

Preface: 6th Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Requirements Engineering (NLP4RE'23)

Sallam Abualhaija¹, Andreas Vogelsang² and Gouri Deshpande³

¹University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

²University of Cologne, Germany

³University of Calgary, Canada

1. Preface

Natural language processing (NLP) plays an important role in several areas of software engineering, and requirements engineering (RE) is not an exception. Requirements are generally authored and communicated in textual form and in different levels of formality, from structured (e.g., user stories) to unstructured natural language. In the last few years, the advent of massive and heterogeneous sources, such as tweets and app reviews, has attracted even more interest from the RE community, as demonstrated by the increasing number of scientific papers on this topic in conferences like ICSE, RE, and REFSQ. Furthermore, the possibility to integrate textual data with other sources of information, as voice, biofeedback, and graphical languages that is made possible by novel technologies, further increases the potential impact of NLP4RE research.

The Natural Language Processing for Requirements Engineering Workshop (NLP4RE) was established in 2018 as a venue to foster communication between researchers and practitioners interested in the field. The 2022 edition was held Aston, Birmingham, UK and saw the presentation of 4 papers covering different aspects of NLP4RE, including quality assurance of requirements, privacy content detection in user stories, formalization of requirements and the role natural language generation in requirements validation. The workshop saw a lively participation, with over 25 participants during the keynote and about 20 participants during the paper presentation sessions.

NLP4RE also included a keynote from Dr. Nicole Novielli, Assistant Professor at the University of Bari, titled *On Designing SE-specific Sentiment Analysis Tools*. The keynote provided an overview of recent research about sentiment analysis in software engineering (SE), and

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✉ sallam.abualhaija@uni.lu (S. Abualhaija); vogelsang@cs.uni-koeln.de (A. Vogelsang);

gouri.deshpande@ucalgary.ca (G. Deshpande)



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highlighted the open challenges, and provided empirically-based guidelines for safe (re)use of SE-specific tools in order to obtain meaningful results.

2. Program Committee

We warmly thank all the reviewers of our Program Committee (PC), who helped in the selection of the papers by providing timely and accurate reviews. The PC members of NLP4RE'23 are:

- Muhammad Abbas, RISE Research Institute, Sweden
- Chetan Arora, Deakin University, Australia
- Fatma Başak Aydemir, Boğaziçi University, Turkey
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