

Sadegh Jafari

+32492824498
sadegh.jafari@ugent.be
sadeghjafari5528
sadegh-jafari-b2a55b229

RESEARCH INTERESTS NLP, Social Media Analysing, Special-Purpose Chatbots, Empathetic multimodal conversational agents.

EDUCATION **Ghent University** Feb 2025 - Current
PhD. in Linguistics and Computer science engineering *Advised by Prof. Veronique Hoste, Prof. Els Lefever, Prof. Tony Belpaeme*
GPA: –
Project: An investigation into more empathic conversational AI.

Iran University of Science & Technology Sep 2022 - Sep 2024
M.Sc. in Computer Science. *Advised by Prof. Sauleh Eetemadi*
GPA: **3.77**
Project: Psychological Health Chatbot using LLM.

Iran University of Science & Technology Sep 2018 - Aug 2022
B.Sc. in Computer Science. *Advised by Prof. Saeed Parsa*
GPA: **3.76**
Project: Increasing the testability of the program by applying automatic refactoring to the program code.

HONORS
- Winner of [Amsterdam Policy Hackathon](#) in PAVA challenge
- I placed **5th** in the LLM Hackathon competition, which was the first LLM competition in Iran, competing against nearly 1000 participants.
- IUST Computer Engineering class of **top 10%**.
- **Top 0.4%** in the national university entrance exam, Math and Physics Discipline.

PUBLICATIONS **S Jafari**, E Lefever, V Hoste. 2025. *Towards Reliable Evaluation of Emotional Text Generation in LLMs: Human vs. Automatic Metrics*. [LREC 2026 conference](#).

S Jafari, T Azin, (18 more authors), E Lefever, V Hoste. 2025. *APARSIN: A Multi-Variety Sentiment and Translation Benchmark for Iranic Languages*. EACL 2026 conference, [SilkRoadNLP Workshop](#).

S Jafari, E Lefever, V Hoste. 2025. *Disentangling Emotion Understanding and Generation in Large Language Models*. EACL 2026 conference, [WASSA Workshop](#).

S Jafari, E Lefever, V Hoste. 2025. *Embedding Analogies for Evaluating Emotion in LLM-Generated Utterances*. 28th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI 2025), [BEHAIV Workshop](#).

H Amirzadeh, **S Jafari**, A Harju, R van der Goot. 2024. *data2lang2vec: Data Driven Typological Features Completion*. [COLING Conference](#).

S Jafari, F Farsi, N Ebrahimi, M Sajadi, S Eetemadi. 2024. *DadmaTools V2: an Adapter-Based Natural Language Processing Toolkit for the Persian Language*. COLING Conference ([AbjadNLP](#)).

S Jafari, E Zare, A Vishte, M Mirzae, Z Amiri, S Mohammadparast, S Eetemadi. 2024. *Psychological Health Chatbot, Detecting and Assisting Patients in their Path to Recovery*. COLING Conference([AbjadNLP](#)).

S Jafari, M Farsouni Nezhad, M Nobakhtian, A Chaichi Mellatshahi and A Kazemeini. 2024. *A Silent Voice: A Bilingual Longitudinal Analysis of Mahsa Amini's Movement Tweet?*. IEEE ICDM Conference([SENTIRE workshop](#)).

S Jafari, M Mahmoodzadeh, V Nazari, R Bahmanyar, K Burrows. 2024. *DRAGON at FIGNEWS 2024 Shared Task: a Dedicated RAG for October 7th conflict News*. [The Second Arabic Natural Language Processing Conference](#)(Co-located with ACL 2024).

