

# Khalid Al-Khatib | Resume

## Education

- 2014 - 2019**      **Phd in Computer Science**      Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
- ▶ Dissertation: “Computational Analysis of Argumentation Strategies”. Note: magna cum laude
  - ▶ Advisor: Prof. Dr. Benno Stein. External examiner: Prof. Dr. Manfred Stede
- 2007 - 2010**      **MS. in Computer Science**      Jordan University of Science & Tech.
- ▶ GPA: 87.1% (Very Good). Rank: top 5%.
- 2008 - 2009**      **Visiting Graduate Student**      Masaryk University
- ▶ Graduate level courses in Computer Science.
- 2003 - 2007**      **BSc. in Computer Science,**      Al Balqa Applied University
- ▶ GPA: 3.28/4.00 (Very Good). Rank: top 5%.

## Experience

- 2020 - Present**      **Postdoctoral Researcher**      Martin-Luther-University, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
- ▶ Advisor: Prof. Dr. Matthias Hagen, Prof. Dr. Benno Stein
- 2015 - 2019**      **Researcher**      Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (Webis.de)
- ▶ Advisor: Prof. Dr. Benno Stein
- 11.2018 - 04.2019**      **Research Intern**      IBM Research, Ireland Research Lab
- ▶ Advisor: Dr. Yufang Hou
- 2011 - 2013**      **Research Assistant**      Institute for NLP, University of Stuttgart
- ▶ Advisor: Prof. Dr. Hinrich Schütze, Prof. Dr. Cathleen Kantner.

## Research Projects

- 2020 - Present**      **Conversational News**      Martin-Luther-University, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
- ▶ This project includes the development of a prototype that deploy text news articles to smart assistants. Writing augmented tools will be provided by semi-automatic ways to enhance the experience of delivering news in audio channels.
  - ▶ The project is funded by Google within the Digital News Innovation Fund.
- 2019 - Present**      **Argumentation Knowledge Graph**      Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (Webis.de)
- ▶ The project aims for constructing an argumentation knowledge graph that is adequate for supporting several artificial intelligent down-stream applications such as text generation, decision making, and argument search.
  - ▶ The project is partially funded by IBM through the Ph.D. fellowship award.
- 2015 - 2018**      **Args.me Search Engine**      Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (Webis.de)
- ▶ This project targets the development of the first argument search engine on the web. The project addresses several challenges of mining arguments and their relations from natural language text on the web. We develop algorithms that (1) robustly tackle various forms of web argumentation, (2) efficiently leverage the scale of the web, and (3) effectively complement argument mining with an argumentation analysis to assess important quality dimensions.

- The project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Benno Stein. Prof. Dr. Matthias Hagen, Jun. Prof. Dr. Henning Wachsmuth

2015 - Present **Argumentation Strategies** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (Webis.de)

- This research project is centered around the strategies that authors of monological argumentative texts, such as news editorials and scientific articles, employ to persuade their readers. It seeks to (1) establish computational models of such argumentation strategies, (2) analyze what strategies are common and effective within and across argumentative text genres, and (3) synthesize texts with effective strategies for given sets of arguments.
- The project is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Benno Stein. Jun.-Prof. Dr. Henning Wachsmuth.

11.2018 - 04.2019 **Counter-argument Generation** IBM Research, Ireland Research Lab

- This project concerns developing new technologies for tackling the following task: given a target argument, we aim to recommend its counterargument(s) from a set of mined arguments related to the same topic.
- Advisor: Dr. Lea Deleris. Dr. Yufang Hou

2011-2013 **Sentiment Topic Analysis** Institute for NLP, University of Stuttgart

- This project studies some areas in sentiment analysis that haven't been studied extensively before like perspectives' classification, bias detection, and the relation between social networks and their users with the public opinion of different sub-communities.
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Hinrich Schutze.

2011-2013 **eIdentity** Institute for NLP, University of Stuttgart

- This project studies multiple collective identities in international debates about war and peace since the end of the Cold War. Many language technology tools and methods are used to analyze multilingual text concepts in the social sciences.
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Cathleen Kantner.

➤ ➤ ➤ Honors & Awards

2017 **IBM Ph.D. Fellowship Award** IBM

2011 - 2012 **SFB 732 Research Scholarship** University of Stuttgart

2008 - 2009 **Erasmus Mundus Action2 Scholarship** Masaryk University

2009 - 2010 **Graduate Scholarship** Jordan University of Science and Technology

➤ ➤ ➤ Training & Workshops

2019 **Conversational Search** Schloss Dagstuhl Seminar

2019 **Google NLP Summit** Google Zürich

2017 **Lisbon Machine Learning Summer School** Instituto Superior Técnico (IST)

