

Kenton Murray, Ph.D.

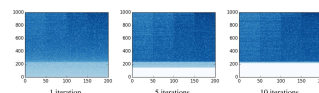
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in kentonmurray

🌐 <https://maieutic-nlp.github.io/website>

🌐 <https://www.kentonmurray.com>



Education

- 2014 – 2020 📖 **Ph.D., University of Notre Dame** Computer Science and Engineering.
Thesis title: *Learning Hyperparameters for Neural Machine Translation*.
Advisor: David Chiang
Committee: Alexander M. Rush, Walter Scheirer, Meng Jiang
- 2011 – 2013 📖 **M.Sc. Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University** Language Technologies
Thesis title: *A Semantic Scan Statistic for Novel Disease Outbreak Detection*.
Advisor: Daniel B. Niell
- 2005 – 2009 📖 **BSE, Princeton University** Computer Science.
Thesis title: *Summarization by Latent Dirichlet Allocation: Superior Sentence Extraction through Topic Modeling*.
Advisor: David Blei

Professional Experience

- 2021 – Present 📖 **Research Scientist** Johns Hopkins University Human Language Technology Center of Excellence
- 📖 **Research Scientist** Johns Hopkins University Center for Language and Speech Processing
- 📖 **Assistant Research Scientist** Johns Hopkins University Department of Computer Science
- 2020 📖 **Postdoctoral Fellow** Johns Hopkins University Center for Language and Speech Processing
- 2014 – 2019 📖 **Graduate Research Assistant** University of Notre Dame NLP Lab
- Summer 2016 📖 **Research Intern** Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence
- 2013–2014 📖 **Research Associate** Qatar Computing Research Institute
- 2011–2013 📖 **Research Assistant** Carnegie Mellon University Language Technology Institute
- 2009–2010 📖 **Software Development Engineer in Test** Microsoft

Publications

2025

- 1 I. Abdulmumin, V. Agostinelli, T. Alumäe, *et al.*, “Findings of the IWSLT 2025 evaluation campaign,” in *Proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT 2025)*, E. Salesky, M. Federico, and A. Anastasopoulos, Eds., Vienna, Austria (in-person and online): Association for Computational Linguistics, Jul. 2025, pp. 412–481, ISBN: 979-8-89176-272-5. [DOI: 10.18653/v1/2025.iwslt-1.44](#).
- 2 N. Bafna, E. Chang, N. R. Robinson, *et al.*, “Dialup! modeling the language continuum by adapting models to dialects and dialects to models,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2501.16581*, 2025.
- 3 N. Bafna, T. Li, K. Murray, *et al.*, “The translation barrier hypothesis: Multilingual generation with large language models suffers from implicit translation failure,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2506.22724*, 2025.

