ArabicNLP 2023

The First Arabic Natural Language Processing Conference

Porceedings of the Conference

December 7, 2023

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Preface

Welcome to The first Arabic Natural Language Processing Conference (ArabicNLP 2023) graduating from the Workshop for Arabic Natural Language Processing Workshop (WANLP) which had its seventh, and last, instance last year, in December 2022 within EMNLP 2022. Over the years, WANLP has developed a growing reputation as a high quality venue for researchers and engineers working on Arabic NLP, where they share and discuss their ongoing work.

The first in the WANLP series was held in Doha, Qatar (EMNLP 2014), followed by Beijing, China (ACL 2015), Valencia, Spain (EACL 2017), Florence, Italy (ACL 2019), online with COLING 2020, online with EACL 2021, then finally a hybrid event in Abu Dhabi, UAE (EMNLP 2022).

For this year's edition of ArabicNLP, we received a total of 80 main conference submissions and accepted 38 papers (32 long and 6 short), which brings us to an acceptance rate of 47.5%. All papers submitted to the conference were reviewed by at least three reviewers each. Out of the 80 submitted papers, there were 2 desk rejects.

ArabicNLP 2023 included five shared tasks with 48 submissions in totals: (i) The Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification (NADI) with 13 submissions, (ii) ArAIEval (Persuasion Techniques and Disinformation Detection in Arabic Text) with 17 submissions, (iii) Qur'an QA with 6 submissions, (iv) WojoodNER with 8 submissions, and (v) Arabic Reverse Dictionary with 4 submissions. The shared task overview papers are included in the proceedings. The overview papers and the papers of the shared task winning systems are presented as talks during the conference. None of the shared task papers are counted toward the acceptance rate presented above.

ArabicNLP 2023 also includes a panel discussing the hot topic "Arabic LLMs: Challenges and Opportunities" by leaders in the field, like Areeb Alowisheq, Tom Baldwin, and Kareem Darwish, moderated by Mona Diab.

We were able to secure sponsorship funding from different institutions: King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language, aiXplain, Lisan.ai, SCAI, Majarra, and Big IR, which we used to support student registrations. We thank all our sponsors for their generous support and their help in building up the Arabic NLP community.

We would like to thank everyone who submitted a paper to the conference, as well as all the members of the Program Committee, who worked hard to provide reviews on a very tight schedule.

Finally, on behalf of everyone involved, organizing committee as well as conference attendees, I would like to thank Nizar Habash and Houda Bouamor for supporting, mentoring and helping this conference be a success, being available for any request and filling any gaps that are overlooked.

Hassan Sawaf, General Chair, on behalf of the conference organizers.

Website of the conference: https://arabicnlp2023.sigarab.org

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Arabic Dialect Identification under Scrutiny: Limitations of Single-label Classification Amr Keleg and Walid Magdy

Nâbra: Syrian Arabic Dialects with Morphological Annotations

Amal Nayouf, Tymaa Hasanain Hammouda, Mustafa Jarrar, Fadi A. Zaraket and Mohamad-Bassam Kurdy

Arabic Fine-Grained Entity Recognition

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Cross-Dialectal Named Entity Recognition in Arabic Niama Elkhbir, Urchade Zaratiana, Nadi Tomeh and Thierry Charnois

Leveraging Domain Adaptation and Data Augmentation to Improve Qur'anic IR in English and Arabic Vera Pavlova

ArabIcros: AI-Powered Arabic Crossword Puzzle Generation for Educational Applications Kamyar Zeinalipour, Mohamed Zaky Saad, Marco Maggini and Marco Gori

- 10:30 11:00 *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 12:30 LLMs and Applications

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Violet: A Vision-Language Model for Arabic Image Captioning with Gemini Decoder

Abdelrahman Mohamed, Fakhraddin Alwajih, El Moatez Billah Nagoudi, Alcides Alcoba Inciarte and Muhammad Abdul-Mageed

