WANLP 2022

The Seventh Arabic Natural Language Processing Workshop

Proceedings of the Workshop

December 8, 2022
The WANLP organizers gratefully acknowledge the support from the following sponsors.

**Google Research**
Welcome to The Seventh Arabic Natural Language Processing Workshop (WANLP 2022) held with EMNLP 2022 in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Over the years, WANLP has developed a growing reputation as a high-quality venue for researchers and developers 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), and in virtual mode in COLING 2020 and EACL 2021.

In this iteration of WANLP, we received 68 main workshop submissions (50 long, 14 short, and 4 demos). The total number of submissions is higher than all the earlier editions of the workshop. All papers submitted to the main workshop were reviewed by at least three reviewers each. Out of the 68 submissions, 36 were accepted: 31 long papers, two short papers, and three demo papers. We selected 13 papers for oral presentation and the rest as posters. We did not distinguish between long and short papers, or between oral and poster presentations in terms of quality.

WANLP 2022 included, for the first time, three shared tasks: The third edition of the Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification (NADI) shared task, the Gender Rewriting Shared Task, and the Shared Task on Propaganda Detection in Arabic. NADI received submissions from 21 teams, 15 of which have system descriptions in the proceedings. The Gender Rewriting Shared Task received submissions from five teams, two of which have system descriptions in the proceedings. The Shared Task on Propaganda Detection in Arabic received submissions from 17 teams, 11 of which have system descriptions in the proceedings. The shared task system descriptions papers were reviewed by two reviewers each. Three additional shared task overview papers are included in the proceedings. The overview papers are presented in an oral session in the workshop.

For the second time, our workshop was able to secure sponsorship funding (Thanks to Google Research!) which we used to support student registrations.

In another success for the WANLP community, a new Special Interest Group on Arabic NLP (SIGARAB) was created in early 2022 by the advisory committee responsible for WANLP, building on its history of successful organization and collaboration.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who submitted a paper to the workshop, as well as all the 83 members of the Program Committee, who worked hard to provide high-quality reviews on time. Organizing WANLP 2022 is a team effort.

Houda Bouamor, General Chair, on behalf of the workshop organizers.

Website of the workshop: http://wanlp2022.arabic-nlp.net/
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Invited Speaker
Karim Bouzoubaa, Mohammadia School of Engineers at the Mohammed 5th University of Rabat
Keynote Talk: Digital Preservation of Arabic between Linguistics and AI
Karim Bouzoubaa
Mohammadia School of Engineers at the Mohammed 5th University of Rabat

Abstract: Languages are one of the oldest studied disciplines as they are intimately linked to the existence of human beings. The study of languages is a multidisciplinary field which has attracted the interest of several related fields such as linguistics and NLP, each providing additional knowledge for language understanding, learning, evolution, or preservation. From the technological point of view, computer science in general and artificial intelligence in particular study languages through natural language processing techniques, where the main goal is to discover linguistic patterns from corpora without resorting to linguists at all in many cases. Research in this field is diverse and currently benefits from advances in machine learning and deep learning techniques. One of the less studied aspects is the use and exploitation of these techniques for language preservation needs, for language comprehension needs or for the explanation of linguistic phenomena. The objective of this talk is to emphasize this perspective and to show through concrete cases how through the exploitation of several old and new computer and AI techniques, we can advance the digital preservation of Arabic and the explanation of some linguistic properties.

Bio: Karim Bouzoubaa is a Professor of computer science at the Mohammadia School of Engineers at the Mohammed 5th University of Rabat. Prof. Bouzoubaa holds a M.Sc. and a Ph.D. from Laval University in Canada in Artificial Intelligence and multi-agent systems fields. He is a research-driven professional with a distinctive combination of leadership, research and development, and education in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science. He contributed to the release of the Amine platform for the development of intelligent systems. He has published two books and over a hundred papers in top-ranked conferences and journals, taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and worked on various R&D projects. He is the founding president of the Arabic Language Engineering Society in Morocco and the director of the Language Engineering lab. His research interests include Arabic NLP, NLP frameworks, Linguistic Resources and ontologies, IR and QA systems, Dialect processing, and Cognitive systems. He has led research teams, developed research programs, and has a long experience with most AI paradigms from the old to the newest ones. Prof Bouzoubaa is a Fulbright fellow and was a visiting professor at many institutions. He chaired and organized many international conferences, and was co-guest editor of the Special Issue on “Advances in Arabic Language Processing” for the International Journal on Information and Communication Technologies.
Table of Contents

