

KUTAY BERK SEZGINEL

5437 Ellsworth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA
+1 (619) 576 64 78 | kutaybs@gmail.com
<https://kutaybs.com>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Data Scientist

Othot Inc.

Jan 2020
Pittsburgh, PA

- Develop data science and machine learning solutions using Python
- Design, implement and maintain new features in the data science engine for use by the platform
- Automate data science activities and apply best software practices

Jan 2019 – May 2019

Computational Engineering Fellow

NuMat Technologies, Inc.

Skokie, IL

- Development of a proprietary Python library for computational materials design. Automation and simplification of various molecular simulations tools and integration with high-performance cloud computing (AWS). Creating a workflow to perform reproducible and trackable experiments. Using the tools developed, research was performed to discover next generation candidate materials.
- Design and 3D printing of a custom part to improve speed and decrease material loss during production.
- Process controller development (hardware and software) with a web interface.

EDUCATION

PhD candidate in Chemical & Petroleum Engineering

University of Pittsburgh, Swanson School of Engineering

Sep 2015 – Jan 2020
Pittsburgh, PA

- Dissertation Title: “*Computational materials design for molecular machinery: From nanoporous crystals to nanoscale racecars*”
- Adviser: Dr. Christopher E. Wilmer

Master of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering

Koc University, Graduate School of Science and Engineering

Sep 2013 – June 2015
Istanbul, Turkey

- Dissertation Title: “*Computational and Experimental Investigation of Methane Adsorption in Pure and Ionic Liquid Modified Metal-Organic Frameworks*”
- Advisers: Dr. Seda Keskin & Dr. Alper Uzun

Bachelor of Science in Chemical & Biological Engineering

Koc University, School of Engineering
Energy and Environmental Engineering Track

Sep 2008 – June 2013
Istanbul, Turkey

Erasmus Exchange Program

Eindhoven University of Technology, School of Engineering

Feb 2012 – Aug 2012
Eindhoven, The Netherlands

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant

Hypothetical Materials Lab (WilmerLab), University of Pittsburgh

Sep 2015 – Jan 2020
Pittsburgh, PA

- Computational method development for functional materials design including materials such as metal-organic frameworks, supramolecular cages, and artificial molecular machines. Performing molecular simulations using high-performance computing and data analysis using available and self-developed Python libraries.
- Organization of world’s first computational nanocar race: Formula Nano.
- Recreation of the lab website (wilmerlab.com) on GitHub and maintenance as web administrator.

Graduate Research Assistant

Nanomaterials, Energy and Molecular Modelling Research Group, Koc University

Sep 2013 – June 2015

Istanbul, Turkey

- High-throughput screening of porous materials (MOFs) for gas storage and separation applications using molecular simulations. First lab member to automate many in-house computational procedures.
- Investigated the structural and thermodynamic properties of MOFs to understand methane adsorption mechanism and constructed models to predict natural gas storage of MOFs at various conditions.

Graduate Research Assistant

Koc University Tupras Energy Center (KUTEM)

Sep 2013 – June 2015

Istanbul, Turkey

- Post-synthetic modifications of porous materials using ionic liquids to improve gas storage/selectivity performances. Characterization by TGA, XRD, FT-IR, surface area and gas adsorption measurements.

Visiting Research Assistant

Energy Materials & Devices Research Group, Eindhoven University of Technology

Feb 2012 - July 2012

Eindhoven, Netherlands

Post-synthetic

- Designed, fabricated and analyzed enzyme (glucose oxidase) dispersed carbon nanotube electrodes. Measured their glucose oxidation performances using various electrochemical measurements.

PUBLICATIONS

7. Chao, Z., **Sezginel, K. B.**, Xu, K., Crouch, G. M., Gray, A. E., Wilmer, C. E., Bohn, P. W., Go, D. B., and Fullerton-Shirey, S. K. (2019). Silver Nanofilament Formation Dynamics in a Polymer-Ionic Liquid Thin Film by Direct Write. *Advanced Functional Materials*

6. Gulsoy, Z., **Sezginel, K. B.**, Uzun A., Keskin S., and Yildirim R. (2019). Analysis of CH₄ uptake over MOFs using data mining tools. *ACS Combinatorial Science*. (featured on the front cover)

5. **Sezginel, K. B.**, Asinger P., Babaei H., and Wilmer C.E. (2018). Thermal transport in interpenetrated metal-organic frameworks. *Chemistry of Materials*. (featured on the front cover)

4. **Sezginel, K.B.**, Feng T., Wilmer, C.E. (2017). Discovery of hypothetical hetero-interpenetrated MOFs with arbitrarily dissimilar topologies and unit cell shapes. *CrystEngComm*. (featured on the front cover)

3. **Sezginel, K. B.**, Keskin, S., & Uzun, A. (2016). Tuning the gas separation performance of CuBTC by ionic liquid incorporation. *Langmuir*.

2. Basdogan, Y., **Sezginel, K. B.**, & Keskin, S. (2015). Identifying highly selective metal organic frameworks for CH₄/H₂ separations using computational tools. *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*.

1. **Sezginel, K. B.**, Uzun, A., & Keskin, S. (2015). Multivariable linear models of structural parameters to predict methane uptake in metal-organic frameworks. *Chemical Engineering Science*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (ORAL)

Sezginel, K. B., Nash J. and Wilmer, C.E., "How to Design a Fast Nanocar.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Orlando, FL, November 11, 2019.