ArTST: Arabic Text and Speech Transformer

Hawau Olamide Toyin, Amirbek Djanibekov, Ajinkya Kulkarni and Hanan Aldarmaki

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CamelParser2.0: A State-of-the-Art Dependency Parser for Arabic Ahmed Elshabrawy, Muhammed AbuOdeh, Go Inoue and Nizar Habash

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VoxArabica: A Robust Dialect-Aware Arabic Speech Recognition System Abdul Waheed, Bashar Talafha, Peter Sullivan, AbdelRahim Elmadany and Muhammad Abdul-Mageed

Arabic Topic Classification in the Generative and AutoML Era Doha Albared, Hadi Hamoud and Fadi A. Zaraket

Yet Another Model for Arabic Dialect Identification Ajinkya Kulkarni and Hanan Aldarmaki

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UL & UM6P at ArAIEval Shared Task: Transformer-based model for Persuasion Techniques and Disinformation detection in Arabic

Salima Lamsiyah, Abdelkader El Mahdaouy, Hamza Alami, Ismail Berrada and Christoph Schommer

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Sarah Alnefaie, Abdullah N. Alsaleh, Eric Atwell, Mohammad Alsalka and Abdulrahman Altahhan

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Abdelkader El Mahdaouy, Salima Lamsiyah, Hamza Alami, Christoph Schommer and Ismail Berrada

16:00 - 17:30 Main Conference Posters (Virtual)

IDRISI-D: Arabic and English Datasets and Benchmarks for Location Mention Disambiguation over Disaster Microblogs Reem Suwaileh, Tamer Elsayed and Muhammad Imran

HICMA: The Handwriting Identification for Calligraphy and Manuscripts in Arabic Dataset Anis Ismail, Zena Kamel and Reem Mahmoud

Simplify: Automatic Arabic Sentence Simplification using Word Embeddings Yousef SalahEldin and Caroline Sabty

ArBanking77: Intent Detection Neural Model and a New Dataset in Modern and Dialectical Arabic

Mustafa Jarrar, Ahmet Birim, Mohammed Khalilia, Mustafa Erden and Sana Ghanem

ArSarcasMoji Dataset: The Emoji Sentiment Roles in Arabic Ironic Contexts Shatha Ali A. Hakami, Robert Hendley and Phillip Smith

Machine Translation of Omani Arabic Dialect from Social Media Khoula Al-Kharusi and Abdurahman Khalifa AAlAbdulsalam

Automated De-Identification of Arabic Medical Records Veysel Kocaman, Youssef MELLAH, Hasham Ul Haq and David Talby

Arabic dialect identification: An in-depth error analysis on the MADAR parallel corpus

Helene Bøsei Olsen, Samia Touileb and Erik Velldal

Investigating Zero-shot Cross-lingual Language Understanding for Arabic Zaid Alyafeai and Moataz Ahmed

On Enhancing Fine-Tuning for Pre-trained Language Models Abir Betka, Zeyd Ferhat, Riyadh Barka, Selma Boutiba, Zineddine S. Kahhoul, Tiar M. Lakhdar, Ahmed Abdelali and Habiba Dahmani

LANS: Large-scale Arabic News Summarization Corpus

Abdulaziz Alhamadani, Xuchao Zhang, Jianfeng He, Aadyant Khatri and Chang-Tien Lu

Performance Implications of Using Unrepresentative Corpora in Arabic Natural Language Processing

Saied Alshahrani, Norah Alshahrani, Soumyabrata Dey and Jeanna Matthews

ArTrivia: Harvesting Arabic Wikipedia to Build A New Arabic Question Answering Dataset Sultan Alrowili and K Vijay-Shanker

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Aswat: Arabic Audio Dataset for Automatic Speech Recognition Using Speech-Representation Learning Lamya Alkanhal, Abeer Alessa, Elaf Almahmoud and Rana Alaqil

Offensive Language Detection in Arabizi Imene Bensalem, Meryem Ait Mout and Paolo Rosso

16:00 - 17:30 EMNLP Findings Posters (Virtual)

Arabic Mini-ClimateGPT : A Climate Change and Sustainability Tailored Arabic LLM

Sahal Shaji Mullappilly, Abdelrahman M Shaker, Omkar Chakradhar Thawakar, Hisham Cholakkal, Rao Muhammad Anwer, Salman Khan and Fahad Khan

