

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ON

**NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING AND
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR CYBER SECURITY**

NLPAICS'2024

P R O C E E D I N G S

Edited by:

Ruslan Mitkov, Saad Ezzini, Cengiz Acarturk, Tharindu Ranasinghe, Paul Rayson, Mo El-Haj,
Ignatius Ezeani, Matthew Bradbury, Nouran Khallaf

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**THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
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PROCEEDINGS

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Message from the General Chair

In today's digital world, Cyber Security has emerged as a heightened priority for both individual users and organisations. As the volume of online information grows exponentially, traditional security approaches often struggle to identify and prevent evolving security threats. The inadequacy of conventional security frameworks highlights the need for innovative solutions that can effectively navigate the complex digital landscape for ensuring robust security. Natural Language Processing and Artificial Intelligence in Cyber Security have vast potential to significantly enhance threat detection and mitigation by fostering the development of advanced security systems for autonomous identification, assessment, and response to security threats in real-time. Recognising this challenge and the capabilities of Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) approaches to fortify Cyber Security (CS) systems, the First International Conference on Natural Language Processing and Artificial Intelligence for Cyber Security (NLPAICS'2024) serves as a gathering place for researchers in NLP and AI methods for Cyber Security. We invite contributions that present the latest NLP and AI solutions for mitigating risks in processing digital information.

This first-of-its-kind event covers a number of topics related to Cyber Security falling under (but not limited to) the following more general areas: Societal and Human Security and Safety; Speech Technology and Multimodal Investigations for Cyber Security; Data and Software Security; Human-Centric Security and Support; Anomaly Detection and Threat Intelligence; Systems and Infrastructure Security; Financial Cyber Security; Ethics, Bias, and Legislation in Cyber Security; Datasets and resources for Cyber Security Applications and Specialised Security Applications and Open Topics. It also features a Special Theme Track "Future of Cyber Security in the Era of LLMs and Generative AI".

We would like to thank all colleagues who made this unique international event possible. We would like to start by thanking all colleagues who submitted papers to NLPAICS'2024 and travelled to Lancaster to attend the event. We are grateful to all members of the Programme Committee for carefully evaluating all submissions (every submission was reviewed by 3 reviewers) and providing substantial feedback on all papers, helping the authors of accepted papers to improve and polish the final versions of their papers. A special thanks goes to all keynote speakers (Iva Gumnishka, Sevil Şen, Paolo Rosso and Jacques Klein). The role of the sponsors (Mind Bridge AI, Data Science Institute, Security Lancaster, UCREL) is acknowledged with gratitude.

Last but not least, we would like to use this paragraph to acknowledge the members of the Organising Committee whose dedication and efforts during the last 10 months made the organisation of this event possible. A big 'Thank you' goes to Prof Nigel Davies, Dr Saad Ezzini, Dr Tharindu Ranasinghe, Prof Paul Rayson, Dr Cengiz Acartürk, Dr Mo El-Haj, Dr Matthew Bradbury, Dr Ignatius Ezeani, Dr Amal Haddad Haddad, Dr Nouran Khallaf, Julia Carradus, Sofia Denysiuk, and Isla Cambell.

Welcome to NLPAICS'2024 in Lancaster and we hope you will enjoy the event.

Prof Ruslan Mitkov

NLPAICS'2024 Conference Chair

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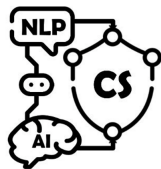
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Monday, July 29, 2024

- 8:30–9:10 *Registration*
- 9:10–9:20 *Opening*
Nigel Davies, Head of the School of Computing and Communications
- 9:20–10:10 *Keynote speech 1* (40 min presentation; 10 min Q & A; Introduction: Ruslan Mitkov)
Paolo Rosso – Beyond fake news in disinformation detection: analysis of narratives of conspiracy theories
- 10:10–11:00 Session 1: Ethics and bias** (Session Chair: Eugenio Martínez Camara)
- 10:10–10:35 *Predatory Publication of AI-Generated Research Papers*
Lizzie Burgiss, Ben Tatum, Christopher Henshaw, Madison Boswell, and Alan Michaels
- 10:35–11:00 *Explainability of Machine Learning Approaches in Forensic Linguistics: A Case Study in Geolinguistic Authorship Profiling*
Dana Roemling, Yves Scherrer, and Aleksandra Miletić
- 11:00–11:20 *Morning coffee break*
- 11:20–12:35 **Session 2: Software and vulnerabilities** (Session Chair: Matthew Bradbury)
- 11:20–11:45 *Metric-Oriented Pretraining of Neural Source Code Summarisation Transformers to Enable more Secure Software Development*
Jesse Phillips, Mo El-Haj, and Tracy Hall
- 11:45–12:10 *Comprehensive threat analysis and systematic mapping of CVEs to MITRE framework*
Stefano Simonetto and Peter Bosch
- 12:10–12:35 *Predicting Software Vulnerability Trends with Multi-Recurrent Neural Networks: A Time Series Forecasting Approach*
Abanisenioluwa K. Orojo, Webster C. Elumelu, and Oluwatamilore O. Orojo
- 12:35–1:00 *Measuring the Effect of Induced Persona on Agenda Creation in Language-based Agents for Cyber Deception*
Lewis Newsham, Daniel Prince, and Ryan Hyland
- 1:00–2:00 *Lunch break*
- 2:00–2:50 *Keynote speech 2* (Introduction: Hansi Hettiarachchi)
Sevil Sen – AI versus AI: The Relentless Cyber Security Arms Race
- 2:50–4:05 **Session 3: Spam and phishing** (Session Chair: Lena Podoletz)
- 2:50–3:15 *Comparative Analysis of Natural Language Processing Models for Malware Spam Email Identification*
Francisco Jáñez-Martino, Eduardo Fidalgo, Rocío Alaiz-Rodríguez, Andrés Carolis, and Alicia Martínez-Mendoza^{xii}