2015 **Debating Technologies** Schloss Dagstuhl Seminar

2013 **DeepQA, IBM Watson Tutorial** TU Darmstadt

➤ ➤ ➤ Reviewing

- Conference: ACL: 2016-2020, AAAI: 2019, NAACL: 2016,2019, COLING: 2018, EMNLP: 2017, EACL: 2016
- Workshop: ArgMining Workshop: 2016-2020

## » » » Organisation

### 09.2020 **Tutorial: Argumentation Technology for AI**

- » Co-presenter of the tutorial in the 43rd German Conference on Artificial Intelligence

### 2019 **Shared Task: Same-Side Stance**

- » Co-organiser of the shared task on ArgMining workshop

## » » » Teaching Experience

### 2015 - 2016 **Seminar Advisor** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

1. Advanced Topics in Information Retrieval and Natural Language Processing. (Winter 2015)
2. Advanced Topics in Information Retrieval and Natural Language Processing. (Summer 2015)

### 2007 - 2008 **Teacher Assistant** Jordan University of Science and Technology

- » Java, C++, Introduction to Databases.

## » » » Student Supervision

### 2015-2020 **Student Projects Supervisor** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany

1. Arguments from Email Data. (Winter 2019)
2. Augmented Writing Platform for Blog Posts. (Summer 2019)
3. The Argument Search Engine. (Summer 2017)
4. Identifying Hate Speech. (Winter 2016)
5. Automatic Detection of Evidence in Natural Language Text. (Summer 2016)
6. Statistical Classification of Argumentative Essays. (Winter 2015)
7. This is Offensive Language. (Summer 2015)
8. Modeling Information Extraction Problems using Argumentation Theory. (Winter 2014)

### 2015-2020 **Student Theses Supervisor** Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany

#### Ongoing Theses:

1. Fan Fan: Mining High-ethos Evidence from Wikipedia. (Master Thesis)
2. Fatema Merchant: Neural Paraphrasing Methods for Augmented Writing Tools. (Master Thesis)
3. Anh Phuong Le, Harvesting the Web for Building Large-scale Argumentation Graphs. (Master Thesis)
4. Dipendra Sharma Kafle. Style-based Analysis of Persuasive Strategies. (Bachelor Thesis)

#### Completed Theses:

1. Lukas Trautner, Exploiting Argumentation Knowledge Graphs for Argument Generation. (Bachelor Thesis)
2. Nikolay Kolyada, Author or Argumentation: Exploring the Effect of Prior Beliefs and Personality Traits on Persuasion Success in On-line Discussion Forums. (Master Thesis)
3. Viorel Morari, Mining Rhetorical Devices by means of Natural Language Processing. (Master Thesis)

## » » » Datasets

1. ACL-20. Webis-Email-20. Size: 2MB, 5K text segments. Area: Computational Argumentation
2. ACL-20. Webis-ChangeMyView-20. Size: 2MB, 5K text segments. Area: Computational Argumentation

3. ACL-20. Webis-Reddit-20. Size: 2MB, 5K text segments. Area: Computational Argumentation
4. AAAI-20. Webis-EffectRelation-20. Size: 2MB, 5K text segments. Area: Computational Argumentation
5. CoNLL-18. Webis-Editorial-Quality-18. Size: 3MB, 1K documents. Area: Computational Argumentation
6. ACL-18. Webis-WikiDebate-18. Size: 78MB, 6M discussions. Area: Computational Argumentation
7. ACL-18. Webis-WikiDiscussions-18. Size: 4GB, 6M discussions. Area: Computational Argumentation
8. NAACL-16. Webis-Debate-16. Size: 908 KB, 27K text segments. Area: Computational Argumentation
9. COLING-16. Webis-Editorials-16. Size: 5MB, 300 documents. Area: Computational Argumentation

## » » Skills

- » Programming: Java, Python, working in UNIX/LINUX and Windows environments
- » NLP Tools: Scikit-learn, Pandas, NumPy, Stanford NLP, Weka, Lucene ...
- » Languages: Arabic, English, German