- 4 D. DeGenaro, E. Yang, D. Etter, *et al.*, “Fortify: Generative model fine-tuning with orpo for retrieval expansion of informal noisy text,” in *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Multimodal Augmented Generation via Multimodal Retrieval (MAGMaR 2025)*, 2025, pp. 100–115.
- 5 E. Kennedy, S. Vadlamani, H. M. Lindsey, *et al.*, “Linking symptom inventories using semantic textual similarity,” *Journal of Neurotrauma*, 2025.
- 6 T. Kocmi, E. Artemova, E. Avramidis, *et al.*, “Findings of the wmt25 general machine translation shared task: Time to stop evaluating on easy test sets,” in *Proceedings of the Tenth Conference on Machine Translation, China. Association for Computational Linguistics*, 2025.
- 7 T. Kocmi, E. Avramidis, R. Bawden, *et al.*, “Preliminary ranking of wmt25 general machine translation systems,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2508.14909*, 2025.
- 8 R. Kriz and K. Murray, “Proceedings of the 1st workshop on multimodal augmented generation via multimodal retrieval (magmar 2025),” in *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Multimodal Augmented Generation via Multimodal Retrieval (MAGMaR 2025)*, 2025.
- 9 R. Kriz, K. Sanders, D. Etter, *et al.*, “Multivent 2.0: A massive multilingual benchmark for event-centric video retrieval,” in *Proceedings of the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Conference*, 2025, pp. 24 149–24 158.
- 10 T. Li, H. Xu, W. Tan, K. Murray, and D. Khashabi, “Upsample or upweight? balanced training on heavily imbalanced datasets,” in *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference of the Nations of the Americas Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2025, pp. 3325–3343.
- 11 P. McNamee, K. Duh, C. Carpenter, R. Colaianni, N. King, and K. Murray, “Oj4ocrmt: A large multilingual dataset for ocr-mt evaluation,” in *Proceedings of Machine Translation Summit XX: Volume 1*, 2025, pp. 113–125.
- 12 A. Reddy, A. Martin, E. Yang, *et al.*, “Video-colbert: Contextualized late interaction for text-to-video retrieval,” in *Proceedings of the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Conference*, 2025, pp. 19 691–19 701.
- 13 N. R. Robinson, C. B. Monroc, R. Dent, *et al.*, “Findings of the first shared task for creole language machine translation at wmt25,” in *Proceedings of the Tenth Conference on Machine Translation*, 2025.
- 14 N. R. Robinson, N. Bafna, X. He, *et al.*, “Jhu iwslt 2025 low-resource system description,” in *Proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT 2025)*, 2025, pp. 315–323.
- 15 S. Samuel, D. DeGenaro, J. Guallar-Blasco, *et al.*, “Mmmorrf: Multimodal multilingual modularized reciprocal rank fusion,” in *Proceedings of the 48th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval*, 2025, pp. 4004–4009.
- 16 N. Sharma, K. Murray, and Z. Xiao, “Faux polyglot: A study on information disparity in multilingual large language models,” in *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference of the Nations of the Americas Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2025, pp. 8090–8107.
- 17 N. Verma, K. Murray, and K. Duh, “Dotresize: Reducing llm width via discrete optimal transport-based neuron merging,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2507.04517*, 2025.
- 18 N. Verma, K. Murray, and K. Duh, “Merging feed-forward sublayers for compressed transformers,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2501.06126*, 2025.
- 19 C. Xiao, M. Wiesner, D. Chakraborty, *et al.*, “Whisper-ut: A unified translation framework for speech and text,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2509.16375*, 2025.
- 20 H. Xu, K. Murray, P. Koehn, H. Hoang, A. Eriguchi, and H. Khayrallah, “X-ALMA: plug & play modules and adaptive rejection for quality translation at scale,” in *The Thirteenth International Conference on*

2024

- 1 I. S. Ahmad, A. Anastasopoulos, O. Bojar, *et al.*, “Findings of the iwslt 2024 evaluation campaign,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2411.05088*, 2024.
- 2 N. Bafna, K. Murray, and D. Yarowsky, “Evaluating large language models along dimensions of language variation: A systematic investigation of cross-lingual generalization,” pp. 18 742–18 762, 2024.
- 3 P. Foley, M. Wiesner, B. Odoom, L. P. G. Perera, K. Murray, and P. Koehn, “Where are you from? geolocating speech and applications to language identification,” in *Proceedings of the 2024 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2024, pp. 5114–5126.
- 4 T. Kocmi, E. Avramidis, R. Bawden, *et al.*, “Findings of the wmt24 general machine translation shared task: The llm era is here but mt is not solved yet,” in *Proceedings of the Ninth Conference on Machine Translation*, 2024, pp. 1–46.
- 5 T. Kocmi, E. Avramidis, R. Bawden, *et al.*, “Preliminary wmt24 ranking of general mt systems and llms,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2407.19884*, 2024.
- 6 T. Li, H. Xu, P. Koehn, D. Khashabi, and K. Murray, “Error norm truncation: Robust training in the presence of data noise for text generation models,” in *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2024, Vienna, Austria, May 7-11, 2024*, OpenReview.net, 2024.  URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=zMvMwNvs4R>.
- 7 B. B. Odoom, L. P. G. Perera, P. Hansanti, *et al.*, “Speech data from radio broadcasts for low resource languages,” in *Proceedings of the 21st International Conference on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT 2024)*, 2024, pp. 134–139.
- 8 B. B. Odoom, N. Robinson, E. Rippeth, *et al.*, “Can synthetic speech improve end-to-end conversational speech translation?” In *Proceedings of the 16th Conference of the Association for Machine Translation in the Americas (Volume 1: Research Track)*, 2024, pp. 167–177.
- 9 N. Robinson, R. Dabre, A. Shurtz, *et al.*, “Kreyòl-mt: Building mt for latin american, caribbean and colonial african creole languages,” in *Proceedings of the 2024 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2024, pp. 3083–3110.
- 10 N. R. Robinson, K. Sun, C. Xiao, *et al.*, “Jhu iwslt 2024 dialectal and low-resource system description,” in *Proceedings of the 21st International Conference on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT 2024)*, 2024, pp. 140–153.
- 11 I. Said Ahmad, A. Anastasopoulos, O. Bojar, *et al.*, “Findings of the iwslt 2024 evaluation campaign,” *arXiv e-prints*, arXiv-2411, 2024.
- 12 W. Tan, H. Xu, L. Shen, *et al.*, “Narrowing the gap between zero-and few-shot machine translation by matching styles,” in *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: NAACL 2024*, 2024, pp. 490–502.
- 13 N. Verma, K. Murray, and K. Duh, “Exploring geometric representational disparities between multilingual and bilingual translation models,” in *Proceedings of the 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC-COLING 2024)*, Torino, Italy: ELRA and ICCL, May 2024, pp. 6909–6921.  URL: <https://aclanthology.org/2024.main-1.604>.
- 14 H. Xu, A. Sharaf, Y. Chen, *et al.*, “Contrastive preference optimization: Pushing the boundaries of LLM performance in machine translation,” in *Forty-first International Conference on Machine Learning, ICML*

