

The 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Computational Linguistics

## **AbjadNLP**

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on NLP for Languages Using Arabic Script**

### **Editors**

Mo El-Haj      Amal Haddad      Cynthia Amol

Sina Ahmadi      Hugh Paterson III

Ignatius Ezeani      Saad Ezzini      Paul Rayson

Proceedings of the Workshop

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Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)  
209 N. Eighth Street  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
USA  
Tel: +1-570-476-8006  
Fax: +1-570-476-0860  
[acl@aclweb.org](mailto:acl@aclweb.org)

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## Preface

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the inaugural edition of the AbjadNLP Workshop, an event dedicated to advancing research and applications for languages that use the Arabic script in Natural Language Processing (NLP). This workshop serves as a vital platform to unite researchers and practitioners addressing the linguistic, cultural, and computational challenges inherent to these languages, fostering innovative solutions for low-resource and historically underrepresented languages.

We received 27 submissions, of which 16 papers were accepted, resulting in an acceptance rate of approximately 59%. This strong start underscores the growing recognition of the significance of Arabic-script languages within the NLP community.

The submissions to this workshop showcased remarkable diversity, reflecting the linguistic and cultural richness of languages that utilise the Arabic script. Contributions span a variety of languages, including Wolofal, a form of Ajami script used for the Wolof language in West Africa; Persian, which, despite its long tradition of NLP research, continues to face challenges related to limited resources in stylistic and dialectal variations; and Turkish, focusing on the integration of Arabic-origin words into the Turkish language and its linguistic evolution. Additionally, research on Perso-Arabic scripts, used in languages such as Persian, Urdu, Pashto, and others, underscores the flexibility and adaptability of the Arabic script across diverse linguistic families and regions.

The workshop also includes studies on Arabic, exploring fundamental challenges and methodologies that can inform research on other low-resource Abjad and Ajami languages. Collectively, these contributions highlight the breadth of research addressing both resource-rich and low-resource languages, advancing our understanding of the unique computational challenges posed by Arabic-script languages.

I am deeply grateful to our co-organisers, reviewers, and authors for their invaluable contributions to this workshop. Their dedication and expertise have ensured the high quality of this year's programme, and their work paves the way for future innovations in this field.

This workshop represents a significant step towards building a vibrant and collaborative community dedicated to Arabic-script languages in NLP. We look forward to inspiring presentations, engaging discussions, and continued growth in the coming years.

Thank you for joining us, and I hope you find this workshop as inspiring as we do.

Mo El-Haj  
Chair Organiser  
AbjadNLP Workshop



## **Organizing Committee**

Mo El-Haj

Hugh Paterson III

Saad Ezzini

Ignatius Ezeani

Mahum Hayat Khan

Muhammad Sharjeel

Sina Ahmadi

Cynthia Amol

Amal Haddad Haddad

Jaleh Delfani

Ruslan Mitkov

Paul Rayson



## Table of Contents

<i>The Best of Both Worlds: Exploring Wolofal in the Context of NLP</i> Ngoc Tan Le, Ali Mijiyawa, Abdoulatif Leye and Fatiha Sadat . . . . .	1
<i>MultiProp Framework: Ensemble Models for Enhanced Cross-Lingual Propaganda Detection in Social Media and News using Data Augmentation, Text Segmentation, and Meta-Learning</i> Farizeh Aldabbas, Shaina Ashraf, Rafet Sifa and Lucie Flek . . . . .	7
<i>Towards Unified Processing of Perso-Arabic Scripts for ASR</i> Srihari Bandarupalli, Bhavana Akkiraju, Sri Charan Devarakonda, Harinie Sivaramasethu, Vamshiraghushimha Narasinga and Anil Vuppala . . . . .	23
<i>In-Depth Analysis of Arabic-Origin Words in the Turkish Morphology</i> Mounes Zaval, Abdullah İhsanoğlu, Asım Ersoy and Olcay Taner Yıldız . . . . .	29
<i>DadmaTools V2: an Adapter-Based Natural Language Processing Toolkit for the Persian Language</i> sadeqh jafari, Farhan Farsi, Navid Ebrahimi, Mohamad Bagher Sajadi and Sauleh Eetemadi . . . . .	37
<i>Developing an Informal-Formal Persian Corpus: Highlighting the Differences between Two Writing Styles</i> Vahide Tajalli, Mehrnoush Shamsfard and Fateme Kalantari . . . . .	44
<i>Boosting Sentiment Analysis in Persian through a GAN-Based Synthetic Data Augmentation Method</i> Masoumeh Mohammadi, Mohammad Ruhul Amin and Shadi Tavakoli . . . . .	54
<i>Psychological Health Chatbot, Detecting and Assisting Patients in their Path to Recovery</i> sadeqh jafari, Mohammad Erfan Zare, Amireza Vishte, Mirzae Melike, Zahra Amiri, Sima Mohammadparast and Sauleh Eetemadi . . . . .	64
<i>A Derivational ChainBank for Modern Standard Arabic</i> Reham Marzouk, sondos krouna and Nizar Habash . . . . .	78
<i>Sentiment Analysis of Arabic Tweets Using Large Language Models</i> Pankaj Dadure, Ananya Dixit, Kunal Tewatia, Nandini Paliwal and Anshika Malla . . . . .	88
<i>Evaluating Large Language Models on Health-Related Claims Across Arabic Dialects</i> Abdulsalam obaid Alharbi, Abdullah Alsuhaibani, Abdulrahman Abdullah Alalawi, Usman Naseem, Shoaib Jameel, salil kanhere and Imran Razzak . . . . .	95
<i>Can LLMs Verify Arabic Claims? Evaluating the Arabic Fact-Checking Abilities of Multilingual LLMs</i> Ayushman Gupta, Aryan Singhal, Thomas Law, Veekshith Rao, Evan Duan and Ryan Luo Li . . . . .	104
<i>Can LLMs Translate Cultural Nuance in Dialects? A Case Study on Lebanese Arabic</i> silvana yakhni and Ali Chehab . . . . .	114
<i>Automated Generation of Arabic Verb Conjugations with Multilingual Urdu Translation: An NLP Approach</i> Haq Nawaz, Manal Elobaid, Ali Al-Laith and Saif Ullah . . . . .	136
<i>Evaluation of Large Language Models on Arabic Punctuation Prediction</i> Asma Ali Al Wazrah, Afrah Altamimi, Hawra Aljasim, Waad Alshammari, Rawan Al-Matham, Omar Elnashar, Mohamed Amin and Abdulrahman AIOsaimy . . . . .	144