CAraNER: The COVID-19 Arabic Named Entity Corpus
   Abdulmohsen Al-Thubaity, Sakhar Alkhereyf, Wejdan Alzahrani and Alia Bahanshal .......... 1

Joint Coreference Resolution for Zeros and non-Zeros in Arabic
   Abdulrahman Aloraini, Sameer Pradhan and Massimo Poesio ................................. 11

SAIDS: A Novel Approach for Sentiment Analysis Informed of Dialect and Sarcasm
   Abdelrahman Kaseb and Mona Farouk ................................................................. 22

AraBART: a Pretrained Arabic Sequence-to-Sequence Model for Abstractive Summarization
   Moussa Kamal Eddine, Nadi Tomeh, Nizar Habash, Joseph Le Roux and Michalis Vazirgiannis 31

Towards Arabic Sentence Simplification via Classification and Generative Approaches
   Nouran Khallaf, Serge Sharoff and Rasha Soliman ................................................. 43

Generating Classical Arabic Poetry using Pre-trained Models
   Nehal Elkaref, Mervat Abu-Elkheir, Maryam ElOraby and Mohamed Abdelgaber ............ 53

A Benchmark Study of Contrastive Learning for Arabic Social Meaning
   Md Tawkat Islam Khondaker, El Moatez Billah Nagoudi, AbdelRahim Elmadany, Muhammad Abdul-Mageed and Laks Lakshmanan, V.S ................................................. 63

Adversarial Text-to-Speech for low-resource languages
   Ashraf Elneima and Mikolaj Biskowski ............................................................... 76

NADI 2022: The Third Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification Shared Task
   Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, Chiyu Zhang, AbdelRahim Elmadany, Houda Bouamor and Nizar Habash ................................................................. 85

The Shared Task on Gender Rewriting

Overview of the WANLP 2022 Shared Task on Propaganda Detection in Arabic
   Firoj Alam, Hamdy Mubarak, Wajdi Zaghouani, Giovanni Da San Martino and Preslav Nakov 108

ArzEn-ST: A Three-way Speech Translation Corpus for Code-Switched Egyptian Arabic-English
   Injy Hamed, Nizar Habash, Slim Abdennadher and Ngoc Thang Vu .............................. 119

Maknuune: A Large Open Palestinian Arabic Lexicon
   Shahd Salah Uddin Dibas, Christian Khairallah, Nizar Habash, Omar Fayez Sadi, Tariq Sairafy, Karmel Sarabta and Abrar Ardah ................................................................. 131

Developing a Tag-Set and Extracting the Morphological Lexicons to Build a Morphological Analyzer for Egyptian Arabic
   Amany Fashwan and Sameh Alansary ............................................................... 142

A Weak Supervised Transfer Learning Approach for Sentiment Analysis to the Kuwaiti Dialect
   Fatemah Husain, Hana Al-Ostad and Halima Omar ................................................. 161

