C3NLP 2025

The 3rd Workshop on Cross-Cultural Considerations in NLP (C3NLP 2025)

Proceedings of the Workshop

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Introduction

Natural Language Processing has seen impressive gains in recent years. This research includes the demonstration by NLP models to have turned into useful technologies with improved capabilities, measured in terms of how well they match human behavior captured in web-scale language data or through annotations. However, human behavior is inherently shaped by the cultural contexts humans are embedded in, the values and beliefs they hold, and the social practices they follow, part of which will be reflected in the data used to train NLP models, and the behavior these NLP models exhibit. Not accounting for this factor could cause incongruencies and misalignments between the cultural contexts that underpin the NLP model development process and the multi-cultural ecosystems they are expected to operate in. These misalignments may result in various harms, including barriers to those from under-represented cultures, violating cultural norms and values, and erasure of cultural knowledge.

While recent work in the field has started to acknowledge this issue, it is important to build a long-term research agenda for the NLP community around (1) deeper understanding of how global cultures and NLP technologies intersect, in a way that goes beyond multi-lingual and cross-lingual research, (2) how to detect, measure, and attempt to mitigate potential biases and harms in NLP technology in ways that reflect local cultures and values, and (3) how to build more cross-culturally competent NLP systems. This agenda requires looking beyond the NLP community, bringing in multi-disciplinary expertise to shape the inquiries in this important area.

We propose this workshop as a way to bring together the growing number of NLP researchers interested in this topic, along with a community of scholars with multi-disciplinary expertise spanning linguistics, social sciences, and cultural anthropology. Our aim is to build this important inquiry within NLP on a solid basis of cultural theories from social sciences. To this end, the workshop program will focus on the following themes: Inclusivity and Representation of cultures in NLP, Cultural harms of NLP technologies, and Culture Sensitive lens on Social Biases and Harms in NLP.

In the interest of having a broad conversation, inclusive of different disciplinary norms, we invited submissions of different kinds. Authors were able to choose between: (1) archival papers which will be published in the C3NLP proceedings as well as presented during the workshop, and (2) non-archival papers which are not published in the proceedings but are given a presentation slot during the workshop. Archival papers may be long (up to 9 pages) or short (up to 5 pages), and went through mutually anonymous peer review by our program committee members or were already reviewed through ACL Rolling Review (ARR). Non-archival papers include extended abstracts which were also subjected to mutually anonymous peer review by our program committee, or papers that were already reviewed through ARR or accepted for publication at another peer-reviewed venue.

We received 24 direct submissions and 4 submissions through ARR, accepting 15 direct submissions (4 short and 10 long, including 11 archival and 4 non-archival) and 2 ARR submissions (1 short and 1 long, all non-archival). Additionally, we received 7 already accepted submissions. All accepted submissions include an oral presentation (virtual or in-person) and a poster session (in-person only). Oral presentations are 3 minutes for long papers and 2 minutes for short papers. In addition, our program includes presentations of selected papers on this topic accepted by other venues, a panel discussion of selected authors, a panel discussion with world-leading researchers in cross cultural NLP, and an interdisciplinary panel discussion.

Welcome to the 3rd Workshop on Cross-Cultural Considerations in NLP! We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our program committee for their thorough and insightful reviews, as well as to our authors for contributing outstanding and innovative research to this workshop. We eagerly anticipate a day of engaging discussions and the fostering of future collaborations.

- Vinodkumar Prabhakaran, Sunipa Dev, Luciana Benotti, Daniel Hershcovich, Yong Cao, Li Zhou, Laura Cabello, Ife Adebara

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