CALL FOR PAPERS IN JKSU SPECIAL ISSUE

ARABIC NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING: MODELS, SYSTEMS AND APPLICATIONS

Chairs: Vito PIRRELLI, Arsalane ZARGHILI

Language technologies are instrumental to millions of people who use them every day without even being aware of them. Systems like Google Translate and web search engines rely more and more on levels of linguistic information automatically provided through NLP-based tools operating in the background. This development, we believe, has deeply affected the way we think about language from a scientific perspective. Linguists have progressively turned the focus of their research from abstract structural properties of language to the dynamics of its usage in every-day communicative contexts. There is increasing awareness that language technologies and computational models of language processes not only shed considerable light on traditional issues in language and literary studies but may also lead to a radical reconceptualization of them. Theoretical models of aspects of language usage such as language acquisition, lexical access, speech recognition, text translation, text analysis, ontology extraction, reading and optical character recognition can be put to a rigorous empirical test through computer-based implementations of some of their assumptions. In this perspective, computer technologies prove to provide an empirical middle ground where interdisciplinary insights coming from different theoretical standpoints and scientific domains can be empirically assessed and possibly integrated.

This special issue is intended to explore and debate the contribution of computational language models to a better understanding of linguistic, psycholinguistic, sociolinguistic, historical and literary issues of the Arabic language and culture. We particularly welcome contributions addressing fundamental aspects of Arabic NLP, communication technology, language resources and automated text analysis, by looking at their implications for both state-of-the-art language technologies and Arabic language knowledge at large.

Topics

We solicit submission of original ideas and papers describing significant results and developments from both researchers and practitioners in a specific range of fields addressing the following topics:

- Information retrieval and extraction
- Text mining
- Named entity recognition
- Question answering
- Word sense disambiguation
- Machine Translation
- Stochastic language models
- Connectionist language models
- Language technologies for Arabic cultural heritage
- Arabic optical character recognition
- Arabic digital epigraphy

Papers Submissions

The editorial initiative stems from a successful international session on Arabic Natural Language Processing hosted by IEEE CIST'14 in Tetouan (Morocco) on October 21, 2014. Nonetheless, invitation to submit a journal length paper is extended to any scholar willing to contribute, whether they were involved in the IEEE CIST event or not.

All submissions will be peer-reviewed.

Important Dates

Paper Submission	**15 January 2016**
Acceptance Notification	**15 June 2016**
Camera-ready Submission	**15 July 2016**

Instructions for Submission

➢ The submission website for this journal is located at: http://ees.elsevier.com/jksu-cis/default.asp

➢ To ensure that all manuscripts are correctly identified for inclusion into the special issue you are editing, it is important that authors select "Special issue: ANLP and IT" when they reach the "Article Type" step in the submission process. Please make sure authors are given this instruction when you send out invitation letters and/or instructions to potential authors.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact:
Dr. Vito PIRRELLI: vito.pirrelli@ilc.cnr.it
Dr. Arsalane ZARGHILI: zarghili@yahoo.fr