


# ZAHRA ABBASIANAEB

 zahra-abbasiantaeb  ZahraAbbasiantaeb  z.abbasiantaeb@uva.nl

 Lab 42, Science Park, University of Amsterdam (UVA), Amsterdam.  zahraabbasiantaeb.github.io

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Information Retrieval, Conversational Search, Personalized Search, Large Language Models, Evaluation of Conversational Search Systems, Natural Language Processing, and Question Answering Systems.

## EDUCATION

---

**Ph.D. Candidate of Informatics Institute - Information Retrieval Lab (IRLab)** 2023 - Present  
University of Amsterdam (UVA), Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**Thesis:** Conversational Search and Recommendation.

**Supervisors:** Dr. Mohammad Alian Nejadi and Prof. Dr. Evangelos Kanoulas

**M.Sc. of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, GPA: 18.65/20 (3.73/4)** 2018 - 2020  
Amirkabir University of Technology (Tehran Polytechnics), Tehran, Iran.

**Thesis:** Text-based Question Answering with Deep Attentional Neural Networks.

**Supervisors:** Dr. Saeedeh Momtazi

**B.Sc. of Software Engineering, GPA: 18.39/20 (3.68/4)** 2014 - 2018  
Amirkabir University of Technology (Tehran Polytechnics), Tehran, Iran.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

**Researcher, Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science (LIACS)** 2022  
Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands.

**Project:** Linking patents to scientific publications through in-text reference mining.

**Supervisors:** Prof. Dr. Suzan Verberne and Dr. Jian Wang

## BOOKS

---

Momtazi, Saeedeh, and **Zahra Abbasiantaeb** Question Answering over Text and Knowledge Base. Springer Nature, 2022. [\[pdf\]](#)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

---

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Simon Lupart, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “Generating Multi-Aspect Queries for Conversational Search.” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2403.19302* (2024), (under review). [\[pdf\]](#)

Clemencia Siro, **Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Yifei Yuan, Maarten de Rijke, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “The Role of Images in Clarifying Questions Do Images Clarify? A Study on the Effect of Images on Clarifying Questions in Conversational Search”, (accepted at CHIIR 2025).

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Chuan Meng, Leif Azzopardi, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “Improving the Reusability of Conversational Search Test Collections”, (accepted at ECIR 2025).

Simon Lupart\*, **Abbasiantaeb, Zahra\***, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “IRLab@iKAT24: Learned Sparse Retrieval with Multi-aspect LLM Query Generation for Conversational Search”, TREC 2024. [\[pdf\]](#)

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Chuan Meng, Leif Azzopardi, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “Can We Use Large Language Models to Fill Relevance Judgment Holes?” (accepted at EMT CIR workshop, SIGIR-AP 2024) *arXiv preprint arXiv:2405.05600* (2024). [\[pdf\]](#)

Aliannejadi, Mohammad, **Zahra Abbasiantaeb**, Shubham Chatterjee, Jeffrey Dalton, and Leif Azzopardi. “TREC iKAT 2023: A Test Collection for Evaluating Conversational and Interactive Knowledge Assistants.”

*In Proceedings of the 47th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval*, pp. 819-829, 2024. [pdf]

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Yifei Yuan, Evangelos Kanoulas, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “Let the llms talk: Simulating human-to-human conversational qa via zero-shot llm-to-llm interactions.” *In Proceedings of the 17th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining*, pp. 8-17. 2024. [pdf]

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Suzan Verberne and Jian Wang. “Unveiling hidden links: A machine learning pipeline for extracting and matching patent in-text references to scientific publications”, under review of JASIST, 2024.

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Chuan Meng, David Rau, Antonis Krasakis, Hossein A. Rahmani, and Mohammad Aliannejadi. “LLM-based Retrieval and Generation Pipelines for TREC Interactive Knowledge Assistance Track (iKAT) 2023.” *TREC*, 2023.

