LT-EDI 2025

Fifth Workshop on Language Technology for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion

Proceedings of the Workshop

September 9, 2025

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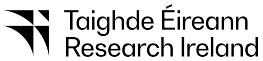

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Introduction

We are excited to welcome you to the Fifth Workshop on Language Technology for Equality, Diversity, Inclusion (LT-EDI-2025), the 5th Conference on Language, Data and Knowledge (LDK). This year, the workshop will be held in a hybrid format (both online and Workshops will take place at Palazzo del Mediterraneo on 9th September 2025, while the main venue for the conference will be Palazzo Corigliano, on 10th - 11th September 2025, located in the Naples, Italy. With the rapid advancement of technology, digital communication has become a central part of daily life. While many globally dominant languages have successfully transitioned into the digital era, numerous regional and low-resource languages continue to face significant technological challenges. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) is an important agenda across every field throughout the world. Language as a major part of communication should be inclusive and treat everyone with equality. Today's large internet community uses language technology (LT) and has a direct impact on people across the globe. EDI is crucial to ensure everyone is valued and included, so it is necessary to build LT that serves this purpose. Recent results have shown that big data and deep learning are entrenching existing biases and that some algorithms are even naturally biased due to problems such as 'regression to the mode'. Our focus is on creating LT that will be more inclusive of gender, racial, sexual orientation, persons with disability. The workshop will focus on creating speech and language technology to address EDI not only in English, but also in less resourced languages. The workshop received a total of 40 active submissions. Reviewer recruitment was highly effective, with 232 out of 249 invited reviewers accepting the invitation. Of the 270 assigned reviews, 117 were completed, resulting in a review submission rate of 43.33%. Additionally, 41.67% of reviewers (100 out of 240) completed all their assigned reviews. A majority of submissions (65%, or 26 out of 40) received at least three reviews, ensuring a robust evaluation process. Decisions were finalized for all submissions (100%), leading to an acceptance rate of 95% (38 papers). This included 6 papers (15%) accepted for oral presentations and 32 papers (80%) accepted for poster presentations. Only 2 submissions (5%) were rejected. There were no withdrawn submissions, and only one paper was desk rejected. These metrics reflect a thorough and inclusive review process, driven by active reviewer participation and a strong commitment to quality.

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Keynote Talk

Understanding Attention in Asymmetric Kernel Point of View

Dr. Soman K. P.
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, India

2025-05-03 09:15 – Room: **Acoma, The Albuquerque Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA**

Abstract: Transformers has redefined deep learning research and has become the most prominent architecture across domains such as natural language processing, computer vision, and image processing. Attention mechanism, particularly self-attention, is central to the success of this architecture, which allows the model to capture dependencies across the input sequences. However, the fundamental challenge in understanding self-attention is its intrinsic symmetry. The existing works often consider self-attention as a kernel method, leveraging symmetric kernels based on Mercer's theorem. However, the self-attention matrices used in the transformer architectures are inherently asymmetric, which leads to an inconsistency between the theoretical formulation and the practical implementation. The primal-attention, a novel attention mechanism based on kernel singular value decomposition explicitly models the asymmetry. Therefore, reformulating self-attention using primal-dual representation ensures efficient computation and low-rank approximation that enhances performance and generalization.

Bio: Dr. Soman K. P. is the Dean of the School of Artificial Intelligence and Head of the Department at Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore. With over 27 years of experience in research and teaching, his expertise spans Artificial Intelligence and Data Science. He has published more than 500 papers in leading journals and conferences, including IEEE Transactions, IEEE Access, and Applied Energy. He is the author of four books, including Insight into Wavelets, Insight into Data Mining (also translated into Chinese), Support Vector Machines and Other Kernel Methods, and Signal and Image Processing—the Sparse Way. Dr. Soman is the most cited researcher with over 10,000 citations. He has consistently been ranked among the world's top 2% most influential scientists by Stanford University for the past three years. His contributions have also been recognized by the Government of India and organizations like Springer Nature and Career 360. At CEN, he leads M.Tech programs in Computational Engineering and Networking (Data Science) and Computer Science and Engineering (Artificial Intelligence). A new B.Tech program in AI and Data Science launched under his leadership in 2023. He has guided over 20 Ph.D. scholars and currently supervises 8+ ongoing doctoral researchers. His current research interests include AI for DNA sequence analysis, reinforcement learning in robotics, computer vision, and cyber-physical systems.

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