Mawqif: A Multi-label Arabic Dataset for Target-specific Stance Detection
   Nora Saleh Alturayef, Hamzah Abdullah Luqman and Moataz Aly Kamaleldin Ahmed .... 174
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessing the Linguistic Knowledge in Arabic Pre-trained Language Models Using Minimal Pairs</td>
<td>Wafa Abdullah Alrajhi, Hend Al-Khalifa and Abdulmalik AlSalman</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifying Code-switching in Arabizi</td>
<td>Safaa Shehadi and Shuly Wintner</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorship Verification for Arabic Short Texts Using Arabic Knowledge-Base Model (AraKB)</td>
<td>Fatimah Alqahtani and Helen Yannakoudakis</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Semi-supervised Approach for a Better Translation of Sentiment in Dialectical Arabic UGT</td>
<td>Hadeel Saadany, Constantin Oräsan, Emad Mohamed and Ashraf Tantawy</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-lingual transfer for low-resource Arabic language understanding</td>
<td>Khadige Abboud, Olga Golovneva and Christopher DiPersio</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving POS Tagging for Arabic Dialects on Out-of-Domain Texts</td>
<td>Noor Abo Mokh, Daniel Dakota and Sandra Kübler</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domain Adaptation for Arabic Crisis Response</td>
<td>Reem Alrashidi and Simon O’Keefe</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakly and Semi-Supervised Learning for Arabic Text Classification using Monodialectal Language Models</td>
<td>Reem AlYami and Rabah Al-Zaidy</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event-Based Knowledge MLM for Arabic Event Detection</td>
<td>Asma Z Yamani, Amjad K Alsulami and Rabeah A Al-Zaidy</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing a Baseline for Arabic Patents Classification: A Comparison of Twelve Approaches</td>
<td>Taif Omar Al-Omar, Hend Al-Khalifa and Rawan Al-Matham</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towards Learning Arabic Morphophonology</td>
<td>Salam Khalifa, Jordan Kodner and Owen Rambow</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ArabIE: Joint Entity, Relation and Event Extraction for Arabic</td>
<td>Mariam Hassib, Nancy Hossam, Jolie Sameh and Marwan Torki</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End-to-End Speech Translation of Arabic to English Broadcast News</td>
<td>Fethi Bougares and Salim Jouili</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic Keyphrase Extraction: Enhancing Deep Learning Models with Pre-trained Contextual Embedding and External Features</td>
<td>Randah Alharbi and Husni Al-Muhtasab</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emoji Sentiment Roles for Sentiment Analysis: A Case Study in Arabic Texts</td>
<td>Shatha Ali A. Hakami, Robert Hendley and Phillip Smith</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning From Arabic Corpora But Not Always From Arabic Speakers: A Case Study of the Arabic Wikipedia Editions
Saied Alshahrani, Esma Wali and Jeanna Matthews .......................................................361

A Pilot Study on the Collection and Computational Analysis of Linguistic Differences Amongst Men and Women in a Kuwaiti Arabic WhatsApp Dataset
Hesah Aldihan, Robert Gaizauskas and Susan Fitzmaurice ..............................................372

Beyond Arabic: Software for Perso-Arabic Script Manipulation
Alexander Gutkin, Cibu Johny, Raiomond Doctor, Brian Roark and Richard Sproat .............381

Coreference Annotation of an Arabic Corpus using a Virtual World Game
Wateen Abdullah Aliady, Abdulrahman Aloraini, Christopher Madge, Juntao Yu, Richard Bartle and Massimo Poesio .................................................................388

NatiQ: An End-to-end Text-to-Speech System for Arabic
Ahmed Abdelali, Nadir Durrani, Cenk Demiroglu, Fahim Dalvi, Hamdy Mubarak and Kareem Darwish.................................................................394

The Effect of Arabic Dialect Familiarity on Data Annotation
Ibrahim Abu Farha and Walid Magdy ..................................................................................399

Optimizing Naive Bayes for Arabic Dialect Identification
Tommi Jauhiainen, Heidi Jauhiainen and Krister Lindén ..................................................409

iCompass Working Notes for the Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification Shared task
Abir Messaoudi, Chayma Fourati, Hatem Haddad and Moez BenHajhmida .......................415

TF-IDF or Transformers for Arabic Dialect Identification? ITFLOWS participation in the NADI 2022 Shared Task
Fouad Shammary, Yiyi Chen, Zsolt T Kardkovacs, Mehwish Alam and Haithem Afli ...........420

Domain-Adapted BERT-based Models for Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification and Tweet Sentiment Analysis
Giyaseddin Bayrak and ABDUL MAJEED ISSIFU ..............................................................425

