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1 Research interests

Conversational Artificial Intelligence, Machine Translation, Natural Language Understanding, Natural Language Generation, Transfer Learning

2 Projects

- 2020 – Present **Autism Spectrum Disorder Question Answering (ASD-QA)**
The dataset for Closed-domain Question Answering in Russian
Project web page is available at [Open Data Science](#)
- 2022 – Present **Empathic Machine Processors for Inclusion (EMPI)**
A mobile app for supporting the inclusion of people with ASD
Source code, layouts, supporting material: [GitHub](#)
- 2023 – Present **The Black Box podcast**
Podcast about Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing
Public page: [VK](#)

3 Education

- 2022 – Present **Saint Petersburg State University** – Saint Petersburg, Russia
PhD in Philology; Theoretical, Applied and Comparative linguistics
Dissertation: *Neural Transfer Learning for NLP in for Tasks in Social Sector*
Dissertation Advisor: Mitrofanova O. A., PhD, Associate Professor.
- 2020 – 2022 **Saint Petersburg State University** – Saint Petersburg, Russia
MA in Philology: Computer and Applied Linguistics
Concentrations: Machine Learning, Linguistics
Thesis: *Approaches to Building a Dialogue System on Autism Spectrum Disorder with Transformer Architecture*
Thesis Advisor: Mitrenina O. V., PhD, Associate Professor.
- 2016 – 2020 **Higher School of Economics** – Saint Petersburg, Russia
BA in Philology
Concentrations: Linguistics
Thesis: *Classification of Messages of Drug Addicts in Social Networks Using Neural Networks*
Thesis Advisor: Mitrenina O. V., PhD, Associate Professor.

4 Teaching

- Autumn 2023 **Python** – MA program
Higher School of Economics
- Autumn 2023 **Digital Literacy** – BA program
Higher School of Economics

5 Professional Development

- Apr 2023 **Coursera Project Network** – Coursera, Online
Course “*Get Started with Figma*”
- Jan 2022 **TU Berlin Winter University** – TU Berlin, Online
Course “*Introduction to Artificial Intelligence*”
- Dec 2021 **Professional Development Courses** – ITMO University, Saint Petersburg, Russia
Course “*Commercialization of Smart Digital Objects*”
- Oct 2021 **Tomsk State University, The Vladimir Potanin Foundation** – Online
Course “*Stress Management*”
- Oct 2021 **Tomsk State University, The Vladimir Potanin Foundation** – Online
Course “*Conflict Management*”
- Sep 2021 **Tomsk State University, The Vladimir Potanin Foundation** – Online
Course “*Design Thinking*”
- Jul 2021 **The Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School** – Online
Tracks “*Pro-Bono*”, “*Agile*”, “*Networking*”
- Apr 2021 **DeepLearning.AI** – Coursera, Online
Course “*Natural Language Processing with Attention Models*”
- Mar 2021 **University of California, Santa Cruz** – Coursera, Online
Course “*Bayesian Statistics: From Concept to Data Analysis*”
- Jan 2021 **Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Huawei** – Stepik, Online
Course “*Huawei: Natural Language Processing*”
- Aug 2020 **Summer School of Machine Learning (SMILES)** – Skoltech, Online
- Jul 2020 **IBM** – Coursera, Online
Course “*IBM: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)*”
- Sep 2019 **Fall School for Formal Syntax and Semantics** – HSE, Moscow, Russia

6 Honors and scholarships

- Dec, 2022 Literature [Prize](#) Nominee
Author of a short novel
- Dec, 2022 Literature [Open-Call](#) Participant
Author of short read stories
- Oct, 2021 Winner of the Vladimir Potanin Foundation Competition
[“Practices of Personal Philanthropy and Altruism”](#) (Vladimir Potanin Foundation)
- Aug, 2021 Winner of the Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School Competition
[Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School Competition](#) (Vladimir Potanin Foundation)
- Feb, 2020 [The Vladimir Potanin Foundation Scholarship](#) (Vladimir Potanin Foundation)
- Dec, 2020 ODS Awards ([Open Data Science](#))
Winner in two nominations: Best Project, Best Organizer.

7 Publications

- May, 2023 **Application of Linguistic and Computational Technologies to the Development of a Mobile App for Developing Communication Skills in People with Autism Spectrum Disorders**
Firsanova, V.
Private institution educational organization of higher education Medical University "Reaviz".
- April, 2023 **Towards Building a Mobile App for People on the Spectrum**
Firsanova, V.
WWW '23 Companion: Companion Proceedings of the ACM Web Conference 2023.
- May, 2022 **A Quick Guide to Low-Resource NLP**
Firsanova, V.
MLOps Community. May, 2022, online.
- Feb, 2022 **Question Answering Systems and Inclusion: Pros and Cons**
Firsanova, V.
Internet and Modern Society 2021: Proceedings of the International Conference.
- Jan, 2022 **Transformer Models for Question Answering on Autism Spectrum Disorder QA Dataset**
Firsanova, V.
In Digital Transformation and Global Society - 6th International Conference.
- Dec, 2021 **Two Approaches to Building Dialogue Systems for People on the Spectrum**
Firsanova, V.
Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2021. Data-Centric AI Workshop.
- Dec, 2021 **The Advantages of Human Evaluation of Sociomedical Question Answering Systems**
Firsanova, V.
International Journal of Open Information Technologies, 9(12), 53-59.
- Jun, 2021 **The Description of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Question Answering Dataset**
Firsanova, V.
Dialogue 2021 Student Session.
- Jan, 2021 **Supporting the Inclusion of People with Asperger Syndrome: Building a Customizable Chatbot with Transfer Learning**
Firsanova, V.
AINL: Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Conference.
- Jan, 2021 **Automatic Recognition of Messages from Virtual Communities of Drug Addicts**
Firsanova, V.
Journal of applied linguistics and lexicography, 2 (1), 16-27.
- Jul, 2020 **The Functioning of Drug Addict's Jargon in Social Networks**
Firsanova, V.
Studia Slavica XVIII. — 04.07.2020. — P. 152—164. ISSN 2674-2160.
- Jul, 2020 **The Classification of Drug Addicts' Messages in Social Networks with Neural Networks**
Firsanova, V.
Dialogue 2020 Student Session.