Sezginel, K. B., Nash J. and Wilmer, C.E., "Tools for computational design of artificial molecular machines.", *ACS 2019*, Orlando, FL, April 4, 2019.

Sezginel, K. B., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Computational Screening of Thermal Conductivity of MOFs.", *MOF 2018 Young Investigator Symposium*, Rotorua, NZ, Dec. 8, 2018.

Sezginel, K. B., Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in interpenetrated metal-organic frameworks.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 31, **2018**.

Sezginel, K. B. and Wilmer, C.E., "Surface Diffusion of Large Molecules: A Computational Study.", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 28, **2018**.

Sezginel, K. B. and Wilmer, C.E., "Tools for computational design of artificial molecular machines.", *Avogadro User Group Meeting*, Pittsburgh, PA, August 25, **2018**

Sezginel, K. B., Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in entangled metal-organic frameworks.", *Simulators Meeting*, Midwest Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, June 4, **2018**.

Sezginel, K. B., Asinger P. A., Babaei H. and Wilmer, C.E., "Thermal transport in entangled metal-organic frameworks.", *Simulators Meeting*, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, May 22, **2018**.

Sezginel, K. B., Feng T., Wilmer, C.E., "Theoretical Prediction of Interpenetrating Metal-Organic Frameworks", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, CA, Nov. 15, **2016**.

Sezginel, K. B., Feng T., Wilmer, C.E., "Theoretical Prediction of Interpenetrating Metal-Organic Frameworks", *Simulators Meeting*, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, May 25, **2016**.

Sezginel K. B., Uzun A., Keskin S., "Prediction of CH₄ Storage Performance of Metal-Organic Frameworks", *AIChE Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 17, **2014**.

Sezginel K. B., Uzun A., Keskin S., "Prediction of CH₄ Storage Properties of Metal-Organic Frameworks", *NanoTR*, Yeditepe University Istanbul, Turkey, June 21, **2014**.

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Mentor

Hypothetical Materials Lab (WilmerLab)

Spring 2016 – 2020
University of Pittsburgh, PA

- Mentored three undergraduate and two master students in data collection and analysis for various projects.
- Guided the students in preparation and presentation of research findings.

Teaching Assistant

ENG 0712 (Honors Engineering Analysis and Computing)

Spring 2017
University of Pittsburgh, PA

- Attended lectures to help students with the assignments and graded assignments.

Teaching Assistant

CHBI 403 (Process and Product Design)

Fall 2013 & Fall 2014
Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

- Instructed weekly lab sessions for teaching Aspen HYSYS software. Prepared and graded quizzes for lab sessions, assigned four design projects and evaluated them, proctored the midterms and finals.

Teaching Assistant

CHBI 491 (Chemical and Biological Engineering Senior Project)

Spring 2015
Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

- Held weekly meetings with project group members and Prof. Can Erkey to discuss the project, assisted the project group members by providing them supportive articles for their project and giving ideas.

Teaching Assistant

CHEM 103 (General Chemistry)

Spring 2014
Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

- Attended weekly lab sessions, graded exams, quizzes, lab reports and proctored the exams.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Braskem America Inc. Award (outstanding PhD student in Chemical Eng. Department, University of Pittsburgh)
- IBM BlueHack Competition, Second Place (2019)
- Molecular Sciences and Software Institute (MolSSI) Fellow (2018 Phase I)
- Startup Blitz Pitch Competition, First Place, University of Pittsburgh (\$1500 prize)
- Best Graduate Paper Award (Summer `17), Chemical Engineering Department, University of Pittsburgh
- Foresight Institute 2017 Workshop: *Artificial Intelligence for Molecular Machines*
- Innocentive challenge entitled *Chemical Sorbents for Fixed Bed Mercury (Hg⁰) Control* (\$5000 prize)
- Full Merit Scholarship – University of Pittsburgh PhD & Koc University, BS and MS
- Best Chemical and Biological Engineering Senior Project Award (Biodiesel Production from Algae Oil)

SKILLS

Language	Turkish (Native), English (Advanced), Dutch (Beginner)
Software	
Development	Python (Advanced), JavaScript (Advanced), HTML (Intermediate), Jekyll (Intermediate)
GitHub	https://github.com/kbsezginel
Scientific	HPC, Cloud computing, RASPA, Lammmps, Orca, CP2K, Materials Studio, Aspen HYSYS
Graphics/Video	Blender (Advanced), Inkscape (Advanced), Gimp (Intermediate), Adobe Premiere (Beginner)
Audio	Ableton (Advanced), Audacity (Advanced)
Laboratory	FT-IR, PXRD, High Pressure Volumetric Analyzer, Chemisorption Analyzer, TGA, Glovebox

PERSONAL

- Interested in electronic and jazz music, for original songs: https://soundcloud.com/kbs_music
- Scientific visualization portfolio: <https://kbsezginel.github.io/visualization/portfolio>
- 3-D printing, Raspberry Pi, woodworking, running
- Favorite Writers: Ray Kurzweil, Eric Drexler, Franz Kafka

REFERENCES

Christopher E. Wilmer

Asst. Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, University of Pittsburgh
+1 (412) 624-9639, wilmer@pitt.edu

Christopher Brown

Asst. Professor, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
+1 (412) 383-6546, cbrown1@pitt.edu

Seda Keskin

Assoc. Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey
+90 (212) 338-1362, skeskin@ku.edu.tr

Alper Uzun

Asst. Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey
+90 (212) 338-1754, auzun@ku.edu.tr