LREC 2022 Workshop
Language Resources and Evaluation Conference
20-25 June 2022

Workshop on Resources and Technologies for Indigenous, Endangered and Lesser-resourced Languages in Eurasia (EURALI)

PROCEEDINGS

Editors:
Atul Kr. Ojha, Sina Ahmadi, Chao-Hong Liu, John P. McCrae
Preface

Eurasia is the largest continental area comprising all of Europe and Asia. It is also home to seven families of more than 2,500 languages spoken. Despite the rich linguistic diversity in this area, the respective language communities are under-represented while their languages are low-resource, endangered and/or systematically politically oppressed in history. Others, such as Kurdish, Gilaki, Santali, Kashmiri, Laz, and Abkhaz, are not only endangered but also understudied. One interesting characteristic of these languages is the influence of communal languages on their lexicon through borrowed words and a partially shared vocabulary of phylogenetically related words (cognates). Furthermore, contact-induced similarities can be observed to some extent even in the syntax of the languages, despite typological differences across different language families. In addition, relying on a lingua franca, many of these linguistic communities are facing standardization issues, particularly in the written form of their respective languages. This commonly results in the use of other scripts by speakers of these under-resourced languages.

In line with the necessity of language technology for under-resourced and understudied languages, this workshop aims to spur the development of resources and tools for indigenous, endangered and lesser-resourced languages in Eurasia. The goal is to increase visibility and promote research for these languages in a global arena. Through collaboration between NLP researchers, language experts and linguists working for endangered languages in these communities, we aim to create language technology that will help to preserve these languages and give them a chance to receive more attention in the language processing realm.

Seeing that this is the first edition of the EURALI workshop, we are very happy to have received many submissions, on various aspects regarding Eurasian languages. In the EURALI 2022 Proceedings, 18 research papers are included, dealing with no fewer than 18 Eurasian languages. We would like to thank all the colleagues who submitted their work to the workshop, the LREC 2022 organisers, as well as reviewers for making the first EURALI workshop a success.

Workshop Chairs

Atul Kr. Ojha, Sina Ahmadi, Chao-Hong Liu and John P. McCrae
Chairs

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Sina Ahmadi, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland
Chao-Hong Liu, Potamu Research Ltd, Ireland
John P. McCrae, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland

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Salih Muradoglu, Australian National University, Australia
Sina Ahmadi, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland
Sourabrata Mukherjee, Charles University, Prague
Sunipa Dev, Google
Theodorus Fransen, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland
Valentin Malykh, Huwaei Norah’s Ark lab
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Monday, June 20, 2022

09:00–10:00  Inagural Session

09:00–09:10  Welcome
             Workshop Chairs

09:10–10:00  Keynote talk
             Dr. Jonathan Washington

10:00–10:30  Oral Session-I

10:00–10:30  NLP Pipeline for Annotating (Endangered) Tibetan and Newar Varieties
             Christian Faggionato, Nathan Hill and Marieke Meelen

10:30–11:00  Coffee break/Poster and Demo session

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             Sabine Tittel

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             Elena Lazarenko and Aleksandr Riaposov

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Monday, June 20, 2022 (continued)

11:10–11:50   Panel Discussion

11:50–12:50   Oral Session-II

Chihiro Taguchi, Sei Iwata and Taro Watanabe

Alp Öktem, Rodolfo Zevallos, Yasmin Moslem, Özgür Güneş Öztürk and Karen Gerson Şarhon

12:50–13:00   Valedictory Session