2023

- 1 M. Agarwal, S. Agarwal, A. Anastasopoulos, *et al.*, “Findings of the iwslt 2023 evaluation campaign,” Association for Computational Linguistics, 2023.
- 2 S. Barham, O. Weller, M. Yuan, *et al.*, “Megawika: Millions of reports and their sources across 50 diverse languages,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.07049*, 2023.
- 3 K. Dhole, V. Gangal, S. Gehrmann, *et al.*, “Nl-augmenter: A framework for task-sensitive natural language augmentation,” in *Northern European Journal of Language Technology, Volume 9*, 2023.
- 4 T. Kocmi, E. Avramidis, R. Bawden, *et al.*, “Findings of the 2023 conference on machine translation (wmt23): Llms are here but not quite there yet,” in *WMT23-Eighth Conference on Machine Translation*, 2023, pp. 198–216.
- 5 T. Li and K. Murray, “Why does zero-shot cross-lingual generation fail? an explanation and a solution,” in *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2023*, 2023, pp. 12 461–12 476.
- 6 H. Xu, M. Elbayad, K. Murray, J. Maillard, and V. Goswami, “Towards being parameter-efficient: A stratified sparsely activated transformer with dynamic capacity,” in *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2023*, 2023, pp. 12 858–12 870.
- 7 H. Xu, W. Tan, S. Li, *et al.*, “Condensing multilingual knowledge with lightweight language-specific modules,” in *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2023, pp. 1575–1587.

2022

- 1 A. Anastasopoulos, L. Barrault, L. Bentivogli, *et al.*, “Findings of the iwslt 2022 evaluation campaign,” in *Proceedings of the 19th international conference on spoken language translation (IWSLT 2022)*, Association for Computational Linguistics, 2022, pp. 98–157.
- 2 S. S. Li and K. Murray, “Language agnostic code-mixing data augmentation by predicting linguistic patterns,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:2211.07628*, 2022.
- 3 S. Nair, E. Yang, D. Lawrie, *et al.*, “Transfer learning approaches for building cross-language dense retrieval models,” in *European Conference on Information Retrieval*, Springer International Publishing Cham, 2022, pp. 382–396.
- 4 N. Verma, K. Murray, and K. Duh, “Strategies for adapting multilingual pre-training for domain-specific machine translation,” in *Proceedings of the 15th biennial conference of the Association for Machine Translation in the Americas (Volume 1: Research Track)*, 2022, pp. 31–44.
- 5 H. Xu, P. Koehn, and K. Murray, “The importance of being parameters: An intra-distillation method for serious gains,” in *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2022, pp. 170–183.
- 6 H. Xu and K. Murray, “Por qué não utilizar alla språk? mixed training with gradient optimization in few-shot cross-lingual transfer,” in *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: NAACL 2022*, 2022, pp. 2043–2059.

2021

- 1 T. Q. Nguyen, K. Murray, and D. Chiang, “Data augmentation by concatenation for low-resource translation: A mystery and a solution,” in *Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT 2021)*, 2021, pp. 287–293.

- 2 E. Stengel-Eskin, K. Murray, S. Zhang, A. S. White, and B. Van Durme, "Joint universal syntactic and semantic parsing," *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, vol. 9, pp. 756–773, 2021.
- 3 H. Xu, S. Ebner, M. Yarmohammadi, A. S. White, B. Van Durme, and K. Murray, "Gradual fine-tuning for low-resource domain adaptation," in *Proceedings of the Second Workshop on Domain Adaptation for NLP*, 2021, pp. 214–221.
- 4 H. Xu, B. Van Durme, and K. Murray, "Bert, mbert, or bibert? a study on contextualized embeddings for neural machine translation," in *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2021, pp. 6663–6675.
- 5 M. Yarmohammadi, S. Wu, M. Marone, *et al.*, "Everything is all it takes: A multipronged strategy for zero-shot cross-lingual information extraction," in *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2021, pp. 1950–1967.