## » » Publication

### Conference Publications:

1. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Michael Völske, Shahbaz Syed, Nikolay Kolyada, and Benno Stein. Exploiting Personal Characteristics of Debaters for Predicting Persuasiveness. In the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL 20*).  
Acceptance rate: -%, CORE rank: A\*.
2. Janek Bevendorff, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Martin Potthast, and Benno Stein. Crawling and Preprocessing Mailing Lists At Scale for Dialog Analysis. In the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL 20*).  
Acceptance rate: -%, CORE rank: A\*.
3. Roxanne El Baff, Henning Wachsmuth, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, and Benno Stein. Analyzing the Persuasive Effect of Style in News Editorial Argumentation. In the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL 20*).  
Acceptance rate: -%, CORE rank: A\*.
4. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Yufang Hou, Henning Wachsmuth, Charles Jochim, Francesca Bonin, and Benno Stein. End-to-End Argumentation Knowledge Graph Construction. In the 34th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (*AAAI 20*).  
Acceptance rate: 20.6%, CORE rank: A\*.
5. Roxanne El Baff, Henning Wachsmuth, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Manfred Stede, and Benno Stein. Computational Argumentation Synthesis as a Language Modeling Task. In the 12th International Natural Language Generation Conference (*INLG 2019*).  
CORE rank: B.
6. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Henning Wachsmuth, Kevin Lang, Jakob Herpel, Matthias Hagen and Benno Stein. Modeling Deliberative Argumentation Strategies on Wikipedia. In Proceedings of the 56th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (*ACL 18*).  
Acceptance rate: 25.3%, CORE rank: A\*.
7. Roxanne El Baff, Henning Wachsmuth, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, and Benno Stein. Challenge or Empower: Revisiting Argumentation Quality in a News Editorial Corpus. In the 22nd Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (*CoNLL 2018*).  
Acceptance rate: 20.8%, CORE rank: A.
8. Wei-Fan Chen, Henning Wachsmuth, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, and Benno Stein. Learning to Flip the Bias of News Headlines. In the 11th International Natural Language Generation Conference (*INLG 2018*).  
Acceptance rate: 60%, CORE rank: B.
9. Henning Wachsmuth, Manfred Stede, Roxanne El Baff, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Maria Skeppstedt and Benno Stein. Argumentation Synthesis following Rhetorical Strategies. In Proceedings of the 27th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (*COLING 18*).  
Acceptance rate: 37.4%, CORE rank: A.

10. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Henning Wachsmuth, Matthias Hagen, and Benno Stein. Patterns of Argumentation Strategies across Topics. In the 2017 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (*EMNLP 17*), pages 1362-1368, Association for Computational Linguistics.  
Acceptance rate: 18.4%, CORE rank: A.
11. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Henning Wachsmuth, Johannes Kiesel, Matthias Hagen, and Benno Stein. A News Editorial Corpus for Mining Argumentation Strategies. In Proceedings of the 26th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (*COLING 16*), pages 3433-3443.  
Acceptance rate: 32.4%, CORE rank: A.
12. Henning Wachsmuth, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, and Benno Stein. Using Argument Mining to Assess the Argumentation Quality of Essays. In the 26th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (*COLING 16*), pages 1680-1692.  
Acceptance rate: 32.4%, CORE rank: A.
13. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Henning Wachsmuth, Matthias Hagen, Jonas Köhler, and Benno Stein. Cross-Domain Mining of Argumentative Text through Distant Supervision. In the 15th Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (*NAACL 16*), pages 1395-1404, Association for Computational Linguistics.  
Acceptance rate: 25.3%, CORE rank: A.
14. **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Hinrich Schütze, and Cathleen Kantner. Automatic Detection of Point of View Differences in Wikipedia. In the 24th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (*COLING 12*), pages 33-50, 2012.  
Acceptance rate: 27%, CORE rank: A.

#### Workshop Publications:

1. Wei-Fan Chen, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Matthias Hagen, Henning Wachsmuth, and Benno Stein. Unraveling the Search Space of Abusive Language in Wikipedia with Dynamic Lexicon Acquisition. In the second Workshop on NLP for Internet Freedom (*NLP4IF 2019*) at EMNLP, November 2019.
2. Henning Wachsmuth, Martin Potthast, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Yamen Ajjour, Jana Puschmann, Jiani Qu, Jonas Dorsch, Viorel Morari, Janek Bevendorff, and Benno Stein. Building an Argument Search Engine for the Web. In the Fourth Workshop on Argument Mining (*ArgMining 17*), pages 49-59, 2017.
3. **Khalid Al-Khatib**. The Web as a Corpus of Argumentation. In: Report of Dagstuhl Seminar on *Debating Technologies* (15512), vol. 5, no. 12, p. 22-22, 2015. <http://www.dagstuhl.de/15512>.
4. **Khalid Al-Khatib** and Noam Slonim. Computational Argumentation Competitions and Data. In: Report of Dagstuhl Seminar on *Debating Technologies* (15512), vol. 5, no. 12, p. 39-40, 2015. <http://www.dagstuhl.de/15512>.
5. Johannes Kiesel, **Khalid Al-Khatib**, Matthias Hagen, and Benno Stein. A Shared Task on Argumentation Mining in Newspaper Editorials. In the second Workshop on Argumentation Mining (*ArgMining 15*), pages 35-38, Denver, Colorado, 2015. Association for Computational Linguistics.

#### Demo Publication:

1. Johannes Kiesel, Henning Wachsmuth, **Khatib Al-Khatib**, and Benno Stein. WAT-SL: A Customizable Web Annotation Tool for Segment Labeling. In the 15th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (*EACL 17*), pages 13-16, April 2017.

#### References

1. Prof. Dr. Benno Stein  
Chair of the Web Technology and Information Systems group at Bauhaus-Universität Weimar  
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2. Prof. Dr. Matthias Hagen  
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