Benchmarking transfer learning approaches for sentiment analysis of Arabic dialect
ehma fsih, Sameh Kchaou, Rahma Boujelbane and Lamia Hadrich-Belguith .......................431

SQU-CS @ NADI 2022: Dialectal Arabic Identification using One-vs-One Classification with TF-IDF Weights Computed on Character n-grams
Abdulrahman Khalifa AAIAbdulsalam .................................................................436

Ahmed and Khalil at NADI 2022: Transfer Learning and Addressing Class Imbalance for Arabic Dialect Identification and Sentiment Analysis
Ahmed Oumar and Khalil Mrini ....................................................................................442

Arabic Sentiment Analysis by Pretrained Ensemble
Abdelrahim Qaddoumi ....................................................................................................447

Dialect & Sentiment Identification in Nuanced Arabic Tweets Using an Ensemble of Prompt-based, Fine-tuned, and Multitask BERT-Based Models
Reem Abdel-Salam .......................................................................................................452

On The Arabic Dialects’ Identification: Overcoming Challenges of Geographical Similarities Between Arabic dialects and Imbalanced Datasets
Salma Jamal, Aly M.Kassem, Omar Mohamed and Ali Ashraf ............................................458
Arabic dialect identification using machine learning and transformer-based models: Submission to the NADI 2022 Shared Task
Nouf AlShenaifi and Aqil Azmi .......................................................... 464

NLP DI at NADI Shared Task Subtask-1: Sub-word Level Convolutional Neural Models and Pre-trained Binary Classifiers for Dialect Identification
Vani Kanjiringat, Tanja Samardzic, Ljiljana Dolamic and Fabio Rinaldi ........................................... 468

Word Representation Models for Arabic Dialect Identification

Building an Ensemble of Transformer Models for Arabic Dialect Classification and Sentiment Analysis
Abdullah Salem Khered, Ingy Yasser Hassan Abdou Abdelhalim and Riza Batista-Navarro . 479

Arabic Dialect Identification and Sentiment Classification using Transformer-based Models
Joseph Attieh and Fadi Hassan .......................................................... 485

Generative Approach for Gender-Rewriting Task with ArabicT5
Sultan Alrowili and Vijay Shanker ....................................................... 491

AraProp at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Leveraging Pre-Trained Language Models for Arabic Propaganda Detection
Gaurav Singh ................................................................. 496

TUB at WANLP22 Shared Task: Using Semantic Similarity for Propaganda Detection in Arabic
Salar Mohtaj and Sebastian Möller ............................................. 501

SI2M & AIOX Labs at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic, A Data Augmentation and Name Entity Recognition Approach
Kamel Gaanoun and Imade Benellalam ............................................. 506

iCompass at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: ARBERT and MARBERT for Multilabel Propaganda Classification of Arabic Tweets
Bilel - Taboubi, Bechir Brahem and Hatem Haddad .................................................. 511

ChavanKane at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Large Language Models for Multi-label Propaganda Detection
Tanmay Chavan and Aditya Manish Kane .................................................. 515

AraBERT Model for Propaganda Detection
MohamadSharara, Wissam Mohamad, Ralph Tawil, Ralph Chobok, Wolf Assi and Antonio Tannoury .......................................................... 520

AraBEM at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic Tweets
Eshrag Ali Refae, Basem Ahmed and Motaz Saad .................................................. 524

IITD at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Multilingual Multi-Granularity Network for Propaganda Detection
Shubham Mittal and Preslav Nakov .................................................. 529

Pythoneers at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Monolingual AraBERT for Arabic Propaganda Detection and Span Extraction
Joseph Attieh and Fadi Hassan .......................................................... 534

CNLP-NITS-PP at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic using Data Augmentation and AraBERT Pre-trained Model
Sahinur Rahman Laskar, Rahul Singh, Abdullah Faiz Ur Rahman Khilji, Riyanka Manna, Partha Pakray and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay .................................................. 541

xii
Program

Thursday, December 8, 2022

09:00 - 09:05  Opening Remarks

09:10 - 10:00  Invited Talk

10:00 - 10:30  Session 1 - Information Extraction (in-Person)

