investigated the structural and thermodynamic properties of MOFs to understand methane adsorption mechanism and constructed models to predict natural gas storage of MOFs at various conditions.
- Post-synthetic modifications of porous materials using ionic liquids to improve gas storage/selectivity performances. Characterization by TGA, XRD, FT-IR, surface area and gas adsorption measurements.

## PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 11 peer reviewed publications (6 first author and 5 second author)
- 280+ citations
- 12 international conference presentations (in-person, oral)

## HONORS & AWARDS (selected)

- Braskem America Inc. Award (outstanding PhD student in Chemical Eng., University of Pittsburgh)
- IBM BlueHack Competition, Second Place (2019)
- Innocentive challenge winner *Chemical Sorbents for Fixed Bed Mercury ( $Hg^0$ ) Control* (\$5000 prize)
- Full Merit Scholarship – University of Pittsburgh PhD & Koc University, BS and MS

## INTERESTS

- Music production, teach a live music + yoga class biweekly, develop software tools for Turkish makam music, 3D printing, robotics, DIY, scientific visualization, generative art, rock climbing

References will be provided upon request.