NLP4PI 2024

Third Workshop on NLP for Positive Impact

Proceedings of the Workshop

November 15, 2024

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Introduction

The widespread and indispensable use of language-oriented AI systems presents new opportunities to have a positive social impact. Much existing work on NLP for social good focuses on detecting or preventing harm, such as classifying hate speech, mitigating bias, or identifying signs of depression. However, NLP research also offers the potential for positive proactive applications that can improve user and public well-being or foster constructive conversations. Nevertheless, "positive impact" remains difficult to define, and well-intentioned NLP technology can raise concerns about ethics and privacy.

This volume contains the proceedings of the Third Workshop on NLP for Positive Impact held in conjunction with the 2024 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2024). The workshop received 48 submissions of technical papers of which 31 were accepted (25 archival and 6 non-archival), for an acceptance rate of 65%. Non-archival papers are included in the schedule and presented during the workshop, but are not included in the proceedings, whereas archival papers are included. We thank Program Committee members for providing high quality reviews in assembling these proceedings. These papers cover diverse aspects of NLP for positive impact, including developing NLP technology for applications like healthcare, criminal law, education, social media analyses, and consumer privacy as well discussing challenges and ethical implications of using NLP in these areas.

In addition to technical papers, this workshop also features invited keynote speakers and panelists to facilitate discussion and enhance knowledge of NLP for positive impact.

Keynote speakers:
Anjalie Field, Johns Hopkins University
Stephen Mayhew, Duolingo
Cordelia Moore, NGOs Advisor on Digital Violence
Louis-Philippe Morency, Carnegie Mellon University
Veronica Perez-Rosa, University of Michigan
Mrinmaya Sachan, ETH Zürich
Yulia Tsvetkov, University of Washington

Panelists:
Anjalie Field, Johns Hopkins University
Stephen Mayhew, Duolingo
Cordelia Moore, NGOs Advisor on Digital Violence
Jieyu Zhao, University of Southern California

We are grateful to all the people who have contributed to this workshop, including speakers, authors, reviewers, and attendees.

We hope that our workshop can encourage future work on pro-social NLP and we look forward to welcoming you all to our workshop!

- Daryna, Oana, Zhijing, Rada, Giorgio, Joel, Steven, and Jieyu

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Mira Moukheiber, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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10:00 - 10:25 *Talk by Prof Anjalie Field (JHU) & 5 min Q&A*

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13:30 - 13:55 *Talk by Stephen Mayhew (Duolingo) & 5 min Q&A*

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