Understand What They Are Talking About

“y1s1”, “Fr”, “nbcs”, “YOLO”… Do you understand these words? Have you ever used them to express yourself on the internet? If the answer are yes, congratulations, you will have no barriers to access all information online. However, you may unintentionally cause trouble to others, especially for BVI (blind and visually impaired) persons.

BVI people cannot really “read” texts on websites or Apps. A screen reader is a tool that transfers textual information into voice information and helps BVI people to understand what other people are talking about. However, a screen reader may not work with internet slang or abbreviations. The scenario is even worse when reading multilingual texts.

In this thesis, we want to build a tool to help BVI people understand informal texts. We will also evaluate how this tool improves their experience in surfing websites and Apps.

Requirements: Interest in human-computer interaction. Basic programming skills are required. Familiarity with machine learning and natural language processing would be beneficial.

We will have weekly meetings to address questions, discuss progress, and think about future ideas.

Interested? Please contact us for more details!

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