3:15–3:40	<i>SpamClus: An Agglomerative Clustering Algorithm for Spam Email Campaigns Detection</i> Daniel Díaz, Wesam Al-Nabki, Laura Fernández-Robles, Enrique Alegre, Eduardo Fidalgo, and Alicia Martínez-Mendoza
3:40–4:05	<i>LSTM-PSO: NLP-based model for detecting Phishing Attacks</i> Abdulrahman A. Alshdadi
4:05–4:25	<i>Afternoon coffee break</i>
4:25–4:55	<i>Sponsor (Mind Bridge AI) presentation</i> (Introduction: Saad Ezzini) CodeAgent - Collaborative Agents for Software Engineering Daniel Tang
4:55–6:35	Session 4: Fake news, privacy and NLP challenges (Session Chair: Rafael Muñoz Guillena)
4:55–5:20	<i>The Influence of the Perplexity Score in the Detection of Machine-generated Texts</i> Alberto José Gutiérrez Megías, L. Alfonso Ureña-López, and Eugenio Martínez Cámara
5:20–5:45	<i>Variation between Credible and Non-Credible News Across Topics</i> Emilie Francis
5:45–6:10	<i>Can LLMs assist with Ambiguity? A Quantitative Evaluation of various Large Language Models on Word Sense Disambiguation</i> Deshan Koshala Sumanathilaka, Nicholas Micallef, and Julian Hough
6:10–6:35	<i>Privacy Preservation in Federated Market Basket Analysis using Homomorphic Encryption</i> Sameeka Saini and Durga Toshniwal
19:45–22:30	<i>Conference dinner</i>

Tuesday, July 30, 2024

- 9:00–9:20 *Coffee*
- 9:20–10:10 *Keynote speech 3* (Introduction: Tharindu Ranasinghe)
Iva Gumnishka - Red Teaming: Trustworthy AI through diverse human testing
- 10:10–11:00 Session 5: Anomaly Detection and Threat Intelligence** (Session Chair: Ignatius Ezeani)
- 10:10–10:35 *WAVE-27K: Bringing together CTI Sources for Enhanced Threat Intelligence Models*
Felipe Castaño, Amaia Gil-Lerchundi, Raul Orduna-Urrutia, Eduardo Fidalgo Fernandez, and Rocío Alaiz-Rodríguez
- 10:35–11:00 *Human-in-the-loop Anomaly Detection and Contextual Intelligence for Enhancing Cybersecurity Management*
Thomas Schaberreiter, Jerry Andriessen, Cinzia Cappiello, Alex Papanikolaou, and Mirjam Pardijs
- 11:00–11:20 *Morning coffee break*
- 11:20–1:00 **Session 6: Hate speech and harmful content** (Session Chair: Claire Hardaker)
- 11:20–11:45 *Is it Offensive or Abusive? An Empirical Study of Hateful Language Detection of Arabic Social Media Texts*
Salim Al Mandhari, Mo El-Haj, and Paul Rayson
- 11:45–12:10 *The Elsagate Corpus: Characterising Commentary on Alarming Video Content*
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- 12:35–1:00 *Fighting Cyber-malice: A Forensic Linguistics Approach to Detecting AI-generated Malicious Texts*
Rui Sousa-Silva
- 1:00–2:00 *Lunch break*
- 2:00–2:50 *Keynote speech 4: Jacques Klein* (Introduction: Saad Ezzini)
- 2:50–4:05 **Session 7: Threats and vulnerabilities** (Session Chair: Ashley Fraser)
- 2:50–3:15 *Deciphering Cyber Threats: A Unifying Framework with GPT-3.5, BERTopic and Feature Importance*
Chun Man Tsang, Tom Bell, Antonios Goughlidis, and Mo El-Haj

3:15–3:40	<i>CECILIA: Enhancing CSIRT Effectiveness with Transformer-Based Cyber Incident Classification</i> Juan Jose Delgado Sotes, Alicia Martinez Mendoza, Andres Carofilis Vasco, Eduardo Fidalgo Fernandez, and Enrique Alegre Gutierrez
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4:05–4:25	<i>Afternoon coffee break</i>
4:25–6:05	Session 8: LLM and vulnerabilities (Session Chair: Mo El-Haj)
4:25–4:50	<i>A Proposal Framework Security Assessment for Large Language Models</i> Daniel Mendonça Colares, Raimir Holanda Filho, and Luis Borges Gouveia
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5:40–6:05	<i>Unlocking LLMs Capabilities: Addressing Scarce Data and Inherent Bias Challenges in Mental Health and Therapeutic Counselling</i> Vivek Kumar, Pushpraj Singh Rajwat, Giacomo Medda, Eirini Ntoutsis, and Diego Reforgiato Recupero
6:05–6:15	<i>Closing</i>
19:30–22:00	<i>Networking event</i>