8 Conferences

- Sep 2023 **CrossConf**
[Trends: AI and tools](#)
Conversational Artificial Intelligence for Inclusive Education
- May 2023 **Scientific Spring 2023**
[Information and Computer Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Big Data Processing in Medicine](#)
Application of Linguistic and Computational Technologies to the Development of a Mobile App...
- May 2023 **ACM Web Conference**
[PhD Symposium](#)
Towards Building a Mobile App for People on the Spectrum
- Apr 2023 **AINL: Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Conference**
[Main track](#)
What Do Text-to-Image Models Know about the Languages of the World?
- Mar 2023 **51st L.A. Verbitskaya International Scientific Philological Conference (IPC 2023)**
[Applied and computational linguistics](#)
The Development of a Chatbot about Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Mar 2023 **OpenTalks.AI 2023**
[Poster Presentation](#)
The Development of an AI-Powered Chatbot for Inclusive Education
- Dec 2021 **Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems**
[Data-Centric AI Workshop](#)
Two Approaches to Building Dialogue Systems for People on the Spectrum
- Jul 2021 **TRITON 2021: Forum for recent advances in technologies for translation and interpreting**
[Brainstorming Session](#)
Karelian Machine Translation
- Jun 2021 **Internet and Modern Society - IMS**
[International Workshop "Computational Linguistics"](#)
Question Answering Systems and Inclusion: Pros and Cons
- Jun 2021 **6th International Conference Digital Transformation & Global Society (DTGS 2021)**
[Communications in Computer and Information Science](#)
Transformer Models for Question Answering on Autism Spectrum Disorder QA Dataset
- Jun 2021 **Dialogue International Conference on Computational Linguistics**
[Student session](#)
Autism Spectrum Disorder Question Answering Dataset
- Oct 2020 **AINL: Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Conference 2020**
[Human-AI Interaction Workshop](#)
Supporting the Inclusion of People with Asperger Syndrome...
- Jun 2020 **Dialogue International Conference on Computational Linguistics**
[Student session](#)
The classification of drug addicts' messages in social networks with neural networks
- Feb 2019 **XX International Conference of Young Slavists**
[Language. Text. Society](#)
The Functioning of Drug Addict's Slang in Social Networks

9 Industry Experience

Autumn 2021 **Speech Technology Center (Internship)** – Saint Petersburg, Russia
Project Management Department, Dialogue System Integration

10 Talks and Tutorials

May 2023 Empathic Machine Processors for Inclusion
Aggregate Intellect Journal Club, [publication](#)

Apr 2023 Why a Philologist Needs Neural Networks?
Saint Petersburg State University, International Conference of Philology Students, Plenary Session, [program](#)

Apr 2023 EMPI: Artificial Intelligence (AI) for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
Normal'noe Mesto (Charity Organization), Saint Petersburg, Russia, [program](#)

Aug 2022 My First Crowdsourcing
OLYMP Union, ITMO University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

Oct 2021 Transformers
Saint Petersburg State University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

Jun 2021 Evolution of Chat-bots
OLYMP Union, ITMO University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

11 Mentorship and Service

Nov 2022 – Dec 2022 **Corpora 2023 International Conference at SPbU (Organizing Committee manager)**
Translation, mailing, typesetting, editing, technical support.

Apr 2022 **XXV Open Conference for Philology Students at SPbU**
Co-organizer of the section "Psycholinguistics"

Feb 2022 – Jun 2022 **Non-governmental organization, Irkutsk, Russia ([Website Developer](#))**
Website development.

Sep 2021 – Jun 2022 **Non-governmental organization, Irkutsk, Russia (Project Manager)**
Development and maintenance of a project to update the organization's website.

Jan 2021 – Jul 2021 **Corpora 2021 International Conference at SPbU (Organizing Committee manager)**
Translation, mailing, typesetting, editing, technical support.

Jan 2021 – Jul 2021 **[IMS-2021 Conference at ITMO University](#) (Organizing Committee manager)**
Translation.

Sep 2020 – Dec 2020 **OLYMP Union at ITMO University (NLP Discussion Club organizer)**
Creator and organizer of a student discussion club.

12 Technical Skills

Programming and markup languages

Proficient in: Python, R, HTML, CSS, XML

Familiar with: JavaScript

Software

L^AT_EX, Git, Jupiter

Languages

English (IELTS Certificate 7.5 C1 Advanced)

German (Upper-Intermediate)

Spanish (Intermediate)

French (Intermediate)

Italian (Elementary)

Russian (Native)

13 Other Interests

Ancient languages, computer vision, charity, ecology, fine arts.