2020

- 1 H. Khayrallah, J. Bremerman, A. D. McCarthy, K. Murray, W. Wu, and M. Post, "The jhu submission to the 2020 duolingo shared task on simultaneous translation and paraphrase for language education," in *Proceedings of the Fourth Workshop on Neural Generation and Translation*, 2020.
- 2 S. Mayhew, K. Bicknell, C. Brust, B. McDowell, W. Monroe, and B. Settles, "Simultaneous translation and paraphrase for language education," in *Proceedings of the ACL Workshop on Neural Generation and Translation (WNGT)*. ACL, 2020.
- 3 A. Poliak, M. Fleming, C. Costello, *et al.*, "Collecting verified covid-19 question answer pairs," in *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on NLP for COVID-19 (Part 2) at EMNLP 2020*, 2020.

2019

- 1 K. Murray, "Learning hyperparameters for neural machine translation," Ph.D. dissertation, University of Notre Dame, 2019.
- 2 K. Murray, B. DuSell, and D. Chiang, "Efficiency through auto-sizing: Notre dame nlp's submission to the wngt 2019 efficiency task," in *Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop on Neural Generation and Translation*, arXiv preprint arXiv:1910.07134, 2019, pp. 297–301.
- 3 K. Murray, J. Kinnison, T. Q. Nguyen, W. Scheirer, and D. Chiang, "Auto-sizing the transformer network: Improving speed, efficiency, and performance for low-resource machine translation," in *Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop on Neural Generation and Translation*, arXiv preprint arXiv:1910.06717, 2019, pp. 231–240.
- 4 K. W. Murray and J. Krishnamurthy, *System and method for program induction using probabilistic neural programs*, US Patent App. 16/044,220, Jan. 2019.

2018

- 1 U. Hermjakob, Q. Li, D. Marcu, *et al.*, "Incident-driven machine translation and name tagging for low-resource languages," *Machine Translation*, vol. 32, pp. 59–89, 2018.
- 2 K. Murray and D. Chiang, "Correcting length bias in neural machine translation," in *Proceedings of the Third Conference on Machine Translation*, 2018, pp. 212–223.
- 3 X. Zhang, G. Kumar, H. Khayrallah, *et al.*, "An empirical exploration of curriculum learning for neural machine translation," *arXiv preprint arXiv:1811.00739*, 2018.

2017

- 1 L. Cheung, T. Gowda, U. Hermjakob, *et al.*, "Elisa system description for lorehlt 2017," *Proc. Low Resource Human Lang. Technol.*, pp. 51–59, 2017.

2016

- 1 D. Chiang and K. Murray, “Auto-sizing neural networks: With applications to n-gram language models,” 2016.
- 2 A. Maurya, K. Murray, Y. Liu, C. Dyer, W. W. Cohen, and D. B. Neill, “Semantic scan: Detecting subtle, spatially localized events in text streams,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:1602.04393*, 2016.
- 3 K. W. Murray and J. Krishnamurthy, “Probabilistic neural programs,” *arXiv preprint arXiv:1612.00712*, *Neural Abstract Machines and Program Induction (NAMPI)*, 2016.

2015

- 1 K. Murray and D. Chiang, “Auto-sizing neural networks: With applications to n-gram language models,” in *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2015.

2014

- 1 A. Beutel, K. Murray, C. Faloutsos, and A. J. Smola, “Cobafi — collaborative bayesian filtering,” in *Proceedings of the 23rd International World Wide Web Conference*, 2014.

2013

- 1 W. Ammar, V. Chahuneau, M. Denkowski, *et al.*, “The cmu machine translation systems at wmt 2013: Syntax, synthetic translation options, and pseudo-references,” in *Proceedings of the Eighth Workshop on Statistical Machine Translation*, 2013, pp. 70–77.
- 2 K. Murray, “A semantic scan statistic for novel disease outbreak detection,” Ph.D. dissertation, Carnegie Mellon University, 2013.
- 3 H. Sajjad, F. Guzmán, P. Nakov, *et al.*, “Qcri at iwslt 2013: Experiments in arabic-english and english-arabic spoken language translation,” 2013.