Dolphin: A Challenging and Diverse Benchmark for Arabic NLG El Moatez Billah Nagoudi, AbdelRahim A. Elmadany, Ahmed Oumar El-Shangiti and Muhammad Abdul-Mageed

16:00 - 17:30 Shared Task Posters (Virtual)

AAST-NLP at ArAIEval Shared Task: Tackling Persuasion technique and Disinformation Detection using Pre-Trained Language Models On Imbalanced Datasets

Ahmed El-Sayed, Omar Nasr and Noureldin Elmadany

AraDetector at ArAIEval Shared Task: An Ensemble of Arabic-specific pretrained BERT and GPT-4 for Arabic Disinformation Detection

Ahmed Bahaaulddin, Vian Sabeeh, Hanan M. Belhaj, Serry Sibaee, Samar Ahmad, Ibrahim Khurfan and Abdullah I. Alharbi

Frank at ArAIEval Shared Task: Arabic Persuasion and Disinformation: The Power of Pretrained Models

Dilshod Azizov, Jiyong Li and Shangsong Liang

HTE at ArAIEval Shared Task: Integrating Content Type Information in Binary Persuasive Technique Detection Khaldi Hadjer and Taqiy Eddine Bouklouha

Itri Amigos at ArAIEval Shared Task: Transformer vs. Compression-Based Models for Persuasion Techniques and Disinformation Detection Jehad Oumer, Nouman Ahmed and Natalia Flechas Manrique

KnowTellConvince at ArAIEval Shared Task: Disinformation and Persuasion Detection in Arabic using Similar and Contrastive Representation Alignment Hariram Veeramani, Surendrabikram Thapa and Usman Naseem

Legend at ArAIEval Shared Task: Persuasion Technique Detection using a Language-Agnostic Text Representation Model

Olumide E. Ojo, Olaronke O. Adebanji, Hiram Calvo, Damian O. Dieke, Olumuyiwa E. OJO, Seye E. Akinsanya, Tolulope O. Abiola and Anna Feldman

Mavericks at ArAIEval Shared Task: Towards a Safer Digital Space - Transformer Ensemble Models Tackling Deception and Persuasion

Sudeep Mangalvedhekar, Kshitij Deshpande, Yash Patwardhan, Vedant Deshpande and Ravindra Murumkar

PD-AR at ArAIEval Shared Task: A BERT-Centric Approach to Tackle Arabic Disinformation Pritam Deka and Ashwathy T. Revi

Raphael at ArAIEval Shared Task: Understanding Persuasive Language and Tone, an LLM Approach

Utsav Shukla, Manan Vyas and Shailendra Tiwari

USTHB at NADI 2023 shared task: Exploring Preprocessing and Feature Engineering Strategies for Arabic Dialect Identification

Mohamed Lichouri, Khaled Lounnas, Aicha Zitouni, Houda Latrache and Rachida Djeradi

rematchka at ArAIEval Shared Task: Prefix-Tuning & Prompt-tuning for Improved Detection of Propaganda and Disinformation in Arabic Social Media Content Reem Abdel-Salam

Abed at KSAA-RD Shared Task: Enhancing Arabic Word Embedding with Modified BERT Multilingual Abdelrahim Qaddoumi

Qamosy at Arabic Reverse Dictionary shared task: Semi Decoder Architecture for Reverse Dictionary with SBERT Encoder

Serry Sibaee, Samar Ahmad, Ibrahim Khurfan, Vian Sabeeh, Ahmed Bahaaulddin, Hanan M. Belhaj and Abdullah I. Alharbi

Rosetta Stone at KSAA-RD Shared Task: A Hop From Language Modeling To Word–Definition Alignment

Ahmed Elbakry, Mohamed Gabr, Muhammad ElNokrashy and Badr AlKhamissi

ANLP-RG at NADI 2023 shared task: Machine Translation of Arabic Dialects: A Comparative Study of Transformer Models

