Ilkay Isik (PhD)

- @ ilkayisik@gmail.com
- in in/ilkay-isik
- ilkayisik
- Personal Webpage

About me

With over six years of experience in psychology and neuroscience research, I have developed expertise not only in programming, data analysis and problem-solving, but also in story telling and effective communication. After completing a recent program in data science and analytics, I am confident in my ability to tackle complex business problems and drive meaningful results.

Skills

- Python, SQL, R
- Tableau
- Scipy, NumPy, Pandas, Seaborn
- Sklearn, PyTorch
- Git, GitHub
- AWS
- A/B Testing
- Participant recruitment
- Experimental design
- Statistics
- Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis
- Surveys
- DataViz
- Teamwork
- Multidisciplinary collaboration
- Communication

Interests

- Data Science
- Applied research
- Technology and Innovation
- Arts and Culture

Languages

English (Fluent)

Turkish (Mother Tongue)

German (B1 certificate)

Professional Experience

01/21–01/23 · **Postdoctoral Researcher** · Max Planck Institute for EA, Frankfurt
- Leveraged deep learning models to create self-relevant artworks based on individual participant information, showcasing technical proficiency and innovative problem-solving skills.
- Communicated insights to different audiences in 8+ empirical research papers with over 2000 citations, 10+ presentations at scientific conferences, and interviews at media outlets.
- Demonstrated expertise in survey design by creating effective online surveys to gather participant data.
- Created course materials, provided teaching and constructive feedback for 100+ students (Cognitive Psychology).

04/16–12/20 · **Doctoral Researcher** · Max Planck Institute for EA, Frankfurt
- Directed 3+ comprehensive research studies, uncovering neural and behavioral correlations of visual aesthetic experiences.
- Collected, managed and analyzed data from over 150 participants in scientific experiments.
- Predicted participants' aesthetic ratings using machine learning models.
- Contributed to 3+ cross-functional projects, working closely with engineers and designers.

12/16–01/19 · **Head of Frankfurt Division** · Science Innov Union
- Led a team of 6+ members collaborating to inspire and promote leadership and entrepreneurship in the science community.
- Expanded partnerships between academia and industry by orchestrating 15+ events and workshops, securing funding, and delivering public speeches at career conferences.

10/14–04/16 · **Scientific Researcher** · Institute of Medical Psychology, GU
- Planned, programmed, and executed human experiments resulting in a deeper understanding of brain activity in addiction.
- Collected, managed, and analyzed data from over 65 participants, leading to the publication of a scientific paper.

Education

06/22–10/22 · **Data Science Bootcamp** · WBS Coding School
- Gained demonstrable experience in Business Analytics, Data Story Telling, Data Cleaning and Transformation, Data Engineering, Recommender Systems, Data Driven Decision Making and A/B Testing.

04/16–12/20 · **Dr. rer. nat. (PhD) in Psychology** · Goethe University, Frankfurt

10/13–10/15 · **MSc in Interdisciplinary Neuroscience** · Goethe University, Frankfurt

09/08–06/13 · **BA in Psychology** · Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey
Exchange Semester in Maastricht Uni, The Netherlands

Honors and Awards

Date	Award	Place
06/19	Hackathon Travel Award	OHBM Meeting, Rome
07/16	Tuition waiver, Summer School in Cognitive Science	Uni Vienna
10/13–10/15	DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship)	Germany
01/12–06/12	Erasmus Exchange Scholarship	The Netherlands
09/08–06/13	Tubitak Grant to Support Undergrad Scientists	Turkey
09/08–06/13	Bilkent University, Comprehensive Scholarship	Turkey