CAraNER: The COVID-19 Arabic Named Entity Corpus
Abdulmohsen Al-Thubaity, Sakhar Alkhereyf, Wejdan Alzahrani and Alia Bahanshal

Joint Coreference Resolution for Zeros and non-Zeros in Arabic
Abdulrahman Aloraini, Sameer Pradhan and Massimo Poesio

10:30 - 11:00  Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:30  Session 2 - NLU/NLG (in-Person)

SAIDS: A Novel Approach for Sentiment Analysis Informed of Dialect and Sarcasm
Abdelrahman Kaseb and Mona Farouk

AraBART: a Pretrained Arabic Sequence-to-Sequence Model for Abstractive Summarization
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Adversarial Text-to-Speech for low-resource languages
Ashraf Elneima and Mikołaj Bińkowski
Thursday, December 8, 2022 (continued)

12:30 - 14:00  Lunch Break

14:00 - 14:45  Panel discussion: Young Researchers in Arabic NLP

14:45 - 15:00  Best Paper Award Oral Presentation (in-Person)

15:00 - 15:30  Shared Task Papers (in-Person)

**NADI 2022: The Third Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification Shared Task**
Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, Chiyu Zhang, AbdelRahim Elmadany, Houda Bouamor and Nizar Habash

**The Shared Task on Gender Rewriting**
Bashar Alhafni, Nizar Habash, Houda Bouamor, Ossama Obeid, Sultan Alrowili, Daliiyah AlZeer, Kawla Mohmad Shnqiti, Ahmed Elbakry, Muhammad El-Nokrashy, Mohamed Gabr, Abderrahmane Issam, Abdelrahim Qaddoumi, Vijay Shanker and Mahmoud Zyate

**Overview of the WANLP 2022 Shared Task on Propaganda Detection in Arabic**
Firoj Alam, Hamdy Mubarak, Wajdi Zaghouani, Giovanni Da San Martino and Preslav Nakov

15:30 - 16:00  Coffee Break

16:00 - 17:00  Session 3 - Arabic Dialects (in-Person)

**ArzEn-ST: A Three-way Speech Translation Corpus for Code-Switched Egyptian Arabic-English**
Injy Hamed, Nizar Habash, Slim Abdennadher and Ngoc Thang Vu

**Maknuune: A Large Open Palestinian Arabic Lexicon**
Shahd Salah Uddin Dibas, Christian Khairallah, Nizar Habash, Omar Fayez Sadi, Tariq Sairafy, Karmel Sarabta and Abrar Ardah

**Developing a Tag-Set and Extracting the Morphological Lexicons to Build a Morphological Analyzer for Egyptian Arabic**
Amany Fashwan and Sameh Alansary

**A Weak Supervised Transfer Learning Approach for Sentiment Analysis to the Kuwaiti Dialect**
Fatema Husain, Hana Al-Ostad and Halima Omar
Thursday, December 8, 2022 (continued)

17:00 - 18:15  Main Workshop Posters (in-Person & virtual)

**Mawqif: A Multi-label Arabic Dataset for Target-specific Stance Detection**
Nora Saleh Alturayeif, Hamzah Abdullah Luqman and Moataz Aly Kamaleldin Ahmed

**Assessing the Linguistic Knowledge in Arabic Pre-trained Language Models Using Minimal Pairs**
Wafa Abdullah Alrajhi, Hend Al-Khalifa and Abdulmalik AlSalman

**Identifying Code-switching in Arabizi**
Safaa Shehadi and Shuly Wintner

**Authorship Verification for Arabic Short Texts Using Arabic Knowledge-Base Model (AraKB)**
Fatimah Alqahtani and Helen Yannakoudakis

**A Semi-supervised Approach for a Better Translation of Sentiment in Dialectical Arabic UGT**
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**Cross-lingual transfer for low-resource Arabic language understanding**
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**Domain Adaptation for Arabic Crisis Response**
Reem Al rashdi and Simon O’Keefe

