Simran Khanuja

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Pangalore, India 🕠 github.com/SimranKhanuja 🗞 simran-khanuja.github.io/

EDUCATION

Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, Goa, India

B.E. (Honors) Computer Science; M.Sc.(Hons.) Economics, CGPA: 8.81/10.00 Aug' 2015

PUBLICATIONS

> MuRIL: Multilingual Representations for Indian Languages

Simran Khanuja, Diksha Bansal, Sarvesh Mehtani, Savya Khosla, Atreyee Dey, Balaji Gopalan, Dilip Kumar Margam, Pooja Aggarwal, Rajiv Teja Nagipogu, Shachi Dave, Shruti Gupta, Subhash Chandra Bose Gali, Vish Subramanian, Partha Talukdar pdf | tfhub | huggingface

> GLUECoS: An Evaluation Benchmark for Code-Switched NLP

2020 Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL '20) Simran Khanuja, Sandipan Dandapat, Anirudh Srinivasan, Sunayana Sitaram, Monojit Choudhury pdf | code | website

> A New Dataset for Natural Language Inference from Code-mixed Conversations

CALCS Workshop: International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation, 2020 (LREC '20) Simran Khanuja, Sandipan Dandapat, Sunayana Sitaram, Monojit Choudhury pdf | data

> Unsung Challenges of Building and Deploying Language Technologies for Low Resource Language Communities

2019 International Conference on Natural Language Processing (ICON'19) Pratik Joshi, Christain Barnes, Sebastin Santy, Simran Khanuja, Sanket Shah, Anirudh Srinivasan, Satwik Bhattamishra, Sunayana Sitaram, Monojit Choudhury and Kalika Bali pdf

> Dependency Parser for Bengali-English Code-Mixed Data enhanced with a Synthetic Treebank

18th International Workshop on Treebanks and Linguistic Theories (TLT, SyntaxFest 2019) Urmi Ghosh, Dipti Misra Sharma, and Simran Khanuja pdf | code

EXPERIENCE

Present

Google Research, BANGALORE, India

Aug' 2020

Pre-Doctoral Researcher | Advisors : Dr. Partha Talukdar

- > Working on neural semantic parsing for the Google Assistant with a special focus on Indian languages.
- > Experimented with merging multiple pre-trained language models in a teacher-student knowledge distillation framework. [Under Review]
- > Built a multilingual model specifically focused on Indian languages named MuRIL, which is now open-sourced. (paper | tfhub | huggingface)

Jul' 2020

Microsoft Research, BANGALORE, India

Jul' 2019

Research Intern | Advisors : Dr. Sunayana Sitaram, Dr. Monojit Choudhury

- > Worked on experimenting with fine-tuning strategies for contextualized multilingual models using the XTREME bench-
- > Experimented with cross lingual word embeddings and multilingual generalized language models on a variety of downstream NLP tasks for code-mixed data. Eventually built a benchmark for the evaluation of models/methods that process code-mixed data, which is now open-sourced. (code | website) [ACL '20]
- > Proposed and oversaw the creation of a new dataset for the task of conversation entailment in code-mixed data, which is now open-sourced. (data) [CALCS@LREC '20]

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Aug' 2018

MT-NLP Lab, IIIT HYDERABAD, India

May 2018

Summer Research Intern | Advisors : Dr. Dipti Misra Sharma [Github Link]

- > Worked on generating valid Hindi-English code-mixed data to improve the accuracy of a code-mixed language model. Similar methodology of generation implemented for Bengali-English. [TLT@ SyntaxFest '19]
- > Mainly used rule-based approaches wherein we chunk parallel sentences consistently and perform a post interleaving of the chunks based on head matching.
- > Tools worked with include the Stanford Parser, LTRC Hindi Parser and the GIZA++ word alignment tool.

Nov' 2018

BITS Pilani, K.K. BIRLA GOA CAMPUS, India

Undergraduate Research Project | Supervisor: Dr. Sreejith V. [Github Link] [Report Link] Aug 2018

> > Implemented an Emotion Recognition System to recognize the emotional state of a patient. The final state is a weighted average of several parameters including facial expressions, speech signals and physiological signals including heart rate and breathing rate.

Jul' 2017 May 2017

Liveweaver India Pvt. Ltd., Pune, India

Summer Intern | NLP for Voice Recognition

> Performed basic NLP taks including, morphological segmentation, coreference resolution, sentiment analysis and named entity recognition. Also worked with Elasticsearch for clustering, indexing paragraphs and calculating scores of similarity between the paragraphs.

SKILLS

Python, C++, Java, HTML Languages

Frameworks PyTorch, NLTK

> Tools Visual Studio, Git, GIZA++, Stanford Parser, Elasticsearch

Courses

Machine Learning, Information Retrieval, Neural Networks, Data Structures and Algorithms, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Object Oriented Programming, Probability and Statistics, Applied Econometrics, Mathematics and Statistics



HONORS AND AWARDS

Secured an All India (National) Rank 1 in the 10th board examination, ICSE

Received the institute's merit scholarship for the first semester

Positions of Responsibility

- > Teaching Assistant for the course, "Financial Management".
- > Teaching Assistant for the course, "Applied Econometrics".
- > Core Member and Vocalist, Music Society BITS Goa.
- > Marketing Manager as part of DOSM for college fests in 2016.

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