

The State of SIGMORPHON

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Special Interest Group on Computational Morphology and
Phonology



SIGMORPHON Leadership

- SIGMORPHON held elections in 2020 and elected a new executive committee
 - President: Garrett Nicolai
 - Secretary: Miikka Silfverberg
 - Members-at-large: Eleanor Chodroff, Çağrı Çöltekin, Sandra Kübler
- The next elections are scheduled for 2022
- Many thanks to Jason Eisner, who stepped down as president after over a decade. It was under his watchful eye that SIGMORPHON grew from a biannual workshop to an annual one



Size of the Membership

- At the present, SIGMORPHON has 175 members
- We have additionally scraped a list of recent publications on the topics of phonetics, phonology and morphology in ACL venues and are planning a membership drive
- We open to any other ideas about how to enlarge our membership!



The 2021 SIGMORPHON Workshop

- The 2021 workshop had 25 submissions
- We accepted 14 papers for an acceptance rate of 56%
- The proceedings are further populated with non-archival papers describing system description papers for the shared task as well as shared task summary papers
 - The authors of the system description papers for the shared task had the option of making their submissions archival
- SIGMORPHON continued its mentorship program, introduced last year
 - Only 1 person signed up for mentorship (compared to 10 last year)
 - This may be due to the improved mentorship at the ACL level or it may indicate a lot of publicity by SIGMORPHON about its own mentorship program; we better the program next year



The 2021 SIGMORPHON Shared Tasks

- This year the workshop offered 3 shared tasks this year (to be described in subsequent works)
- In total, we had over 15 teams participate! One of our largest turn-outs!



Shared Task 0: Generalization in Morphological Inflection Generation

- Part 1: Generalization Across Typologically Diverse Languages
 - In this shared task, participants design a model that learns to generate morphological inflections from a lemma and a set of morphosyntactic features of the target form.
- Part 2: Are We There Yet? A Shared Task on Cognitively Plausible Morphological Inflection
 - The goal of the participants in the shared task is to design a model that morphologically inflects the generated nonce words according to the grammar of the given languages (and as rated by human speakers).



Shared Task 1:

Grapheme-to-phoneme conversion

- In this task, participants create computational models that map a sequence of "graphemes"—characters—representing a word to a transcription of that word's pronunciation. This task is an important part of speech technologies, including recognition and synthesis. This is the second iteration of this task.



Shared Task 2: Unsupervised Morphological Paradigm Clustering

- In this task, participants create a computational system that receives raw Bible text, and clusters each token for a given language into morphological paradigms. This is an important first step in building systems that can infer paradigms in an unsupervised fashion.



The 2022 Workshop

- SIGMORPHON plans to submit a proposal for a 2022 workshop
 - Garrett Nicolai and Eleanor Chodroff have volunteered to organize the workshop
 - Is anyone else interested?
- As in previous years, we will ask that our workshop be co-located with ACL as it is the most widely attended conference and SIGMORPHON is the flagship organization for research in computational phonetics, phonology and morphology
- Please let us know if you have any suggestions for improvements for next year's iteration of the workshop!



Thanks to the reviewers!

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