**Weakly and Semi-Supervised Learning for Arabic Text Classification using Monodialectal Language Models**
Reem AlYami and Rabah Al-Zaidy

**Event-Based Knowledge MLM for Arabic Event Detection**
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Establishing a Baseline for Arabic Patents Classification: A Comparison of Twelve Approaches
Taif Omar Al-Omar, Hend Al-Khalifa and Rawan Al-Matham

Towards Learning Arabic Morphophonology
Salam Khalifa, Jordan Kodner and Owen Rambow

AraDepSu: Detecting Depression and Suicidal Ideation in Arabic Tweets Using Transformers
Mariam Hassib, Nancy Hossam, Jolie Sameh and Marwan Torki

End-to-End Speech Translation of Arabic to English Broadcast News
Fethi Bougares and Salim Jouili

Arabic Keyphrase Extraction: Enhancing Deep Learning Models with Pre-trained Contextual Embedding and External Features
Randah Alharbi and Husni Al-Muhtasab

ArabIE: Joint Entity, Relation and Event Extraction for Arabic
Niama El Khbir, Nadi Tomeh and Thierry Charnois

Emoji Sentiment Roles for Sentiment Analysis: A Case Study in Arabic Texts
Shatha Ali A. Hakami, Robert Hendley and Phillip Smith

Gulf Arabic Diacritization: Guidelines, Initial Dataset, and Results

Learning From Arabic Corpora But Not Always From Arabic Speakers: A Case Study of the Arabic Wikipedia Editions
Saied Alshahrani, Esma Wali and Jeanna Matthews

A Pilot Study on the Collection and Computational Analysis of Linguistic Differences Amongst Men and Women in a Kuwaiti Arabic WhatsApp Dataset
Hesah Aldihan, Robert Gaizauskas and Susan Fitzmaurice

17:00 - 18:15 EMNLP Findings Posters (in-Person & virtual)
Thursday, December 8, 2022 (continued)

Improving English-Arabic Transliteration with Phonemic Memories
Yan Song, Shengyi JIANG, Lianxi Wang, Xiangyu Pang, Renze Lou and Yuanhe Tian

Sarcasm Detection is Way Too Easy! An Empirical Comparison of Human and Machine Sarcasm Detection
Walid Magdy, Silviu Oprea, Steven Wilson and Ibrahim Abu Farha

17:00 - 18:15 Demos (in-Person & virtual)

Beyond Arabic: Software for Perso-Arabic Script Manipulation
Alexander Gutkin, Cibu Johny, Raimond Doctor, Brian Roark and Richard Sproat

Coreference Annotation of an Arabic Corpus using a Virtual World Game
Wateen Abdullah Aliady, Abdulrahman Aloraini, Christopher Madge, Juntao Yu, Richard Bartle and Massimo Poesio

NatiQ: An End-to-end Text-to-Speech System for Arabic
Ahmed Abdelali, Nadir Durrani, Cenk Demiroglu, Fahim Dalvi, Hamdy Mubarak and Kareem Darwish

17:00 - 18:15 NADI Shared Task (in-Person & virtual)

Optimizing Naive Bayes for Arabic Dialect Identification
Tommi Jauhiainen, Heidi Jauhiainen and Krister Lindén

iCompass Working Notes for the Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification Shared task
Abir Messaoudi, Chayma Fourati, Hatem Haddad and Moez BenHajhmida

TF-IDF or Transformers for Arabic Dialect Identification? ITFLOWS participation in the NADI 2022 Shared Task
Fouad Shammary, Yiyi Chen, Zsolt T Kardkovacs, Mehwish Alam and Haithem Afli

Domain-Adapted BERT-based Models for Nuanced Arabic Dialect Identification and Tweet Sentiment Analysis
Giyaseddin Bayrak and ABDUL MAJEED ISSIFU

Benchmarking transfer learning approaches for sentiment analysis of Arabic dialect
enma fsih, Sameh Kchaou, Rahma Boujelbane and Lamia Hadrich-Belguith
Thursday, December 8, 2022 (continued)

