

Hamid Mojarad

PhD Candidate

Department of English Language and Linguistics

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf

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Education

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

2024 – present

- **PhD Candidate** in English Language & Linguistics
- **Primary Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Kevin Tang
- **Secondary Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Laura Kallmeyer
- **Dissertation:** Disentangling and Mitigating Phonological and Morpho-Syntactic Biases in Automatic Speech Recognition - The Case of African American English

Payame Noor University - Tehran Jonoob, Iran

2011 – 2013

- **Master of Arts** in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)
- **GPA:** 17.89/20
- **Thesis:** Computer-based Assessment Vs. Paper/Pencil-based Assessment: An Investigation into the Performance and Attitude of Iranian EFL Learners' Reading Comprehension
- **Thesis Grade:** 19.5/20
- **Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Fatemeh Hemmati

Payame Noor University - Saveh, Iran

2006 – 2010

- **Bachelor of Arts** in English Language Translation
- **GPA:** 17.36/20

Salahaddin University - Erbil, Iraq

2000 – 2004

- **Bachelor of Science** in Software Engineering
- **GPA:** 71.27/100
- **Engineering Project:** Email Server Application using Core Java Programming Language
- **Project grade:** 80/100

Research Interests

- Automatic Speech Recognition
- Speech Technology
- Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)
- Sociolinguistics, Phonetics & Phonology

Honors & Awards

4-Year Research Scholarship, Germany

2024 – present

- **Provider:** Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)
- I was awarded a 4-year Research Scholarship program by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to do my PhD at Heinrich Heine University (HHU) Düsseldorf.

PhD-Exceptional Talent Award, Iran

August, 2014

- **Provider:** Payame Noor University, Iran
- I was qualified for PhD admission interviews without the national entrance exam as a top student among the Payame Noor University's MA students.

MA-Exceptional Talent Award, Iran

August, 2011

- **Provider:** Payame Noor University, Iran
- I was granted a honorary admission to an M.A. program at Payame Noor University of Tehrane Jonoob, Iran, without the national entrance exam, as one of the top students during my bachelor's studies.

University Top Students, Iraq

June, 2004

- **Provider:** Salahaddin University - Erbil, Iraq
- I ranked within 3 top students of Salahaddin University in Software Engineering.

Publications

Proceeding Articles

- Hamid Mojarad and Kevin Tang (2025). "Automatic speech recognition of African American English: lexical and contextual effects". In: *Proceedings of Interspeech 2025*. ISCA
- Hamid Mojarad and Kevin Tang (Mar. March, 2025). *Sociolinguistic ASR errors in African American English: Lexical and Contextual effects*. DGfS-CL (Special Interest Group on Computational Linguistics, German Linguistic Society), Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany.
- Sahar ChatrZarin, Fatemeh Hemmati, and Hamid Mojarad (2016). "Comparison of Iranian students' writing in Persian and English from the perspective of adaptive transfer". In: *Third National Conference on Persian Linguistics and Language Teaching: The Perspective of Language Research in the 21st Century*. Paper in Persian. Mashhad, Iran

Journal Articles

- Fatemeh Hemmati and Hamid Mojarad (2016a). "E-learning and Distance Education: A Study of Iranian Teaching English as a Foreign Language Masters Students". In: *Malaysian Journal of Distance Education* 18.1. Research assistant, pp. 53–70
- Fatemeh Hemmati and Hamid Mojarad (2016b). "Face to Face versus E-learning: An Investigation into the Performance of TEFL Master's Students of Payame Noor University". In: *Quarterly Journal of Research in School and Virtual Learning* 3.11. Research assistant, pp. 49–58
- Hamid Mojarad, Fatemeh Hemmati, et al. (2014). "Computer-based Assessment Vs. Paper/Pencil-based Assessment: An Investigation into the Performance and Attitude of Iranian EFL Learners' Reading Comprehension". In: *International Journal of Language Learning and Applied Linguistics World* 4, pp. 418–428

Presentations

Poster Sessions

- Sociolinguistic ASR errors in African American English: Lexical and Contextual effects. *4-March-2025*, DGfS-CL Conference, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany

Paper Presentations

- Hamid Mojarad and Kevin Tang (2025). “Automatic speech recognition of African American English: lexical and contextual effects”. In: *Proceedings of Interspeech 2025*. ISCA

Invited Talks

University of Florida, USA - Online

17-June-2025

- Transcription Issues and Downstream Effects; A presentation for the the Oral History Corpus staff at University of Florida

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

22-May-2025

- Bias in Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) - The Case of African American English (AAE); A Presentation for the Ethics, Bias and Natural Language Processing Course led by Prof. Dr. Kevin Tang

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

15-May-2025

- Mitigating Bias in Automatic Speech Recognition(ASR) - The Case of African American English(AAE); Computational Linguistics Colloquium led by Prof. Dr. Laura Kallmeyer

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

18-June-2024

- Mitigating Bias in Automatic Speech Recognition(ASR) - The Case of African American English(AAE); Ang3 Linguistics Colloquium led by Prof. Dr. Ingo Plag

Technical Skills

Full Stack Development

- **Back-end:** Java (Spring Boot framework) & C#
- **Front-end:** ReactJS, JavaScript, CSS, HTML, etc.
- **Databases:** MS. SQL Server, MySQL, and MongoDB
- **Machine learning & AI:** Python & R

Operating Systems

- Linux
- Microsoft Windows

Graphical Design

- PowerPoint & After Effects

Languages

- **English:** Full professional proficiency
- **German:** Limited working proficiency (B1 Level)
- **Arabic:** Limited working proficiency
- **Kurdish:** Limited working proficiency
- **Persian:** Mother tongue language

Certificates

- **CELTA:** Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; Iran Oxford Language Institute, Tehran, Iran, August, 2016