Nedjma Djouhra Ousidhoum

Email	ndo24@cam.ac.uk
Citizenship	Algerian
Birth	17-09-1990 Algiers, Algeria
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Research Statement

I am a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Department of Computer Science and Technology of the University of Cambridge. I work with Dr. Andreas Vlachos on fact-checking for journalists.[1] Prior to this, I was a Ph.D. student at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) where I was working on multilingual toxic content detection and evaluation in NLP under the supervision of Dr. Yangqiu Song and Prof. Dit-Yan Yeung.
I am interested is NLP, computational social science, fairness and explainability.

Appointments

September 2021-now Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Cambridge.

April 2021-August 2021 Postdoctoral Research Assistant at the University of Cambridge.

September 2018-March 2021 Research Assistant at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

April 2014-August 2014 Postgraduate intern at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST).

December 2012-April 2014 Research Assistant at the University of Science and Technology Houari Boumedienne, Algiers, Algeria.

Education

September 2014-August 2021 PhD at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, HKUST *(Thesis defended on July 5th 2021)*.

Title *"On the Importance and Challenges of the Experimental Design of Multilingual Toxic Content Detection"*
Committee members
-Dr. Yangqiu SONG *(Supervisor)*
-Prof Dit-Yan Yeung *(Co-supervisor)*
-Prof. Pascale Fung *(HKUST)*
-Dr. Brian Mak *(HKUST)*
-Prof. Nevin Zhang *(HKUST)*
-Dr. Preslav Navov *(External examiner)*

September 2010- June 2012 Master of Science in Software Engineering at the University of Science and Technology Houari Boumedienne, Algiers, Algeria.

September 2007- June 2010 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science at the University of Science and Technology Houari Boumedienne, Algiers, Algeria.

[1] I am funded by the MONITIO project https://monitio-project.eu/

Teaching Experience

Spring 2018 Teaching Assistant of IT Entrepreneurship at HKUST.

Spring 2017 Teaching Assistant of Introduction to Natural Language Processing at HKUST.

Spring 2016 Teaching Assistant of Multimedia Computing at HKUST.

Fall 2015 Teaching Assistant of the C Programming Bridging Course at HKUST.

Academic Services

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee member (financial accessibility co-chair) at NAACL 2022.

Reviewer for EMNLP 2021, ACL 2021, NAACL 2021.

Secondary reviewer for COLING 2020, AAAI 2019.

Co-organizer of the North African in NLP[2] affinity group social at EMNLP 2020, COLING 2020, EACL 2021, NAACL 2021, ACL 2021.

Publications

Nedjma Ousidhoum, "On the Importance and Challenges of the Experimental Design of Multilingual Toxic Content Detection". *Ph.D. Thesis*. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Nedjma Ousidhoum, Xinran Zhao, Tianqing Fang, Yangqiu Song, Dit-Yan Yeung, "Probing Toxic Content in Large Pre-Trained Language Models" in Proceedings of the *ACL-IJCNLP 2021*.

Nedjma Ousidhoum, Yangqiu Song, Dit-Yan Yeung, "Comparative Evaluation of Label-Agnostic Selection Bias in Multilingual Hate Speech Datasets" in Proceedings of the *EMNLP 2020*.

Nedjma Ousidhoum, Zizheng Lin, Hongming Zhang, Yangqiu Song, Dit-Yan Yeung, "Multilingual and Multi-Aspect Hate Speech Analysis" in Proceedings of *EMNLP 2019*.

Nedjma Ousidhoum, Nacéra Bensaou, "Towards The Refinement of the Arabic Soundex" in Proceedings of *NLDB 2013*.

Nedjma Ousidhoum, Asma Bensalah, Nacéra Bensaou, "A New Classical Arabic Soundex Algorithm" in Proceedings of *The Second Conference on Advances in Communication and Information Technology (CIT 2012)*.

Asma Bensalah, **Nedjma Ousidhoum**, "Étude du Problème de la Correction Phonétique : État de l'art et Conception d'un Algorithme pour la Recherche Approchée dans un Dictionnaire de la Langue Arabe". *Master thesis*, Computer Science Department, University of Science and Technology Houari Boumedienne, Algiers, June 2012.

Venon Takaiteyi Mapfunde, **Nedjma Ousidhoum**, "Automatisation de la Procédure d'accessibilité dans les Réseaux de Petri Récursifs". *Bachelor thesis*, Computer Science Department, University of Science and Technology Houari Bomedienne, Algiers, June 2010.

Talks

August 2021 Title *Challenges in Toxic Content Detection*. Language and Multimodal AI Lab (LAMA) Group Seminar (Imperial College London).

November 2020 Title *Normalizing the Experimental Design of Multilingual Hate Speech Detection*. Group Seminar of the Digital Technologies Research Center (National Research Council, Canada).

[2] `https://sites.google.com/view/NorthAfricansInNLP`

Grants and Awards

2019-2020 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
August 2019 Student volunteer grant for IJCAI2019.
2018-2019 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
2017-2018 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
2016-2017 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
2015-2016 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
2014-2015 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Scholarship.
December 2012 Accepted at the Computer Science Ph.D. Program of the University of Science and Technology Houari Boumedienne, Algiers, Algeria.

Other

Languages

Arabic mother tongue.
French fluent (bilingual).
English fluent.

Programming Languages

Python, C, C++, Java.

Core Courses

Advanced Algorithms.
Theory of Computation.
Human Computer Interaction.
Computer Networks.
Knowledge Discovery in Databases.
Machine Learning.
Databases.
Probability Theory and Bayesian Networks.

Extra-curricular Activities

2019-present AIhub[a] ambassador.

2015-2020 English teaching assistant volunteer at Po Leung Kuk Center for disadvantaged children.

2015-2019 Hall Tutor at HKUST UG Hall IV.

References

Dr. Yangqiu Song (PhD supervisor).
Prof. Dit-Yan Yeung (PhD co-supervisor).
(Additional references can be provided upon request.)

[a] `https://aihub.org/`