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In 2023 again most papers were published in a special issue. The current edition compiles articles that were submitted, reviewed, and accepted through the regular thematic open call. The first paper by Barack Wanjawa et al. outlines the creation of a corpus encompassing three languages spoken in Kenya, accompanied by initial examples illustrating its application. This research holds profound significance, not only facilitating the research to the broader comprehension of natural language principles — potentially obscured when examining a limited subset of languages — but also fostering the development of applications for these under-resourced languages.

In another way, the second paper, by Louis Mahon and Carlo Vogel, the second paper also diverges from the prevailing trends in current NLP research, which predominantly revolves around the use of large language models. In their paper, “The Proof is in the Pudding: Using Automated Theorem Proving to Generate Cooking Recipes”, they employ a rule based system to generate text from a discourse representation of a cooking recipe, that itself is generated by an automated theorem-proving procedure.

For every submission, we make concerted efforts to secure expert reviewers familiar with the paper’s specific topic. We are very grateful to the reviewers of the papers of this issue as well as to the reviewers of the papers submitted in 2023 but rejected for publication. Unfortunately, due to the reviewers’ expertise in the domain, we cannot disclose their names without compromising the anonymity of the peer review process.

We are looking forward to numerous submission in 2024 and encourage all researchers to contribute papers addressing current trends in NLP and computational linguistics, as well as topics not currently in the spotlight at major conferences but still embodying valuable and compelling research.

Christian Wartena