

# Ahmed Hasan Zaidi

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## Education

- Ph.D in Computer Science, University of Cambridge 2016-Present  
Thesis: Grounding Computational Models in Theories of Language Acquisition  
Advisors: Ted Briscoe and Paula Buttery
- M.Phil in Advanced Computer Science, University of Cambridge 2015-2016  
Thesis: Neural Sequence Modelling for Automated Essay Scoring  
Advisors: Helen Yannakoudakis and Ted Briscoe  
Class: First Class Honours
- B.Eng in Computer Systems Engineering and Business, University of Birmingham 2011-2015  
Thesis: Forecasting Weekly WTI Crude Oil using Twitter Sentiment  
Class: First Class Honours

## Research Interests

Grounding natural language models in cognitive and psycholinguistic theories  
Learning word representations through interactions  
Machine learning architectures to facilitate human and agent language learning

## Awards

- Cambridge International Trust, £115,200 2016-2020  
King's Stanley Scholarship, £133,335 2016-2020  
Ranked in top 5% of undergraduate class 2015  
Birmingham Engineering International Student Scholarship, £10,500 2011-2014  
Personal Skills Award 2011

## Publications

**A.H. Zaidi**, R.J. Moore, and E.J. Briscoe (2017). "Curriculum Q-Learning for Visual Vocabulary Acquisition". ViGIL Workshop, NIPS 2017, Long Beach, US - **Oral Spotlight**.

## Invited Talks

- ViGIL Workshop, NIPS 2017, *Long Beach, US* December 2017  
ALTA Institute Annual Review, *Cambridge, UK* October 2017

## Postgraduate Supervision

*Ying Liu*, M.Eng, Assessing Applicability of Textual Responses to Visual Prompts 2017-2018  
Co-supervised with Paula Buttery

## Teaching

Introduction to Natural Language Processing 2016-Present  
Information Retrieval 2016-Present  
Business Studies 2016-Present

## Non-Academic Professional Experience

*Catalyst AI*, CTO, Cambridge, UK 2017-Present  
*Accenture*, Analyst, London, UK 2013-2014  
*Deutsche Bank*, Analyst, Dubai, UAE 2012

## Technical Skills

Java (advanced), C (advanced), Python (advanced), Theano (advanced), Keras (intermediate), CUDA (intermediate), HTML/CSS (intermediate), MATLAB (intermediate), SQL (intermediate), JavaScript (basic)

## Languages

English (native), Urdu (native), French (basic), Arabic (basic)

## References

Ted Briscoe  
Professor of Computational Linguistics  
University of Cambridge  
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Paula Buttery  
Reader in Computing and Language  
University of Cambridge  
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