MUHAMMAD **ARSLAN** MANZOOR

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EDUCATION

Philosophy of Doctorate, Natural Language Processing — Aug 2021 – 2025
Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI), Abu Dhabi, UAE — *CGPA 3.83/4.00*

- Supervisors: Prof. Preslav Nakov, Prof. Monojit Choudhury, and Dr. Shangsong Liang
- Thesis: "Profiling News Media with Graphs and Advancing Empathetic Language Models"
- Major courses: Natural Language Processing, Speech Processing, Data Mining

Master of Science, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence — Sept 2017 – June 2020
Nanjing University of Science and Technology (NJUST), Nanjing, China — *CGPA 3.54/4.00*

- Supervisor: Prof. Jianfeng Lu
- Thesis: "Sentiment Analysis of Roman Urdu Sentences with Deep Neural Networks"
- Major courses: Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Distributed Data

Bachelor of Science, Information Technology — Oct 2013 – May 2017
Department of Computer Science, University of & Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), Pakistan — *CGPA 3.45/4.00*

- Supervisor: Dr. Muhammad Shabbir Abbasi

PUBLICATIONS

Ally: Multi-Graph and Text Fusion for Improved Detection of Bias and Factuality in News Media *(sub to ARR-2025)*
Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, *Dilshod Azizov, Daniil Oreal, Zain Muhammad Mujahid, Preslav Nakov*

UrduFactCheck: An Agentic Fact-Checking Framework for Urdu with Evidence Boosting and Benchmarking *(EMNLP-2025)*
Sarfraz Ahmad, Hasan Iqbal, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**, *Yuxia Wang, Preslav Nakov*

PAEFF: Precise Alignment and Enhanced Gated Feature Fusion for Face-Voice Association *(Interspeech-2025)*
Abdul Hannan, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**, *Shah Nawaz, Mubashir Noman*

Can Machines Resonate with Humans? Evaluating the Emotional and Empathic Comprehension of LMs (Paper) *(EMNLP-2024)*
Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, *Yuxia Wang, Minghan Wang, Preslav Nakov*

A Decade of Deep Learning: A Survey on The Magnificent Seven (Paper) *(sub. to ACM-2024)*
Dilshod Azizov, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**, *Shangsong Liang*

MGM: Global Understanding of Media Graphs for Predicting the Factuality / Bias of News Media (Paper) *(NAACL-2025)*
Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, *Ruihong Zeng, Preslav Nakov, Shangsong Liang*

A Survey on Predicting the Factuality and the Bias of News Media (Paper) *(ACL-2024)*
Preslav Nakov, Jisun An, Haewoon Kwak, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**, *Zain Muhammad Mujahid, Husrev Taha Sencar*

Factuality of Large Language Models in the Year 2024 (Paper) *(EMNLP-2024)*
Yuxia Wang, Minghan Wang, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**, *Fei Liu, Georgi Georgiev, Rocktim Jyoti Das, Preslav Nakov*

Multimodality Representation Learning: A Survey on Evolution, Pretraining and Its Applications (Paper) *(ACM-TOMM-2023)*
Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, *Sarah Albarri, Ziting Xian, Zaiqiao Meng, Preslav Nakov, Shangsong Liang*

Contrastive Self-Supervised Learning: A Survey on Different Architectures (Paper) *(ICAI-2022)*
Adnan Khan, Sarah Albarri, **Muhammad Arslan Manzoor**

Lexical Variation and Sentiment Analysis of Roman Urdu Sentences with Deep Neural Networks (Paper) *(IJACSA-2020)*
Muhammad Arslan Manzoor, *Saqib Mamoon, Son Kei, Ali Zakir, Muhammad Adil, Jianfeng Lu*

Professional Experience

Research Associate   Nov 2020 – July 2021
Centre of Language Engineering, Al-Khwarizmi Institute of Computer Science, UET, Lahore, Pakistan
Research topics: Conversational AI, Urdu Chatbot, Low resource language understanding

- Worked on open-source RASA framwork to build the AI based Urdu language Chatbot / Voicebot
- Collected, preprocessed and annotated real conversational stories to train NLU / NLP module for Urdu Chat/Voice Bot

Research Assistant (Remote)   July 2020 – July 2021
Umm Al Qura University, Mecca, Saudi Arabia
Research topics: Conversational AI, Language Models

- Assistant to Professor Anas Basalamah, worked on AI conversational Projects
- Investigated LSTM and Attention based Models for natural language understanding and paraphrasing tasks

Graduate Research Assistant   Aug 2018 – July 2020
School of Computer Science and Engineering, Nanjing University of Sci. and Tech., Nanjing, China
Research topics: Deep Neural Networks, Language Models, Transformers

- Explored LMs (Language Models) for the sentiment analysis of low resource code switch data on social media
- Collaborated with colleagues to leverage CNNs for semantic segmentaion and Person re-identification tasks

Summer Schools / Internships

- Attended Summer Program 2019 for Future Smart City in Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Completed a 10-week Chinese language course at Nanjing University, China
- IT Intern at Pakistan Telecommunication Landline (PTCL), Faisalabad, Pakistan

Honours and Awards

- Fully funded PhD scholarship holder at MBZUAI, Abu dhabi
- Fully funded Masters scholarship holder from Chines Scholarship Council
- Undergraduate merit based scholarship holder
- Award holder from Chief Minister of Government of Pakistan
- Elite Scholarship holder in High school

Academic services

- Served as a reviewer at TOIS-2023, AACL-2023
- Served as a mentor to UGRIP internship program for NLP-01,02 projects at MBZUAI
- Served as volunteer at EMNLP 2022 Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Teaching assistant for the course NLP-801 (Deep Learning for NLP)

Languages

English, German, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Arabic, Chinese

Other Interests

- Reading philosophy books, Exploring culture, Traveling, Playing badminton & soccer, Listening Tech podcasts