2012

- 1 K. W. Murray and N. Orii, “Automatic essay scoring,” *IEICE Transactions on Information and Systems*, vol. 102, no. 1, pp. 147–155, 2012.

2009

- 1 K. W. Murray, “Summarization by latent dirichlet allocation: Superior sentence extraction through topic modeling,” *A senior thesis for Bachelors degree, Princeton University*, 2009.

Graduate Student Advising

2021-2024	■ Haoran Xu (PhD) Co-Advised with Philipp Koehn
2021-Present	■ Neha Verma (PhD Anticipated) Co-Advised with Kevin Duh
2023-Present	■ Nathaniel R. Robinson (PhD Anticipated) Co-Advised with Sanjeev Khudanpur
2023-2024	■ Tianjian Li (MS)
	■ Ujvala Pradeep (MS)
2022-2023	■ Stella Li (MS)
2024-Present	■ Dengjia Zhang (MS Anticipated)
	■ Aidan Alme (MS Anticipated)

Graduate Student Advising (continued)

2025-Present  **Xiaojian Sun (MS Anticipated)**

Teaching

Fall 2025  **Explaining AI through Games** *Johns Hopkins University* EN.501.145
  **Data Science Meets Political Science** *Johns Hopkins University* AS.190.360
Spring 2023  **Advanced NLP: Multilingual Methods** *Johns Hopkins University* EN.601.764
  **Multilingual Methods in NLP** *Georgetown University* LING4466
Spring 2022  **Advanced NLP: Multilingual Methods** *Johns Hopkins University* EN.601.764
Spring 2017  **Westville Education Initiative** *Westville Prison (Volunteer TA)*

Professional Activities

2025-Present  **President, ACL SIGIL** Founder and first president of the ACL Special Interest Group on Image and Language (SIGIL)
 2026  **ACL Tutorial Co-Chair** Select and organize tutorials for 2026 Association of Computational Linguistics Conference
 2025  **NAACL Workshops Co-Chair** Select and organize workshops for the 2025 Nations of the Americas Association of Computational Linguistics Conference
  **Co-Organizer WMDQS**
2025, 2026  **MAGMaR Co-Editor** Co-founder and organizer of the 1st and 2nd Workshop on Multimodal Retrieval Augmented Generation
 2024  **Senior Area Chair, NAACL**
  **Co-Lead SCALE 2024** 10 week, 40+ person summer workshop on video event retrieval
 2023  **Co-Lead SCALE 2023** 10 week, 40+ person summer workshop on speech translation
2020, 2021  **AMTA Student Mentorship** Organized mentoring opportunities for students at the conference
 2018  **Midwest Speech and Language Days Local Organizer** Non-archival conference.
 2016  **MTMA Local Organizing Committee** Week-long hackathon focused on improving machine translation
2024-Present  **Faculty Co-Mentor MASC-ALL** Annual, non-archival conference geared towards PhD students to present work to their peers

Invited Talks

2024  **Video-based Event Retrieval** *ETH Zurich*
  **Improving Preference Optimization and Pre-Training Algorithms: Insights from focusing on Multilingual NLP and Machine Translation** *University of Washington (Tsvetshop Lab)*
2021  **Learning Hyperparameters for Neural Machine Translation** *Clemson University*
2019  **Learning Neural Network Hyperparameters for Machine Translation** *University of Southern California Information Sciences Institute*
  **Learning Neural Network Hyperparameters for Machine Translation** *Army Research Lab*
  **Learning Neural Network Hyperparameters for Machine Translation** *Johns Hopkins University*

Invited Talks (continued)

2017  **Learning Neural Network Structure for Natural Language** *University of Southern California
Information Sciences Institute*

Miscellaneous Experience

PhD Committees

2024  **Xuan Zhang** Advisor: *Kevin Duh*
2022  **Patrick Xia** Advisor: *Benjamin Van Durme*

Graduate Board Oral Exams

2025  **Weiting (Steven) Tan** Advisor: *Philipp Koehn*
2023  **Xuan Zhang** Advisor: *Kevin Duh*
2022  **Seth Ebner** Advisor: *Benjamin Van Durme*
  **YUnmo Chen** Advisor: *Benjamin Van Durme*

Local Service

2021-Present  **CLSP PhD Admissions Chair**

Miscellaneous

2008-2009  **Princeton Charter Eating Club Officer**
2005-2007  **Princeton Varsity Crew Team**