Murgia, Emiliana, **Zahra Abbasiantaeb**, Mohammad Aliannejadi, Theo Huibers, Monica Landoni, and Maria Soledad Pera. “ChatGPT in the Classroom: A Preliminary Exploration on the Feasibility of Adapting ChatGPT to Support Children’s Information Discovery.” *In Adjunct Proceedings of the 31st ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation, and Personalization*, pp. 22-27. 2023. [pdf]

Darvishi, Kasra, Newsha Shahbodaghkhan, **Zahra Abbasiantaeb**, and Saeedeh Momtazi. “PQuAD: A Persian question answering dataset”. *Computer Speech & Language* 80 (2023): 101486. [pdf]

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, Suzan Verberne, and Jian Wang. “Optimizing BERT-based reference mining from patents.” *PatentSemTech 2022* (2022): 4. [pdf]

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra**, and Saeedeh Momtazi. “Entity-aware answer sentence selection for question answering with transformer-based language models.” *Journal of Intelligent Information Systems* 59.3 (2022): 755-777. [pdf]

**Abbasiantaeb, Zahra** and Saeedeh Momtazi. “Text based question answering from information retrieval and deep neural network perspectives: A survey” *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery* 11.6 (2021): e1412. [pdf]

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

<b>Nominated</b> for Apple Scholars PhD fellowship in AI/ML.	2024
<b>Received</b> SIGIR student travel grant from ACM.	2024
<b>Ranked 1st</b> in TREC iKAT 2023 competition.	2023
<b>Received</b> SIGIR Registration grant from WIR (Woman In the IR).	2022
<b>Ranked 1st</b> based on GPA, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran.	2020
<b>Invited to Exchange Program</b> , Passau, Germany.	2020
<b>Ranked 5</b> , based on GPA, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran.	2018
<b>Offered direct admission to graduate school</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran, Iran.	2017
<b>Ranked 212</b> , in the National University Entrance Exam among more than 70,000 students, Iran.	2014

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

---

<b>Co-organizer:</b> TREC Interactive Knowledge Assistant Track (iKAT).	2024
<b>Conference Reviewer:</b> CLEF, SIGIR, CIKM, LLM4Eval and E-commerce workshops of SIGIR.	2024
<b>Co-organizer:</b> TREC Interactive Knowledge Assistant Track (iKAT).	2023

## INVITED TALKS

---

<b>Simulation of Conversation</b> , Qazvin Islamic Azad University (QIAU), Iran.	May 2024
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

<b>Information Retrieval 0, B.Sc.</b> , University of Amsterdam (UVA)	Fall 2024
<b>Information Retrieval 0, B.Sc.</b> , University of Amsterdam (UVA)	Fall 2023
<b>An introduction to Natural Language Processing (NLP)</b> , Hamrah Academy	Summer 2021
<b>Information Retrieval and Web Search, M.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Fall 2019
<b>Machine Learning, M.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Spring 2019
<b>Artificial Intelligence, B.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Spring 2018
<b>System Design and Analysis, B.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Fall 2016
<b>Advanced Computer Programming, B.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Spring 2016
<b>Principals of Computer and Programming, B.Sc.</b> , Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT)	Fall 2015

## SKILLS

---

<b>Programming Languages</b>	<b>Expert:</b> Python, JAVA, R, C/C++, C#. <b>Familiar:</b> MATLAB, VHDL, Verilog, and Assembly.
<b>Frameworks and Tools</b>	<b>Expert:</b> Pytorch, TensorFlow, Keras, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Seaborn, NLTK, Matplotlib. <b>Familiar:</b> Hadoop, Weka.
<b>Database Systems</b>	<b>Expert:</b> SQLite, MySQL, SQLServer, Hive. <b>Familiar:</b> MongoDB, HBase.
<b>Operating Systems</b>	MacOS, Linux (Ubuntu), Windows.
<b>Web Development</b>	HTML5, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, PHP, XML, JSON, Laravel.

## LANGUAGES

---

**Persian** (Native), **Turkish** (Native), **English** (Fluent, TOEFL Score 104).