

Dipankar Srirag

PhD Candidate, UNSW Sydney

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Education

Present	University of New South Wales	Sydney, Australia
Jun 2025	Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor(s) : Dr. Aditya Joshi, Dr. Padmanesan Narasimhan, Dr. Salil Kanhere.• Funded by NHMRC Ideas Grant.	
Sep 2024	University of New South Wales	Sydney, Australia
Sep 2022	M.S., Information Technology, WAM : 81.3. 🔗 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor : Dr. Aditya Joshi.• Thesis : Training Dialect Adapters for Decoder Models Using Natural Conversations. 🔗	
Aug 2022	Manipal Institute of Technology	Manipal, India
Jul 2018	B.Tech., Information Technology, GPA : 8.38. 🔗 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minor : Data Analytics• Relevant Courses : Data Structures and Algorithms, Probability Theory, Linear Algebra, Vector Calculus, Machine Learning.	

Experience

May 2025	University of New South Wales	Sydney, Australia
May 2024	Researcher/Research Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built the BESTIE benchmark, a novel dataset spanning sentiment and sarcasm classification across 3 English dialects. This work is funded by Google Research Scholar grant.• Designed and implemented scalable annotation pipelines to collect and validate 12,600 samples from Reddit and Google Places, covering diverse dialects for NLP evaluation.• Evaluated two open-weight LLMs (Gemma, Llama) for dialect robustness using sarcasm explanation generation, with statistically significant improvements using a pragmatic reasoning-based prompting strategy.• Audited GPT-based models for translation of school communication across 22 languages, using performance metrics such as BLEU, chrF, and ROUGE.• Mentored undergraduate students through the UNSW Taste of Research program, guiding them in literature reviews, controlled experimentation, and research writing.• Presented work at the UNSW AI Symposium 2024, showcasing practical contributions of dialect-aware LLM evaluations.	
Jun 2022	Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	Bengaluru, India
Jan 2022	Analyst Intern <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Automated invoice processing with 100% accuracy using BluePrism bots, improving operational efficiency for client-facing systems.• Trained in enterprise-grade automation tools such as Automation Anywhere and UiPath, delivering proof-of-concepts for internal testing.	

Teaching

Casual Academic, Data Structures and Algorithms	UNSW Sydney	Sept 2025 - Present
• Class Size : 40 students. Feedback : 100% broad agreement.		
Casual Academic, Neural Networks and Deep Learning	UNSW Sydney	May 2024 - Aug 2025
• Class Size : 50+ students. Feedback : 98.5% broad agreement.		

Publications and Submissions

S=Submission,C=Conference, W=Workshop/Whitepaper

- [S.1] A Taxonomy-Driven Case Study of Australian Web Resources Against Technology-Facilitated Abuse. [🔗](#)
Dipankar Srirag, Xiaolin Cen, Rahat Masood, Aditya Joshi.
[Under Review]
- [W.3] Nek Minit : Harnessing Pragmatic Metacognitive Prompting for Explainable Sarcasm Detection of Australian and Indian English. [🔗](#)
Dipankar Srirag*, Ishmanbir Singh*, Aditya Joshi. (*Best Paper Honorable Mention*)
Proceedings of the 23rd Annual Workshop of the Australasian Language Technology Association.

- [W.2] **Evaluation of translation ability of language models for education-related communication**[✉]
Dipankar Srirag, Aditya Joshi, Caroline Thompsett, Dan Hart.
- [C.2] **BESSTIE : A Benchmark for Sentiment and Sarcasm Classification for Varieties of English.**[✉]
Dipankar Srirag, Aditya Joshi, Jordan Painter, Diptesh Kanojia.
Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics : ACL 2025. [CORE : A*]
- [C.1] **Predicting the Target Word of Game-playing Conversations using a Low-Rank Dialect Adapter for Decoder Models.**[✉]
Dipankar Srirag, Aditya Joshi, Jacob Eisenstein.
2025 Conference of the Nations of the Americas Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics. [CORE : A]
- [W.1] **Evaluating Dialect Robustness of Language Models via Conversation Understanding.**[✉]
Dipankar Srirag, Nihar Ranjan Sahoo, Aditya Joshi.
Second Workshop on Scaling Up Multilingual & Multi-Cultural Evaluation, COLING 2025.

Presentations

- NAACL 2025, Albuquerque, USA Main Conference** May 2025
Presented our paper titled, “Predicting the Target Word of Game-playing Conversations using a Low-Rank Dialect Adapter for Decoder Models.”[✉]
- SUMEval Workshop at COLING 2025, Abu Dhabi, UAE Workshop** Jan 2025
Presented our paper titled, “Evaluating Dialect Robustness of Language Models via Conversation Understanding.”
- AI Symposium 2025 at UNSW, Sydney, Australia Symposium** Nov 2024
Presented “BESSTIE : A Benchmark for Sentiment and Sarcasm Classification for Varieties of English”, to an audience of academia and industry attendees.

Projects

- Comparative Analysis of Static vs. Context-aware Embeddings for Abstractive Summarisation**[✉] Sep 2023
Implemented a transformer model with encoder-decoder architecture and static embeddings, for abstractive dialogue summarisation. Highlighted the effectiveness of context-aware embeddings in dialogue summarisation, by fine-tuning BART-base, and FLAN-T5 models.

Awards and Achievements

- **Google Travel Award** : Unrestricted travel grant valued at AUD 2500.
- **UNSW TFS Scholarship** : Full tuition fee waiver with annual stipend of AUD 42000.
- **UNSW Award of Excellence** : Recognised for academic distinction during master’s program.

Academic Service

- Program Committee Member** C3NLP Workshop 2025, Queer in AI Workshop 2025.
Peer Reviewer ACL Rolling Review (ARR), The Web Conference (WWW) 2025.

References

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