INLG 2019

The 12th International Conference on Natural Language Generation

Proceedings of the Conference

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Preface

We are pleased to present the Proceedings of the 12th International Natural Language Generation Conference (INLG 2019), the first to be organised in Asia. The INLG conference is the main international forum for the discussion of all aspects of Natural Language Generation (NLG), including data-to-text, concept-to-text, text-to-text and vision-to-text approaches. This year, we decided to reach out to a number of neighbouring research communities (including Machine Translation, Dialogue Systems, and Psycholinguistics, among others) by inviting a broad range of workshops, and by inviting keynote speakers from neighbouring communities as well.

INLG 2019 was organised by the Artificial Intelligence Research Center of Japan (AIRC, AIST), the University of Aberdeen, and Utrecht University. The event took place under the auspices of the Special Interest Group on Natural Language Generation (SIGGEN) of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) and the International Speech Communication Association (ISCA).

We were very pleased to hear keynote presentations from the following experts:

- Philipp Koehn (Johns Hopkins University, USA)
- Kazunori Komatami (Osaka University, Japan)
- Roger van Gompel (University of Dundee, UK)
- Anya Belz (University of Brighton, UK)

In addition to the main conference, a number of workshops were accepted following an open Call for Workshop Proposals:

- 1st Workshop on Interactive Natural Language Technology for Explainable Artificial Intelligence
- 1st Workshop on AI Werewolf and Dialog System
- 4th Workshop on Computational Creativity in Language Generation
- 1st Workshop on Discourse Structure in Neural NLG

The rising trend in the number of submitted papers that we have seen for Natural Language Generation in the last few years continued strongly this year, so the main conference was extended to take up two and a half days. For the main conference, we received a record number of 147 submissions, of which 36 were accepted as long papers, 30 as short papers, 4 as demo papers, and 3 as generation challenge papers. All accepted papers for the main conference are included in these proceedings.

We received financial support from the following sponsors:

- ARRIA NLG
- Megagon Labs
- DENSO IT Lab
- Yahoo Japan
- Fuji Xerox

- The Association for Natural Language Processing
- Google
- Facebook

We would like to thank all our sponsors for their support, and we extend our gratitude to all speakers and reviewers for their excellent work.

Kees van Deemter Chenhgua Lin Hiroya Takamura

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- 10:30–13:10 Workshop 2: AI Werewolf and Dialog System (AIWolfDial2019)
- 14:30-14:45 Opening of INLG 2019
- 14:45–15:35 *Tutorial 2: Deepfake News Generation: Methods, Detection and Wider Implications* Anya Belz

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Generating Quantified Referring Expressions with Perceptual Cost Pruning Gordon Briggs and Hillary Harner

A case study on context-bound referring expression generation Maurice Langner

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Takumi Ito, Tatsuki Kuribayashi, Hayato Kobayashi, Ana Brassard, Masato Hagiwara, Jun Suzuki and Kentaro Inui

30 Oct 2019

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Computational Argumentation Synthesis as a Language Modeling Task Roxanne El Baff, Henning Wachsmuth, Khalid Al Khatib, Manfred Stede and Benno Stein

Towards Coherent and Engaging Spoken Dialog Response Generation Using Automatic Conversation Evaluators

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12:25–13:50 Poster Session 1

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Generation of Hip-Hop Lyrics with Hierarchical Modeling and Conditional Templates

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Modeling Confidence in Sequence-to-Sequence Models Jan Niehues and Ngoc-Quan Pham

A Good Sample is Hard to Find: Noise Injection Sampling and Self-Training for Neural Language Generation Models Chris Kedzie and Kathleen McKeown

A Stable Variational Autoencoder for Text Modelling Ruizhe Li, Xiao Li, Chenghua Lin, Matthew Collinson and Rui Mao

1 Nov 2019

10:00–13:00 Workshop 3: Discourse Structure in Neural NLG

10:00–13:00 Workshop 4: Computational Creativity in Language Generation

1 Nov 2019 (continued)

14:30–15:45 Workshop 5: Discourse Structure in Neural NLG

14:30–15:45 workshop 6: Computational Creativity in Language Generation