
CONTACT INFORMATION	<i>Phone:</i> (805) 452-6592 <i>E-mail:</i> metehancekic@ucsb.edu	<i>Website:</i> ece.ucsb.edu/~metehancekic/ <i>Github:</i> github.com/metehancekic
EDUCATION	University of California Santa Barbara , Santa Barbara, US Ph.D. and M.S. , <i>Electrical and Computer Engineering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor: Prof. Upamanyu Madhow • Area: Machine Learning, Deep Learning and Signal Processing • GPA: 4.0/4.0 	2017 - Present
	Bogazici University , Istanbul, Turkey B.S. , <i>Electrical & Electronics Engineering</i> , B.S. Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CGPA: 3.7/4.0, Dean's High Honors List 	2012 - 2017
	University of California Los Angeles , Los Angeles, US B.S. Study Abroad , <i>Electrical and Computer Engineering</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA: 3.9/4.0 	2015 - 2016
RESEARCH AND PROJECTS	Advisor: Prof. Upamanyu Madhow, UC Santa Barbara <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio Frequency (RF) Machine Learning (ML) 2018 - present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Showed that complex-valued CNNs can learn RF signatures to distinguish between devices sending exactly the same message. Demonstrated effectiveness for two different wireless protocols: WiFi and ADS-B. – Studied robustness to spoofing, and to channel variations, noise and frequency drift occurring in data collected over different days/locations. • Adversarial Machine Learning 2019 - present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – We investigate neuro-inspired defense mechanism, starting from the observation that human vision is virtually unaffected by adversarial examples designed for machines. – We aim to reject ℓ_∞ bounded adversarial perturbations before they reach a classifier DNN, using an autoencoder with characteristics commonly observed in biological vision: sparse over-complete representations, randomness due to synaptic noise, and drastic nonlinearities. • Reinforcement Learning for Turkish Card Game Called "Batak" 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Programmed the game and the environment from scratch, and developed a competitive AI by utilizing LSTM and fully connected neural networks specifically designed for the game. – Compared different architectures and got a performance close to human-level. 	
COMPUTER SKILLS	Languages: Python, MATLAB, C/C++, Bash. Libraries: Tensorflow, Pytorch, Scikit-learn, Numpy.	
RELEVANT COURSEWORK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Machine Learning: A Signal Processing Perspective – Deep Learning for NLP – Theoretical Machine Learning – Pattern Recognition – Advanced Topics in Computer Vision – Information Theory – Matrix Analysis and Computation – Game Theory – Convex Optimization 	
PUBLICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Cekic*, S. Gopalakrishnan*, U. Madhow, "Robust Wireless Fingerprinting: Generalizing Across Space and Time", under review at <i>IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security</i>. • C. Bakiskan*, M. Cekic*, A. D. Sezer*, U. Madhow, "A Neuro-Inspired Autoencoding Defense Against Adversarial Perturbations", submitted to <i>AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence</i>, Feb 2021. 	

* Joint first authors.

- S. Gopalakrishnan*, **M. Cekic***, U. Madhow, "Robust Wireless Fingerprinting via Complex-Valued Neural Networks", *IEEE Global Communications Conference (Globecom)*, Hawaii, Dec. 2019.
- S. Gopalakrishnan, Z. Marzi, **M. Cekic**, U. Madhow, R. Pedarsani, Robust Adversarial Learning via Sparsifying Front Ends, under review at *Elsevier Signal Processing (SIGPRO)*.
- C. Bakiskan, S. Gopalakrishnan, **M. Cekic**, U. Madhow, R. Pedarsani, "Polarizing Front Ends For Robust CNNs", *IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, Barcelona, Spain, May 2020.

INDUSTRIAL
EXPERIENCE

Speech Enabled Software Technologies (SESTEK), Istanbul

Summer 2015

- *Speech Processing Engineer*: Worked on how to detect edited tapes and speech processing techniques used in forensic incidents.

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant experience in UCSB: Assisted lead professors with tasks related to administering college level courses and led problem solving class discussions.

- *Graduate level courses*: ECE 283: Machine Learning
- *Undergraduate level courses*: ECE 130B: Signal Analysis, ECE 139: Probability Theory

HONORS AND
AWARDS

UCSB, Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineering Teaching Assistant Award, 2018

Turkish Education Association, Outstanding Success Scholarship, 2012

Ranked 87th out of 2 million students in Turkish University Entrance Exam, 2012

Akdeniz University, Mathematics olympiads, Honorable Mention, 2010

TUBITAK, 13rd National Mathematics Olympiads, Silver Medal, 2008

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