

Ana Brassard

TEL: +81-90-6688-6895 (GMT+9)

Email: brassard.ana@gmail.com

Current position: Technical Staff I, Riken AIP Natural Language Understanding Team

Conducting independent and collaborative NLP research @ the Tohoku NLP Lab in Sendai, Miyagi, Japan
(Dec. 2018 - now)

Research interests

Natural language processing, common sense, commonsense reasoning, model testing/probing/diagnostics, dataset creation, predict+explain with large language models.

Skills

Language proficiency

- English: fluent
- Japanese: near-fluent
(Japanese workplace)
- French: upper-intermediate
(native speakers in family)
- Croatian: native

Programming & others

- python: comfortable, regular use.
(mainly PyTorch-based)
- HTML, CSS, javascript: some experience
(mainly Amazon Mechanical Turk forms)
- Java, C/C++: novice
(used during formal education)

Misc

- Enjoy visualization and other aspects of scientific communication; extensive experience with crowdsourcing and paper editing.
- Passionate about maintaining inclusive spaces, particularly for international and neurodivergent individuals.
- Grew up in Canada, the USA, Croatia, and Japan. Mostly from Dubrovnik, Croatia.
- Hobbies include drawing, cooking, Factorio.
- Certified PADI Advanced Open Water Diver.

Formal education

Ph.D. (planned)

2021 - *2024, Graduate School of Information Sciences, Tohoku University

Master of Science in Computing

2016 - 2018, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb

Bachelor of Science in Computing

2013 - 2016, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb

Publications

- COPA-SSE: Semi-structured Explanations for Commonsense Reasoning. Brassard, A.; Heinzerling, B.; Kavumba, P.; Inui, K. (LREC 2022)
- Context Limitations Make Neural Language Models More Human-Like. Kuribayashi, T.; Oseki Y.; Brassard, A.; Inui K. (EMNLP 2022)
- Learning to Learn to be Right for the Right Reasons. Kavumba, P.; Henzerling, B.; Brassard, A.; Inui, K. (NAACL 2021)
- Diamonds in the Rough: Generating Fluent Sentences from Early-Stage Drafts for Academic Writing Assistance. Ito, T.; Kuribayashi, T.; Kobayashi, H.; Brassard, A.; Hagiwara, M.; Suzuki, J.; and Inui K. (INLG 2019)