

UTKU CENGİZ ACAR

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[LinkedIn](#) [GitHub](#) [Kaggle](#) [HackerRank](#)



EDUCATION

Middle East Technical University (METU)

B.S. in Industrial Engineering

Ankara, Turkey

2020 – 2026

- CGPA: 3.34 / 4.0
- Minor in Economics (Oct 2023 – Present)

Technical University of Sofia

Exchange Semester

Sofia, Bulgaria

Feb 2025

WORK EXPERIENCE

Philip Morris International

Data Science / Product Intern

Remote

Jul 2025

- Ran exploratory data analysis on distributor data and built a territory-optimization pipeline in Python (pandas, scikit-learn) that clustered outlets by location and visit frequency into balanced sales territories.
- Helped maintain, test, and tune the performance of a mobile app alongside the development team.
- Wrote Python scripts to automate repetitive operational tasks, cutting down manual work.
- **Tools:** Python, SQL, Microsoft Tools

Garanti BBVA

Risk Management Intern

Remote

Jul 2024 – Feb 2025

- Analyzed financial and operational risk data that fed into the Risk Management team's assessment frameworks.
- Cleaned and classified data and streamlined reporting workflows for better accuracy.
- **Tools:** Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Tools

TUSAS (Turkish Aerospace Industries)

Industrial Engineering Intern

Ankara, Turkey

Jun 2024 – Jul 2024

- Analyzed manufacturing workflows to spot inefficiencies and proposed data-backed fixes.
- Used SQL and Excel models to pull and present operational data for the engineering team.
- **Tools:** SQL, Microsoft Excel

Etsy

Owner – Digital Product & Arbitrage Marketing

Online, Turkey

Oct 2021 – Feb 2023

- Started and ran an Etsy store selling digital products and arbitrage items, handling everything from listings to customer service.
- Ran market research and SEO work that grew product visibility and organic traffic.
- **Skills:** Market Analysis, SEO, E-commerce Operations

Kopilot Eğitim

Project Development Intern

Mersin, Turkey

May 2021 – Aug 2021

- Researched university departments and career paths and organized the findings into the company's content database.
- **Tools:** Microsoft Tools

PROJECTS

Hallet İK - Aptitude Test Prep Platform (halletik.com)

Founder & Product Owner - Personal Project

Live

2026

- Built and launched Hallet İK, a gamified platform for practicing the aptitude tests used in hiring (SHL, Korn Ferry-style formats), with games for attention, working memory, speed, and logic.
- Built it end to end with AI-assisted development, using Supabase for the backend, auth, and data storage. SEO work grew it to 37 registered users.
- **Skills:** Product Development, Supabase, SEO, User Growth

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, SQL, MATLAB
- **Data & Analytics:** Data Classification, Risk Analysis, Process Optimization, Market Analysis
- **Tools & Platforms:** Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint), Git, Kaggle, Supabase
- **Other:** SEO, DevOps basics, Mobile Application Testing, AI-assisted Development
- **Languages:** Turkish (Native), English (Professional)

ORGANIZATIONS

METU Chess Club Ankara, Turkey
Director & Coordinator *Sep 2021 – 2024*

- Ran chess tournaments and club events for 50+ members, and managed the club's social media.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

European Schools Chess Championship Europe
3rd Place *2015*

- Placed third among top youth chess players across Europe.

Turkish Youth Chess Championship Turkey
3x National Champion – Turkish Chess Federation *2012 – 2014*

- Won the national youth chess championship three consecutive years, representing Turkey at European level.

COURSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Foundations: Data, Data, Everywhere Coursera / Google
Google Data Analytics Certificate *Jun 2024*

General Entrepreneurship Courses Oyun ve Uygulama Akademisi
Entrepreneurship & App Development *Dec 2022 – 2023*

REFERENCES

Aşur Emre Ulu – Chief, TUSAS
Ercan Temiz – Head of Risk Management, Garanti BBVA Pension; Assistant Actuary