Kyle Roth

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INTRODUCTION

Kyle Roth is a first-year PhD candidate in the Département d'informatique et de recherche opérationelle (DIRO) at the Université de Montréal. He is advised by Bang Liu. His research interests revolve around natural language processing: procedural knowledge understanding, worst-group generalization, multimodal and embodied learning, and AI alignment.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) — **Sep 2021 -**
Dept. d'informatique et de rech. opér., Université de Montréal — *Montréal, Canada*
- **3.7 GPA**; accelerated admission in fall 2022 from M.Sc. (**4.3 GPA**)

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) — **Aug 2014 - Dec 2019**
Department of Mathematics, Brigham Young University — *Provo, USA*
- Applied and Computational Mathematics Emphasis (ACME)
- **3.9 GPA** (Cum Laude); minor in computer science; concentration in linguistics

WORK EXPERIENCE

Cobalt Speech and Language — **Jan 2020 - Aug 2021**
speech scientist (full time) — *(remote) Provo, USA*
- Built an online training service in Go to manage parallel training of Kaldi models on sensitive live data
- Implemented state-of-the-art hyperparameter selection algorithms (learning rate range test; adaptive filtering) for online training
- Implemented MFCC extraction in Go while avoiding allocs and array bound checks

Emergent Trading — **May 2019 - Aug 2019**
software developer (intern) — *Chicago, USA*
- Wrote fast market analysis code in C++ to track competitors on currency markets at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange
- Designed and built an interactive tool to observe trades and prices in Brazilian currency futures using the Bokeh Python library

CamachoLab, Brigham Young University — **Jan 2019 - Dec 2019**
research assistant (part time) — *Provo, USA*
- Simulated field profiles of photonic chip components in TensorFlow using neural networks with resize convolutions
- Built SLURM_gen, a tool to automatically generate and manage simulated datasets in a high-performance computing environment
- Wrote custom resize-convolution layer to improve performance

Cobalt Speech and Language — **Apr 2018 - Nov 2018**
speech scientist (intern) — *(remote) Provo, USA*
- Improved model accuracy from 76% to 94% for autonomous drone recognition of air traffic control speech, using class-based (Thrax) language models

HONORS & AWARDS

- Université de Montréal bourse d'exemption, 3e cycle (42,076.26 CAD) — *Aug 2022 - Aug 2024*
- Université de Montréal bourse d'exemption, 2e cycle (9,789.06 CAD) — *Aug 2021 - Aug 2022*

- Brigham Young University Mathematics Department certificate of excellence *Apr 2018*
- Brigham Young University full-tuition academic scholarship (13,500 USD) *May 2017 - Dec 2019*
- North Idaho College mathematics student of the year *May 2014*

PUBLICATIONS

Kyle Roth, Deryle Lonsdale. "Morphological Parsing and Segmentation." *BYU Journal of Undergraduate Research* (2019): 24280. http://jur.byu.edu/?p=24280

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Mitacs Accelerate *Aug 2022 - Apr 2023*

20,000 CAD. Principal research intern.

- *Project title:* Technical and procedural knowledge extraction with question answering.
- *Partner organization:* Thales Canada Inc.
- *Project description:* In large organizations it's important preserve expert knowledge with written documentation, but that documentation often contains redundant information, leaves out key details, and is difficult to search due to its open form. Our objective is to develop models that can recognize technical procedures from available documents, draw inferences about similar objects and operations, and then recognize where knowledge is incomplete so it can prompt human experts for missing information.
  As a part of this project, we are studying large language models' understanding of their own knowledge: we want to evaluate their ability to recognize when they don't have an answer and to generate questions to augment their understanding. This will tell us to what extent these models will need to be fine-tuned or augmented with heuristics in order to be used to manage technical documentation.

BYU ORCA undergraduate research grant *Jan 2018 - Dec 2018*

1,500 USD. Individual mentored research project.

- Project title: Morphological parsing and segmentation.

TEACHING & SERVICE

teaching assistant *Jan 2023 - May 2023*

Université de Montréal; IFT 6759: advanced machine learning projects

- Taught introductory lectures on Linux, Git, and other development tooling

reviewer

- 2023 - AAAI, CVPR, WWW, ACL ARR, Elsevier Pattern Recognition
- 2022 - Elsevier Knowledge-Based Systems

volunteer *Jul 2017 - Aug 2017*

Refugee4Refugees; Mitilini, Greece

- Stood night watch to spot and land refugee boats as they arrived from Turkey
- Taught swimming; cleaned up around Moria camp; organized donated materials

math lab tutor *Aug 2013 - May 2014*

North Idaho College; calculus I, II, III, & differential equations

SKILLS

- **natural languages:** native English, fluent Spanish, basic French
- **programming languages:** Python, Go, C++, Java, Dart, Bash, LaTeX
- **tools:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, SLURM, Kaldi, Git, scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas, AWS, SQL, PySpark