SQU-CS @ NADI 2022: Dialectal Arabic Identification using One-vs-One Classification with TF-IDF Weights Computed on Character n-grams
Abdulrahman Khalifa AAlAbdulsalam

Ahmed and Khalil at NADI 2022: Transfer Learning and Addressing Class Imbalance for Arabic Dialect Identification and Sentiment Analysis
Ahmed Oumar and Khalil Mrini

Arabic Sentiment Analysis by Pretrained Ensemble
Abdelrahim Qaddoumi

Dialect & Sentiment Identification in Nuanced Arabic Tweets Using an Ensemble of Prompt-based, Fine-tuned, and Multitask BERT-Based Models
Reem Abdel-Salam

On The Arabic Dialects’ Identification: Overcoming Challenges of Geographical Similarities Between Arabic dialects and Imbalanced Datasets
Salma Jamal, Aly M. Kassem, Omar Mohamed and Ali Ashraf

Arabic dialect identification using machine learning and transformer-based models: Submission to the NADI 2022 Shared Task
Nouf AlShenaifi and Aqil Azmi

NLP DI at NADI Shared Task Subtask-1: Sub-word Level Convolutional Neural Models and Pre-trained Binary Classifiers for Dialect Identification
Vani Kanjirangat, Tanja Samardzic, Ljiljana Dolamic and Fabio Rinaldi

Word Representation Models for Arabic Dialect Identification
Mahmoud Sobhy, Ahmed H. Abu El-Atta, Ahmed A. El-Sawy and Hamada Nayel

Building an Ensemble of Transformer Models for Arabic Dialect Classification and Sentiment Analysis
Abdullah Salem Khered, Ingy Yasser Hassan Abdou Abdelhalim and Riza Batista-Navarro

Arabic Dialect Identification and Sentiment Classification using Transformer-based Models
Joseph Attieh and Fadi Hassan

17:00 - 18:15 Gender Rewriting Shared Task Posters (in-Person & virtual)
Thursday, December 8, 2022 (continued)

Generative Approach for Gender-Rewriting Task with ArabicT5
Sultan Alrowili and Vijay Shanker

17:00 - 18:15  Propaganda Detection Shared Task Posters (in-Person & virtual)

AraProp at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Leveraging Pre-Trained Language Models for Arabic Propaganda Detection
Gaurav Singh

TUB at WANLP22 Shared Task: Using Semantic Similarity for Propaganda Detection in Arabic
Salar Mohtaj and Sebastian Möller

SI2M & AIOX Labs at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic, A Data Augmentation and Name Entity Recognition Approach
Kamel Gaanoun and Imade Benelallam

iCompass at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: ARBERT and MARBERT for Multilabel Propaganda Classification of Arabic Tweets
Bilel - Taboubi, Bechir Brahem and Hatem Haddad

ChavanKane at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Large Language Models for Multi-label Propaganda Detection
Tanmay Chavan and Aditya Manish Kane

AraBERT Model for Propaganda Detection
Mohamad Sharara, Wissam Mohamad, Ralph Tawil, Ralph Chobok, Wolf Assi and Antonio Tannoury

AraBEM at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic Tweets
Eshrag Ali Refae, Basem Ahmed and Motaz Saad

IITD at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Multilingual Multi-Granularity Network for Propaganda Detection
Shubham Mittal and Preslav Nakov

Pythoneers at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Monolingual AraBERT for Arabic Propaganda Detection and Span Extraction
Joseph Attieh and Fadi Hassan
CNLP-NITS-PP at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic using Data Augmentation and AraBERT Pre-trained Model
Sahinur Rahman Laskar, Rahul Singh, Abdullah Faiz Ur Rahman Khilji, Riyanka Manna, Partha Pakray and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay

NGU CNLP at WANLP 2022 Shared Task: Propaganda Detection in Arabic
Ahmed Samir Hussein, Abu Bakr Soliman Mohammad, Mohamed Ibrahim, Laila Hesham Afify and Samhaa R. El-Beltagy

17:00 - 18:30  Closing Ceremony