

January 11, 2024

To Avner Algom, Noam Ordan, and the entire IAHLT team,

We wish to express our huge appreciation for the IAHLT's achievements and contributions, and most significantly for the tagged Hebrew corpora that IAHLT has made available to its members. The tagged corpora that IAHLT has produced – morphology, syntax, and named entities – are substantially greater in both size and quality than anything else that has ever existed in the field of Hebrew NLP. These corpora enabled us to produce and release to the public a suite of new state-of-the-art neural-based models for Hebrew NLP tagging and parsing.

Significantly, the IAHLT corpora are so effective that they have enabled, for the first time, the creation of high-quality transformer-only models for Hebrew NLP, without any external lexicons or libraries. Effectively, this means that we were able to release models to the public which are integrated directly into hugging face, so that anyone in the world can tag and parse Hebrew sentences with a single python API call, running locally, without any other dependencies. This capability that the world now has for effortless Hebrew NLP parsing and integration is unprecedented, and it could not have been achieved without IAHLT's high-quality and wide-breadth training corpora.

Without any exaggeration, I believe it is fair to say that IAHLT's work has catapulted Hebrew NLP to a whole new level.

Sincerely,



Dr. Avi Shmidman

Head of R&D, DICTA: The Israel Center for Text Analysis