M Zakeri, S Parsa, **S Jafari**. 2024. *Measuring and improving software testability at design level*. [IST: Information and Software Technology journal](#)

S Jafari, A Fathi, A Hajizadegan, A Kazemeini, S Eetemadi. 2023. *A longitudinal study about gradual changes in the Iranian Online Public Sphere pre and post of "Mahsa Moment": Focusing on Twitter*. EMNLP Conference([LChange23 workshop](#)).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

[SenticNet Company, Computing and Data Science \(CCDS\) of Nanyang Technological University \(NTU\), Singapore](#). Mar 2025 - Current

Research Assistant under the supervision of [Prof. Erik Cambria](#)

- Working on generating and evaluating emotional videos using different generative models. The goal is to augment datasets for end-to-end training of multimodal large language models (MLLMs) for emotional generation.

[NLPnorth Lab, Computer Science department of the IT University of Copenhagen](#) Apr 2023 - Aug 2024

Research Assistant under the supervision of [Prof. Rob van der Goot](#)

- We are working on a project to improve [Lang2Vec](#), aiming to find an embedding for each language to enhance NLP models for low-resource languages. My role in the team is to identify the best model for missing values detection and perform feature selection for this task.

[NLP Lab, Dept. of Computer Engineering, IUST](#) Sep 2022 - Sep 2024

Research Assistant under the supervision of [Prof. Sauleh Eetemadi](#)

- I am a mentor of a group consisting of 5 bachelor's students. Our goal is to design a chatbot that can detect individuals in need of support from social media based on their posts and assist them on their path to recovery.

[Data Mining Lab, IUST](#) Dec 2021 - Nov 2022

Research Assistant under the supervision of [Prof. Behrouz Minaei Bidgoli](#)

- Creating a Persian Named Entity Recognition (NER) dataset.
- Try to build an entity linker to link entities to Wikipedia pages.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Dadmotech Company	Sep 2023 - Jan 2025
	Project Manager and NLP Research Assistant	
	- I am working on Dadmatools, an open-source project for Natural Language Processing resources for the Persian language. Currently, I am utilizing the adapter method to build a pipeline for various NLP tasks. - Working on various NLP projects required by other companies.	
	NetboxOfficial Company	Aug 2022 - Sep 2023
	Python Developer	
	- Crawling film and music information from other websites. - Write some Django APIs to retrieve music and film information from the database. - Building a movie recommender system. - Working on user behavior analysis to predict the time users spend on our application.	
	TahaTech Company	Jun 2021 - Mar 2022
	Oracle Database Developer	
	Designing a database to manage resources for some companies.	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Natural Language Processing, Prof. Sauleh Eetemadi	Fa 2023, Sp 2022
	Deep Learning, Prof. Marzieh Davoodabadi	Fa 2022
	Database Design, Prof. Hossein Rahmani	Sp 2022, Sp 2021, Fa 2020
	Data Structures, Prof. Hossein Rahmani	Fa 2023, Fa 2021
	Compiler Design, Prof. Saeed Parsa	Sp 2022, Fa 2021
	Computer Architecture, Prof. Mohsen Soryani	Fa 2021, Sp 2021, Fa 2020
	Fundamentals of Computer Programming, Prof. Vahid Azhari	Sp 2022
EXTRA ACTIVITIES	Elected member of IUST CE Scientific Association (CESA).	May 2023 - May 2024
	Managing a YouTube channel named NLPaper where I discuss interesting papers in the field of Natural Language Processing that I have read.	June 2023 - Current
REFERENCES	Dr. Veronique Hoste , Research director at LT3, Ghent University, +3293311941, veronique.hoste@ugent.be	
	Dr. Els Lefever , Academic staff at LT3, Ghent University, +3293311936, els.lefever@ugent.be	
	Dr. Sauleh Eetemadi , Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Iran University of Science & Technology, +9873225342, sauleh@iust.ac.ir	
	Dr. Rob van der Goot , Assistant Professor of Computer Science, IT-University of Copenhagen, robv@itu.dk	
	Dr. Behrouz Minaei Bidgoli , Professor of Computer Science, Iran University of Science & Technology, +9873225330, b_minaei@iust.ac.ir	