Wiem Derouich, Sameh Kchaou and Rahma Boujelbane

DialectNLU at NADI 2023 Shared Task: Transformer Based Multitask Approach Jointly Integrating Dialect and Machine Translation Tasks in Arabic Hariram Veeramani, Surendrabikram Thapa and Usman Naseem

Frank at NADI 2023 Shared Task: Trio-Based Ensemble Approach for Arabic Dialect Identification Dilshod Azizov, Jiyong Li and Shangsong Liang

ISL-AAST at NADI 2023 shared task: Enhancing Arabic Dialect Identification in the Era of Globalization and Technological Progress Shorouk Adel and Noureldin Elmadany

IUNADI at NADI 2023 shared task: Country-level Arabic Dialect Classification in Tweets for the Shared Task NADI 2023

Yash A. Hatekar and Muhammad S. Abdo

Mavericks at NADI 2023 Shared Task: Unravelling Regional Nuances through Dialect Identification using Transformer-based Approach

Vedant Deshpande, Yash Patwardhan, Kshitij Deshpande, Sudeep Mangalvedhekar and Ravindra Murumkar

USTHB at NADI 2023 shared task: Exploring Preprocessing and Feature Engineering Strategies for Arabic Dialect Identification

Mohamed Lichouri, Khaled Lounnas, Aicha Zitouni, Houda Latrache and Rachida Djeradi

UniManc at NADI 2023 Shared Task: A Comparison of Various T5-based Models for Translating Arabic Dialectical Text to Modern Standard Arabic

Abdullah Khered, Ingy Yasser Abdelhalim, Nadine Abdelhalim, Ahmed Soliman and Riza Batista-Navarro

UoT at NADI 2023 shared task: Automatic Arabic Dialect Identification is Made Possible

Abduslam F A Nwesri, Nabila A S Shinbir and Hassan A H Ebrahem

rematchka at NADI 2023 shared task: Parameter Efficient tuning for Dialect Identification and Dialect Machine Translation Reem Abdel-Salam

AHJL at Qur'an QA 2023 Shared Task: Enhancing Passage Retrieval using Sentence Transformer and Translation Hessa A. Alawwad, Lujain A. Alawwad, Jamilah Alharbi and Abdullah I. Alharbi

Al-Jawaab at Qur'an QA 2023 Shared Task: Exploring Embeddings and GPT Models for Passage Retrieval and Reading Comprehension

Abdulrezzak Zekiye and Fadi Amroush

GYM at Qur'an QA 2023 Shared Task: Multi-Task Transfer Learning for Quranic Passage Retrieval and Question Answering with Large Language Models Ghazaleh Mahmoudi, Yeganeh Morshedzadeh and Sauleh Eetemadi

LowResContextQA at Qur'an QA 2023 Shared Task: Temporal and Sequential Representation Augmented Question Answering Span Detection in Arabic Hariram Veeramani, Surendrabikram Thapa and Usman Naseem

Alex-U 2023 NLP at WojoodNER shared task: AraBINDER (Bi-encoder for Arabic Named Entity Recognition) Mariam Hussein, Sarah Khaled, Marwan Torki and Nagwa El-Makky

AlexU-AIC at WojoodNER shared task: Sequence Labeling vs MRC and SWA for Arabic Named Entity Recognition Shereen Elkordi, Noha Adly and Marwan Torki

AlphaBrains at WojoodNER shared task: Arabic Named Entity Recognition by Using Character-based Context-Sensitive Word Representations Toqeer Ehsan, Amjad Ali and Ala Al-Fuqaha

ELYADATA at WojoodNER Shared Task: Data and Model-centric Approaches for Arabic Flat and Nested NER

Imen Laouirine, Haroun Elleuch and Fethi Bougares

Lotus at WojoodNER Shared Task: Multilingual Transformers: Unveiling Flat and Nested Entity Recognition Jiyong Li, Dilshod Azizov, Hilal AlQuabeh and Shangsong Liang

TCE at Qur'an QA 2023 Shared Task: Low Resource Enhanced Transformerbased Ensemble Approach for Qur'anic QA Mohammed Alaa Elkomy and Amany Sarhan