

12th Symposium on Languages, Applications and Technologies

SLATE 2023, June 26–28, 2023, Vila do Conde, Portugal

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■ Preface

In the realm of communication, language serves as the foundation pillar. Within the domain of computer science, three distinct modes of communication have emerged: Human to Human Languages (HHL), Human to Computer Languages (HCL), and Computer-to-Computer Languages (CCL). Each of these modes possesses its unique attributes and significance. HHL encompasses the languages humans employ to interact and converse, constituting the realm of natural language processing. For the HCL, programming languages enable humans to articulate their knowledge and issue commands that instruct computers' behaviour. Finally, CCL assumes its role as an inter-computer communication language. Particularly noteworthy is the revolutionary transformation in the communication process, especially within HCL, driven by the emergence of generative languages that facilitate using natural language to communicate with computers.

The pursuit of understanding and advancing these three types of communication means has been guiding the SLATE conference since its inception. The twelfth edition culminated at the School of Media Arts and Design (P. Porto, ESMAD) in Vila do Conde, Portugal, from the 26th to the 28th of July. SLATE serves as a nexus where researchers, developers, and educators converge, facilitating the exchange of ideas and knowledge across three tracks: the Human-to-Human Language (HHL) track, the Human-to-Computer Language (HCL) track, and the Computer-to-Computer Language (CCL) track.

Within the context of this edition, we received twenty-one papers. The rigorous review process realized by the Scientific Committee led to the selection of sixteen articles for publication and oral presentation during the symposium.

We thank the individuals and groups instrumental in the resounding success of the 2023 edition of SLATE. The dedication of the Members of the Scientific Program Committee is deeply appreciated; their meticulous efforts in reviewing submissions, providing insightful corrections, and contributing novel ideas were pivotal in shaping the final roster of accepted papers. The Organizing Committee equally deserves acknowledgement for their invaluable contributions in ensuring the seamless execution of the conference. Our sincere appreciation extends to the invited Speaker, Gerardo Sierra, the Head of the Language Engineering Group at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), for graciously accepting our invitation and generously sharing their expertise.

Finally, we highly esteem the Authors, whose unwavering commitment and scholarly contributions enriched SLATE with their ongoing projects and research pursuits. Among these outstanding contributions, special recognition for the work by Bruno Faria, Dylan Perdigão and Hugo Gonçalo Oliveira, entitled “Question Answering over Linked Data with GPT-3,” which awarded the distinction of the Best Paper Award.

After SLATE 2023, it becomes manifest that the convergence of these myriad linguistic dimensions fosters a harmonious symphony of knowledge and innovation, enabling profound dialogue between humans and computers. Embrace the wealth of insights within this compendium of proceedings and allow your curiosity to flourish.

Alberto Simões, Mario Marcelo Berón, and Filipe Portela




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