



LREC 2026

**The 1st Workshop on Social Context (SoCon) &
The 2nd Workshop on Integrating NLP and Psychology
to Study Social Interactions (NLPSI)
@ LREC 2026**

Workshop Proceedings

Editors

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Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Social Context (SoCon) & the 2nd Workshop on Integrating NLP and Psychology to Study Social Interactions (NLPSI) @ LREC 2026

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Preface

This volume presents the joint proceedings of the Social Context Workshop (SoCon) and the Workshop on Integrating NLP and Psychology to Study Social Interactions (NLPSI). As language in social interaction is shaped by both context and psychological processes, this joint edition brings together complementary perspectives from both workshops.

Against this backdrop, the SoCon Workshop focuses on exploring the mechanisms through which context shapes language use to accurately model it. The workshop takes an interdisciplinary approach, seeking to establish a shared vocabulary on this topic and to explore how NLP can be integrated with pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and sociology. By promoting alternatives to traditional crowdsourcing techniques, it aims to provide a platform for advancing community-centered approaches in NLP. The SoCon track received 12 submissions, 9 of which have been accepted: 6 long, 2 short, and 1 non-archival. Accepted papers fall into two themes: computational approaches to sociolinguistic variation across diverse case studies, and analyses of the relationship between language and behavior in domains such as news consumption, online counseling, and social media use.

Complementing this focus on social and contextual factors, the NLPSI Workshop examines the core psychological processes that shape human behavior and communication, as well as the factors that influence how individuals perceive, process, and produce language, and the impact of these processes on communication. This interdisciplinary workshop welcomes researchers from NLP, social psychology, and affective computing, intending to conduct large-scale studies that explore key theories and research questions across these domains. This tract received 12 submissions, out of which 7 have been accepted: 4 long papers, 1 short paper and 2 non-archival extended abstracts. Accepted papers discuss topics including mental health detection, personality modeling, persuasion and misinformation, evaluation of LLMs as social measurement tools, and the analysis of language in social and clinical contexts.

Building on the contributions of both workshops, we are pleased to present this year's best paper awards. For SoCon, the best paper award has been assigned to the paper *Documenting Rural Gatherings in Aging Japan: Social Context and Language Use in Interaction at a Mobile Supermarket* authored by Haruka Sakai and Rui Sakaida. Their paper introduces a documentation framework and presents a case study of language use at rural gatherings in aging Japan, showing how mobile supermarket encounters function as socially meaningful interactions rather than solely commercial exchanges. For NLPSI, the award has been assigned to the paper *State vs. Trait Anxiety in Causal Language Models* authored by Karin Shistik, Idan-Chaim Cohen, Aviad Elyashar, Ortal Slobodin, Odeya Cohen and Rami Puzis. Their study introduces a psychometric framework (QCLM) for probing psychological constructs in language models and shows that, consistent with the human state–trait distinction, models' state anxiety varies more with contextual stress while trait anxiety remains more model-specific.

The workshop involved two keynote presentations by Anne Lauscher and Ana-Maria Bucur. **Anne Lauscher** delivered a keynote entitled “The Missing Piece: When Social Context Breaks Our Models.” She is a Full Professor at the University of Hamburg, where she leads the Trustworthy AI Lab. Her work focuses on connecting state-of-the-art generative AI with key issues such as fairness, inclusion, safety, robustness, and the broader societal impact of large language models and their multimodal extensions. She also develops expert applications of AI, particularly in the sciences, and is actively involved in interdisciplinary research. **Ana-Maria Bucur** presented the keynote “Understanding Mental Health through NLP: Insights from Online Interactions.” She is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Università della Svizzera italiana in the

Information Retrieval Group at the Dalle Molle Institute for Artificial Intelligence (IDSIA). Her research focuses on natural language processing for mental health, including the detection and analysis of conditions such as depression using textual and multimodal data. She develops datasets, benchmarks, and evaluation frameworks that support the responsible application of AI in sensitive, real-world contexts.

We also introduce the Pragm.A.Lab, a community-centered research initiative aimed at bridging pragmatics and social psychology in NLP annotation practices. Its first edition addresses the self–other relation, treating conversation as the dynamic site where individuals and groups co-shape one another, with the goal of designing an annotation scheme for a multilingual conversational corpus.

Finally, we are grateful to all those whose work and support contributed to the success of this workshop. We particularly acknowledge the LREC organizers and the workshop chairs for their guidance throughout this edition. Moreover, we would like to warmly thank the members of our Program Committee. Your time investment and thorough reviews played a key role in shaping the quality of both workshops.

Marco Antonio Stranisci, Neele Falk, Sofie Labat, Soda Marem Lo, Aswathy Velutharambath, Sabine Weber, Rossana Damiano, Simona Frenda, Véronique Hoste, Bennett Kleinberg, Roman Klinger, Viviana Patti, Flor Miriam Plaza-del-Arco, Maarten Sap & Seid Muhie Yimam

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Table of Contents

<i>State vs. Trait Anxiety in Causal Language Models</i> Karin Shistik, Idan-Chaim Cohen, Aviad Elyashar, Ortal Slobodin, Odeya Cohen and Rami Puzis	1
<i>Documenting Rural Gatherings in Aging Japan: Social Context and Language Use in Interaction at a Mobile Supermarket</i> Haruka Sakai and Rui Sakaida	15
<i>Identifying Linguistically Relevant Communities of Practice on Twitch</i> Heather Burnett	25
<i>Implicit Cultural Identity Signals in Language: Detection and Effects in Negotiation Dialogue</i> Bin Han, Danah Yun, James Hale and Jonathan Gratch	34
<i>How Much Does Persuasion Strategy Matter? LLM-Annotated Evidence from Charitable Donation Dialogues</i> Tatiana Petrova, Stanislav Sokol and Radu State	40
<i>Do LLMs Ask the Right Questions? Evaluating GPT-Generated Surveys as Instruments for Measuring Social Attitudes</i> Tina Behzad, Wenbo Li, Reuben Kline and Klaus Mueller	48
<i>Where Is Politeness in Japanese BERT? A Layerwise Probing and CLS Activation Patching Study</i> Shusuke Hashimoto and Wenchen Shi	67
<i>Rewrite the News: Tracing Editorial Reuse across News Agencies</i> Soveatin Kuntur, Nina Smirnova, Anna Wroblewska, Philipp Mayr and Sebastijan Razboršek Maček	76
<i>OnCoCo 1.0: A Public Dataset for Fine-Grained Message Classification in Online Counseling Conversations</i> Jens Albrecht, Robert Lehmann, Aleksandra Poltermann, Eric Rudolph, Philipp Steigerwald and Mara Stieler	85
<i>Predicting Social Media User Actions: A Hybrid Approach for Common and Rare Behavior Prediction on Bluesky</i> Benjamin White and Anastasia Shimorina	95
<i>The Data Acquisition Framework: Bridging Psychometrics and NLP for Personality Dataset Construction</i> Lorenz Dumanski, Michael Spranger and Melanie Siegel	106
<i>Language Ideologies in a Multilingual Society: An LLM-based Analysis of Luxembourgish News Comments</i> Emilia Milano, Alistair Plum, Yves Scherrer and Christoph Purschke	114
<i>Personality Anchoring for Social Simulation: Linking Personality, Social Behavior, and Interaction Success with LLM Agents</i> Vahid Sadiri Javadi, Aksa Aksa, Fryderyk Karol Róg, Lucie Flek and Johanne Trippas	132

