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Preface

These proceedings include the 13 papers presented at the Ninth Workshop on NLP for Similar Languages, Varieties and Dialects (VarDial), co-located with the 29th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING). Both COLING and VarDial were held in Gyeongju, South Korea, in a hybrid format, allowing all participants to either be present on-site or join virtually.

VarDial has now reached its ninth edition and continues serving the community as the main venue for researchers interested in the computational processing of diatopic language variation. The papers accepted this year address a wide range of NLP tasks such as corpus building, part-of-speech tagging and machine translation, but also address more theoretical questions related to micro-scale variation, cognate detection, mutual intelligibility and dialectometry. We are happy to see such a diverse set of research papers advancing the state of the art of NLP for dialects, low-resource languages, and language varieties.

As in previous years, the evaluation campaign continues to be an essential part of the VarDial workshop. This year, three shared tasks were proposed: Identification of Languages and Dialects of Italy (ITDI), French Cross-Domain Dialect Identification (FDI), and Dialectal Extractive Question Answering (DialQA). All three tasks address important issues in dialect and language identification. This volume includes five system description papers prepared by the participating teams, as well as a report summarizing the results and findings of the evaluation campaign.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the shared task organizers and the participants of the evaluation campaign for their hard work. We further thank our amazing VarDial program committee members for their thorough reviews. They have been a very important part of the workshop’s success in the past years.

The VarDial workshop organizers:

Yves Scherrer, Tommi Jauhiainen, Nikola Ljubešić, Preslav Nakov, Jörg Tiedemann, and Marcos Zampieri

http://sites.google.com/view/vardial-2022/
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Conference Program

Sunday, October 20, 2022

10:00–10:10  **Opening Session**

10:10–10:30  *Findings of the VarDial Evaluation Campaign 2022*
    Noëmi Aepli, Antonios Anastasopoulos, Adrian-Gabriel Chifu, William Domingues, Fahim Faisal, Mihaela Gaman, Radu Tudor Ionescu and Yves Scherrer

10:30–10:45  *Transfer Learning Improves French Cross-Domain Dialect Identification: NRC @ VarDial 2022*
    Gabriel Bernier-Colborne, Serge Leger and Cyril Goutte

10:45–11:00  *Is Encoder-Decoder Transformer the Shiny Hammer?*
    Nat Gillin

11:00–11:30  **Coffee break**

11:30–11:45  *Italian Language and Dialect Identification and Regional French Variety Detection using Adaptive Naive Bayes*
    Tommi Jauhiainen, Heidi Jauhiainen and Krister Lindén

11:45–12:00  *The Curious Case of Logistic Regression for Italian Languages and Dialects Identification*
    Giacomo Camposampiero, Quynh Anh Nguyen and Francesco Di Stefano

12:00–12:15  *Neural Networks for Cross-domain Language Identification. Phlyers @Vardial 2022*
    Andrea Ceolin

12:15–13:15  **Invited Talk by Tanja Samardžić (University of Zurich)**

13:15–14:30  **Lunch break**

    *Phonetic, Semantic, and Articulatory Features in Assamese-Bengali Cognate Detection*
    Abhijnan Nath, Rahul Ghosh and Nikhil Krishnaswamy

14:30–15:00  *Annotating Norwegian language varieties on Twitter for Part-of-speech*
    Petter Mæhlum, Andre Kåsen, Samia Touileb and Jeremy Barnes

15:00–15:15  *OcWikiDisc: a Corpus of Wikipedia Talk Pages in Occitan*
    Aleksandra Miletic and Yves Scherrer
Sunday, October 20, 2022
15:45–16:00  Low-Resource Neural Machine Translation: A Case Study of Cantonese
Evelyn Kai-Yan Liu

16:00–16:30  Coffee break

16:30–17:00  Mapping Phonology to Semantics: A Computational Model of Cross-Lingual Spoken-Word Recognition
Iuliia Zaitova, Badr Abdullah and Dietrich Klakow

17:00–17:15  Social Context and User Profiles of Linguistic Variation on a Micro Scale
Olga Kellert and Nicholas Hill Matlis

17:15–17:45  dialectR: Doing Dialectometry in R
Ryan Soh-Eun Shim and John Nerbonne

17:45–18:45  Invited Talk by Dong Nguyen (Utrecht University)

18:45–19:00  Closing Remarks