

# Zdeněk Kasner

LLM RESEARCHER · LECTURER · CURIOUS PERSON

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## About me

I got interested in language models before they became *large*. Then I have spent some time researching how to make them better. Now I enjoy helping people to take full control of LLMs and AI tools in general.

## What can I offer

I can provide help with the following:

- Popularization lectures on AI.
- Technical workshops on LLMs.
- Consultations on anything related to my expertise.

*I am registered as self-employed (IČO: 06845762) and can issue invoices for my services.*

## Skills & Knowledge

Computer Science Python NLP  
Machine Learning LLMs AI

## Languages

Czech ██████████  
English ██████████  
French ██████████  
Dutch ██████████

## Certificates

**Certificate of Proficiency in English (C2)**  
Cambridge Level 3 in ESOL International

## RESEARCH & SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

- since 09/2024 ● **Postdoctoral Researcher**  
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS, CHARLES UNIVERSITY 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Research on large language models (LLMs): controllable text generation and evaluation under the ERC grant NG-NLG (Next-Generation Natural Language Generation).
- from 09/2019 to 09/2024 ● **PhD Researcher**  
FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS, CHARLES UNIVERSITY 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Research on data-to-text generation with neural language models.
- from 02/2023 to 05/2023 ● **Research Intern**  
MILA – QUEBEC AI INSTITUTE 📍 MONTRÉAL, CANADA  
Research on collaborative LLM agents, advised by Siva Reddy.
- from 10/2021 to 12/2021 ● **Research Intern**  
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY 📍 EDINBURGH, UK  
Research on data-to-text generation from knowledge graphs, advised by Ioannis Konstas.
- from 01/2019 to 09/2019 ● **Software Developer & Researcher**  
ROBOT PERCEPTION GROUP, CIIRC CTU IN PRAGUE 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Natural language understanding for an automated production line and a collaborative robotic workspace.
- from 06/2018 to 09/2018 ● **Research Intern**  
KDDI RESEARCH, INC. 📍 SAITAMA, JAPAN  
Developing an augmented reality annotation system.
- from 07/2016 to 08/2017 ● **Software Developer**  
AI CENTER, FEE CTU IN PRAGUE 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Implementing a search engine with intermodal routing for public transport.
- from 04/2015 to 07/2016 ● **Software Developer**  
CESNET 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Developing a module for device classification in a high-throughput system for network traffic analysis (NEMEA).

## TEACHING & LECTURING

- since 2026 ● **Neural Language Models (NI-NLM)**  
FIT CTU 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Preparing a new course from scratch, teaching lectures and labs.
- since 2025 ● **Computational Creativity**  
DIDAKTIKON UK 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Interactive workshop for primary and secondary schools.
- since 2024 ● **Large Language Models (NPFL140)**  
MFF UK 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Assisting with lectures and assignments.
- from 2023 to 2025 ● **Introduction to Machine Learning with Python (NPFL129)**  
MFF UK 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Lab teaching.
- 2022 ● **Introduction to Linux (NSWI177)**  
MFF UK 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Lab teaching (inverted class: no lectures).
- 2020 ● **Programming I (NPRG030) & Introduction to Algorithms (NPRG062)**  
MFF UK 📍 PRAGUE, CZECHIA  
Lab teaching, preparing and evaluating assignments.

## Volunteering

### Board of European Students of Technology (2014 – 2019)

Communication and cooperation with students of European universities of technology, organizing courses and engineering competitions.

## Organizer

- **DGT Summer School Luxembourg, 2025**  
Co-organizer, speaker
- **PracticalD2T Workshop @ INLG 2024**  
Co-organizer
- **PracticalD2T Workshop @ INLG 2023**  
Main organizer
- **SIGDIAL & INLG 2023**  
Local organizer

## Awards

- **Best short paper** at INLG 2025 (Onderková et al., 2025)
- **Joseph Fourier Prize** organized by French Embassy in Prague, 2nd place (2025)
- **Honorable mention** CU Grant Agency award (2023)
- **Outstanding reviewer** at EACL 2021
- **Best short paper** at INLG 2020 (Dušek and Kasner, 2020)

