

ALEXANDER GURUNG

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EDUCATION

University of Edinburgh

PhD in ILCC: Language Processing, Speech Technology, Information Retrieval, Cognition
Supervised by Mirella Lapata and Nikolay Malkin, expected graduation December 2026

Edinburgh, UK
Aug. 2023 – Present

Georgia Institute of Technology

Master of Science in Computer Science, Concentration in Machine Learning

Atlanta, GA
Aug. 2020 – Dec 2022

Georgia Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Minor in Linguistics

Atlanta, GA
Aug. 2018 – Dec. 2020

RESEARCH INTERESTS

I'm currently working on efficient Reinforcement Learning for long-story generation and understanding, and am especially interested in long-horizon and creative reasoning for complex many-agent domains and tasks that require long-term planning.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Edinburgh

Phd Candidate

Edinburgh, UK
Aug. 2023 – Present

- Working on efficient and creative RL for long-narrative tasks, code, and deep-research
- Designed RL-paradigm for book-chapter generations (COLM 2025)

ServiceNow - RL for Agentic Reasoning (RLAR)

Visiting Researcher

Atlanta, GA
Dec. 2025 – Present

- Exploring privacy-augmented deep-research agents

Social and Language Technologies (SALT) Group @ Georgia Tech

Researcher

Atlanta, GA
Jan. 2020 – May 2023

- Investigated the processes and distribution of radicalization on insular social medias
- Analysed prevalence of political frames using dependency-parsing system

Meta AI

AI Resident - ParLAI Team

New York City, NY
Aug. 2021 – Sep. 2022

- Improved LLM generalization in predicting text-game world-state changes

Electro-Optical Systems Laboratory @ Georgia Tech Research Institute

Machine Learning Graduate Research Assistant

Atlanta, GA
Jan. 2021 – May 2021

- Expanded genetic programming framework's capabilities for images

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Edinburgh

Teaching Assistant @ Foundations of NLP

Edinburgh, UK
Dec. 2024 – May 2025

- Designing course materials for undergraduate NLP course
- Creating coding and theory assignments for sentiment analysis and translation

TikTok

Machine Learning Engineer Intern - Trust & Safety Team

Mountain View, CA
Jun. 2021 – Aug. 2021

- Designed MoE neural architectures to improve region-specific auto-moderation performance
- Researched multi-task learning loss functions and architectures
- Deployed models to production and showed improvements in performance over time

PUBLICATIONS

Lightweight Latent Reasoning for Narrative Tasks

Alexander Gurung, Nikolay Malkin, Mirella Lapata

ICLR 2026 Workshop

Long-Context Reasoning Through Proxy-Based Chain-of-Thought Tuning

Miao Li, Irina Saparina, Alexander Gurung, Mirella Lapata

ACL, 2026

Who Gets Cited Most? Benchmarking Long-Context Numerical Reasoning on Scientific Articles

Miao Li, Alexander Gurung, Irina Saparina, Mirella Lapata

Submitted, 2026

Learning to Reason for Long-Form Story Generation

Alexander Gurung, Mirella Lapata

COLM, 2025

CHIRON: Rich Character Representations in Long-Form Narratives

Alexander Gurung, Mirella Lapata

EMNLP Findings, 2024

Infusing Commonsense World Models with Graph Knowledge

Alexander Gurung, Mojtaba Komeili, Arthur Szlam, Jason Weston, Jack Urbanek

2023