COMPUTATIONAL MODELS OF NATURAL ARGUMENT (CMNA 26) - FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

https://cmna-workshop.github.io/cmna26/

We are pleased to invite submissions for our forthcoming 26th annual edition of the workshop on Computational Models of Natural Argument (CMNA'26), to be held as part of the 11th International Conference on Computational Models of Argument (COMMA 2026). The CMNA workshop series focuses on the issue of modelling "natural" argumentation, where naturalness may range across a variety of forms, perhaps involving the use of visual rather than linguistic means to illustrate a point, for example using graphics or multimedia, or applying more sophisticated rhetorical devices, interacting at various layers of abstraction, or exploiting "extra-rational" characteristics of the audience, taking into account emotions and affective factors.

For this instance of CMNA, we will also solicit contributions on the special theme of "**Reflections on the study of Natural Argument in an age of LLMs**". We feel that this is both timely and topical and will provide a venue to reflect upon how recent advances in machine learning, particularly Large Language Models, affect the study of argumentation and how argumentation, in its turn, might usefully assist in the study of machine learning. This theme should be interpreted broadly, but a few starting places are as follows:

- If LLMs can be trained to do everything, why bother building new computational models?
- Assuming we continue to build computational models, of what use are they to LLMs and to their users?
- How, why, and when do LLMs help or hinder?
- Where next for LLMs as a tool in the study of natural argument?
- Where next for the study of argument in the presence of LLMs?
- The adequacy of existing LLM-based datasets and tools for verification, assessment, and evaluation of arguments, and the scope for better, more targeted tooling?
- The role of LLMs in established argumentative practises, ie. Argument Mining, Enthymeme recognition, completion, and interpretation, Logical structure recognition and interpretation.
- The ability of LLMs to understand arguments, their structure, and logic.
- Are arguments generated by or extracted from LLMs viable or acceptable, and in what circumstances?
- Big ideas on where it all leads for the CMNA community, the field more widely, and ultimately, humanity?

Notwithstanding the special theme, we also solicit contributions addressing, but not limited to, the following areas of interest:

- The characteristics of "natural" arguments (e.g. ontological aspects, cognitive issues, legal aspects).
- The linguistic characteristics of natural argumentation, including discourse markers, sentence format, referring expressions, and style.
- The generation of natural argument.
- Corpus argumentation results and techniques.
- Argument mining.
- Models of natural legal argument.
- Rhetoric and affect: the role of emotions, personalities, etc. in argumentation.
- The roles of licentiousness and deceit and the ethical implications of implemented systems demonstrating such features.
- Natural argumentation in multi-agent systems.
- Methods to better convey the structure of complex argument, including representation and summarisation.
- Natural argumentation and media: visual arguments, multi-modal arguments, spoken arguments.
- Evaluative arguments and their application in AI systems (such as decision-support and advice-giving).
- Non-monotonic, defeasible and uncertain argumentation.
- The computational use of models from informal logic and argumentation theory.
- Computer supported collaborative argumentation, for pedagogy, e-democracy and public debate.
- Tools for interacting with structures of argument.
- Applications of argumentation-based systems.

Submission

We welcome submissions of full papers (limited to 10 pages in length), short papers (limited to 5 pages in length), demos (with 2 page abstract describing the demo), position statements (2 page abstract describing the position), or late breaking results (2 page abstract reporting the results). It is highly recommended, but not mandatory, to format any contributions using the CEUR single column style (further information is available from the submission section of the CMNA website). Note that all paper lengths above, in all categories, refer to content only, and may use as many additional pages for references as are necessary.

Regular submissions will be peer-reviewed by at least two members of the programme committee. Abstracts will be reviewed by at least two members of the organising committee. Accepted papers will be grouped into thematic sessions that incorporate extensive time for questions and discussion.

Please submit your contribution using the Microsoft Conference Management Toolkit:

https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/CMNA2026 by **6th July 2026**

Key Dates

- Regular Paper submission (long & Short papers): **6th July 2026**
- Regular Paper Notification to authors: **10th August 2026**
- Demos, Position Statements, & Late-Results (two page abstract): **14th August 2026**
- Demos, Position Statements, & Late-Results notification to authors: **21st August 2026**
- Final (Camera Ready) version of all contributions: **31st August 2026**
- Workshop (In Person in Barcelona. Exact Dates TBC): **14-15th September 2026**

Organising Committee

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