## EDUCATION

from 10/2019  
to 09/2024

### PhD in Computational Linguistics

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS, CHARLES UNIVERSITY PRAGUE, CZECHIA

- **Thesis:** Domain Adaptation for Natural Language Generation
- **Advisor:** Ondřej Dušek

from 07/2016  
to 06/2019

### Master in Artificial Intelligence

FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE PRAGUE, CZECHIA

- **Thesis:** Incorporating Language Models into Non-autoregressive Neural Machine Translation
- Dean award & minor degree in Computer Vision

from 09/2017  
to 02/2018

### Erasmus+

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT LEUVEN LEUVEN, BELGIUM

Courses from Master of AI.

from 09/2013  
to 06/2016

### Bachelor in Computer Science

FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, CTU IN PRAGUE PRAGUE, CZECHIA

- **Thesis:** Flow-Based Classification of Devices in Computer Networks
- Graduated with honors

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

2026

Zdeněk Kasner, Vilém Zouhar, Patrícia Schmidová, Ivan Kartáč, Kristýna Onderková, Ondřej Plátek, Dimitra Gkatzia, Saad Mahamood, Ondřej Dušek, and Simone Balloccu, "LLMs as Span Annotators: A Comparative Study of LLMs and Humans", in *Proceedings of the 2026 Workshop on Multilingual Multicultural Evaluation, co-located with EACL 2026*, 2026.

Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "AnimatedLLM: Explaining LLMs with Interactive Visualizations", in *Proceedings of 2026 TeachingNLP Workshop, co-located with EACL 2026*, 2026.

Danil Semin, Ondřej Dušek, and Zdeněk Kasner, "Strategies for Span Labeling with Large Language Models", *arXiv:2601.16946*, 2026.

2025

Kristýna Onderková, Ondřej Plátek, Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "FreshTab: Sourcing Fresh Data for Table-to-Text Generation Evaluation", in *Proceedings of the 18th International Natural Language Generation Conference*, 2025.

2024

Xing Han Lu, Zdeněk Kasner, and Siva Reddy, "WebLINX: Real-World Website Navigation with Multi-Turn Dialogue", in *Proceedings of the ICML 2024*, 2024.

Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "Beyond Traditional Benchmarks: Analyzing Behaviors of Open LLMs on Data-to-Text Generation", in *Proceedings of the ACL 2024 (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2024.

Zdeněk Kasner, Ondřej Plátek, Patrícia Schmidová, Simone Balloccu, and Ondřej Dušek, "factgenie: A Framework for Span-based Evaluation of Generated Texts", in *Proceedings of the 17th International Natural Language Generation Conference (System Demonstrations)*, 2024.

2023

Zdeněk Kasner, Ekaterina Garanina, Ondřej Plátek, and Ondřej Dušek, "TabGenie: A Toolkit for Table-to-Text Generation", in *Proceedings of the ACL (Volume 3: System Demonstrations)*, 2023.

Zdeněk Kasner, Ioannis Konstas, and Ondřej Dušek, "Mind the Labels: Describing Relations in Knowledge Graphs With Pretrained Models", in *Proceedings of the EACL 2023*, 2023.

2022

Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "Neural Pipeline for Zero-Shot Data-to-Text Generation", in *Proceedings of the ACL 2022 (Volume 1: Long Papers)*, 2022.

2021

Zdeněk Kasner, Simon Mille, and Ondřej Dušek, "Text-in-Context: Token-Level Error Detection for Table-to-Text Generation", in *Proceedings of the INLG 2021*, 2021.

2020

Ondřej Dušek, and Zdeněk Kasner, "Evaluating Semantic Accuracy of Data-to-Text Generation with Natural Language Inference", in *Proceedings of the INLG 2020*, 2020.

Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "Data-to-Text Generation with Iterative Text Editing", in *Proceedings of the INLG 2020*, 2020.

Zdeněk Kasner, and Ondřej Dušek, "Train Hard, Finetune Easy: Multilingual Denoising for RDF-to-Text Generation", in *Proceedings of the INLG 2020 (WebNLG+ Workshop)*, 2020.

Zdeněk Kasner, Jindřich Libovický, and Jindřich Helcl, "Improving Fluency of Non-Autoregressive Machine Translation", *arXiv:2004.03227*, 2020.