

Victoria (Viktoriia*) Firsanova

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Saint Petersburg, Russia (born in Tula, Tula Oblast, Russia)

*In papers and everywhere else, I spell my name as "Victoria", but in official documents it is spelled as "Viktoriia"

Research interests

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

Education

- 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.

Professional Development

- 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 “ <i>Design Thinking</i> ”
Jul 2021	The Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School – Online Tracks “ <i>Pro-Bono</i> ”, “ <i>Agile</i> ”, “ <i>Networking</i> ”
Apr 2021	DeepLearning.AI – Coursera, Online Course “ <i>Natural Language Processing with Attention Models</i> ”
Mar 2021	University of California, Santa Cruz – Coursera, Online Course “ <i>Bayesian Statistics: From Concept to Data Analysis</i> ”
Jan 2021	Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Huawei – Stepik, Online Course “ <i>Huawei: Natural Language Processing</i> ”
Aug 2020	Summer School of Machine Learning (SMILES) – Skoltech, Online
Jul 2020	IBM – Coursera, Online Course “ <i>IBM: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)</i> ”
Sep 2019	Fall School for Formal Syntax and Formal Semantics (3-FS) – Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia

Honors and scholarships

Dec, 2022	Literature Prize Nominee <i>Author of a short novel</i>
Dec, 2022	Literature Open-Call Participant <i>Author of short read stories</i>
Oct, 2021	Winner of the Vladimir Potanin Foundation Competition “ Practices of Personal Philanthropy and Altruism ” (Vladimir Potanin Foundation) <i>The project “The Development of the Informational Chat-bot about Autism Spectrum Disorder” was supported by funding provided by the Competition Organizers.</i>
Aug, 2021	Winner of the Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School Competition Vladimir Potanin Foundation Summer School Competition (Vladimir Potanin Foundation) <i>The charity project “Accompanied Growing up for Mentally Disabled People” launched by an NGO.</i>
Feb, 2020	The Vladimir Potanin Foundation Scholarship (Vladimir Potanin Foundation)
Dec, 2020	ODS Awards (Open Data Science) <i>Winner in two nominations: Best Project, Best Organizer.</i>

Publications

- 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 "Internet and Modern Society" (IMS-2021), St. Petersburg, Russia 23-26 June 2021. (CEUR Workshop Proceedings; Vol. 3090). RWTH Aachen University. <http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3090/>.
- Jan, 2022 **Transformer Models for Question Answering on Autism Spectrum Disorder QA Dataset**
Firsanova, V.
In D. A. Alexandrov, A. V. Chugunov, Y. Kabanov, O. Koltsova, I. Musabirov, S. Pashakhin, A. V. Boukhanovsky, & A. V. Chugunov (Red.), Digital Transformation and Global Society - 6th International Conference, DTGS 2021, Revised Selected Papers: 6th International Conference, DTGS 2021, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 23–25, 2021 (pp. 122-133). (Communications in Computer and Information Science; Vol 1503 CCIS). Springer Nature. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-93715-7_9.
- 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. Workshop on Human-AI Interaction. 7.-9.10.2020, online.

- 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.

Conferences

- 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 and more**
[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 and Intellectual Technologies**
[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: Building a Customizable Chatbot with Transfer Learning

Jun 2020 **Dialogue International Conference on Computational Linguistics and Intellectual Technologies**

[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

Industry experience

Autumn 2021 **Speech Technology Center (Internship)** – Saint Petersburg, Russia

Project Management Department, Dialogue System Integration

Talks and tutorials

Aug 2022 My First Crowdsourcing

Lecture on Information Technology, OLYMP Union, ITMO University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

Oct 2021 Transformers

Seminar on Computational Linguistics, Saint Petersburg State University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

Jun 2021 Evolution of Chat-bots

Lecture on Computational Linguistics, OLYMP Union, ITMO University, Saint Petersburg, Russia, [available on YouTube](#)

Mentorship and service

Nov 2022 – Dec 2022 **Corpora 2023 International Conference at St. Petersburg State University (Organizing Committee manager)**

Translation, mailing, typesetting, editing, technical support.

Apr 2022 **XXV Open Conference for Philology Students at St. Petersburg State University (Co-organizer of the section "Psycholinguistics")**

Conference holding, review and selection of applications.

Feb 2022 – Jun 2022	Non-governmental organization for children and parents of children with mental disability, Irkutsk, Russia (Website Developer) Website development.
Sep 2021 – Jun 2022	Non-governmental organization of care for people with mental disability, 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 St. Petersburg State University (Organizing Committee manager) Translation, mailing, typesetting, editing, technical support.
Jan 2021 – Jul 2021	Internet and Modern Society (IMS-2021) International Conference at ITMO University (Organizing Committee manager) Translation.
Sep 2020 – Dec 2020	OLYMP Union at ITMO University (Active member and NLP Discussion Club organizer) Creator and organizer of a student discussion club.

Technical skills

Programming and markup languages

Proficient in: Python, HTML, CSS, XML

Familiar with: JavaScript

Software

LaTeX, Git, Jupiter

Languages

English (IELTS Certificate 7.5 C1 Advanced), German (Upper-Intermediate), Spanish (Intermediate), French (Intermediate), Italian (Elementary), Russian (Native)

Other interests

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