*Evaluating RAG Pipelines for Arabic Lexical Information Retrieval: A Comparative Study of Embedding and Generation Models*

Raghad Al-Rasheed, Abdullah Al Muaddi, Hawra Aljasim, Rawan Al-Matham, Muneera Alhoshan, Asma Al Wazrah and Abdulrahman AlOsaimy ..... 155



# Conference Program

**Sunday, January 19, 2025**

**9:00–9:05**      **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

09:05–09:25    *The Best of Both Worlds: Exploring Wolofal in the Context of NLP*  
Ngoc Tan Le, Ali Mijiyawa, Abdoulahat Leye and Fatiha Sadat

09:25–09:45    *MultiProp Framework: Ensemble Models for Enhanced Cross-Lingual Propaganda Detection in Social Media and News using Data Augmentation, Text Segmentation, and Meta-Learning*  
Farizeh Aldabbas, Shaina Ashraf, Rafet Sifa and Lucie Flek

09:45–10:05    *Towards Unified Processing of Perso-Arabic Scripts for ASR*  
Srihari Bandrupalli, Bhavana Akkiraju, Sri Charan Devarakonda, Harinie Sivaramasethu, Vamshiraghusimha Narasinga and Anil Vuppala

10:05–10:25    *In-Depth Analysis of Arabic-Origin Words in the Turkish MorphoLex*  
Mounes Zaval, Abdullah İhsanoğlu, Asim Ersoy and Olcay Taner Yıldız

**Coffee Break**

11:00–11:20    *DadmaTools V2: an Adapter-Based Natural Language Processing Toolkit for the Persian Language*  
sadegh jafari, Farhan Farsi, Navid Ebrahimi, Mohamad Bagher Sajadi and Sauleh Eetemadi

11:20–11:40    *Developing an Informal-Formal Persian Corpus: Highlighting the Differences between Two Writing Styles*  
Vahide Tajalli, Mehrnoush Shamsfard and Fateme Kalantari

11:40–12:00    *Boosting Sentiment Analysis in Persian through a GAN-Based Synthetic Data Augmentation Method*  
Masoumeh Mohammadi, Mohammad Ruhul Amin and Shadi Tavakoli

12:00–12:20    *Psychological Health Chatbot, Detecting and Assisting Patients in their Path to Recovery*  
sadegh jafari, Mohammad Erfan Zare, Amireza Vishte, Mirzae Melike, Zahra Amiri, Sima Mohammadparast and Sauleh Eetemadi

## Lunch Break

- 13:20–13:40 *A Derivational ChainBank for Modern Standard Arabic*  
Reham Marzouk, sondos krouna and Nizar Habash
- 13:40–14:00 *Sentiment Analysis of Arabic Tweets Using Large Language Models*  
Pankaj Dadure, Ananya Dixit, Kunal Tawatia, Nandini Paliwal and Anshika Malla
- 14:00–14:20 *Evaluating Large Language Models on Health-Related Claims Across Arabic Dialects*  
Abdulsalam obaid Alharbi, Abdullah Alsuhaibani, Abdulrahman Abdullah Alalawi, Usman Naseem, Shoaib Jameel, salil kanhere and Imran Razzak
- 14:20–14:40 *Can LLMs Verify Arabic Claims? Evaluating the Arabic Fact-Checking Abilities of Multilingual LLMs*  
Ayushman Gupta, Aryan Singhal, Thomas Law, Veekshith Rao, Evan Duan and Ryan Luo Li
- 14:40–15:00 *Can LLMs Translate Cultural Nuance in Dialects? A Case Study on Lebanese Arabic*  
silvana yakhni and Ali Chehab
- 15:00–15:20 *Automated Generation of Arabic Verb Conjugations with Multilingual Urdu Translation: An NLP Approach*  
Haq Nawaz, Manal Elobaid, Ali Al-Laith and Saif Ullah

## Coffee Break

- 16:00–16:20 *Evaluation of Large Language Models on Arabic Punctuation Prediction*  
Asma Ali Al Wazrah, Afrah Altamimi, Hawra Aljasim, Waad Alshammari, Rawan Al-Matham, Omar Elnashar, Mohamed Amin and Abdulrahman AIOsaimy
- 16:20–16:40 *Evaluating RAG Pipelines for Arabic Lexical Information Retrieval: A Comparative Study of Embedding and Generation Models*  
Raghad Al-Rasheed, Abdullah Al Muaddi, Hawra Aljasim, Rawan Al-Matham, Muneera Alhoshan, Asma Al Wazrah and Abdulrahman AIOsaimy
- 16:40–16:45 *Closing Remarks and Wrap-Up*  
Dr Mo El-Haj