

Wei Xu

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RESEARCH	Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Social Media	
EDUCATION	Ph.D. in Computer Science, New York University , New York, NY	2014
	Thesis: <i>Data-driven Approaches for Paraphrasing Across Language Variations</i> Advisor: Ralph Grishman; Committee: Satoshi Sekine, Ernest Davis, Bill Dolan (Microsoft Research), Luke Zettlemoyer (University of Washington/Facebook AI Research)	
	B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science, Tsinghua University , Beijing, CHINA	2004/2007
	Thesis: <i>Event-relevance Based Summarization</i>	
CITIZENSHIP	United States	
APPOINTMENTS	Assistant Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology , Atlanta, GA <i>School of Interactive Computing</i>	Aug 2020 – present
	Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University , Columbus, OH <i>Department of Computer Science and Engineering</i>	Aug 2016 – July 2020
	Visiting Faculty, Carnegie Mellon University , Pittsburgh, PA <i>Language Technologies Institute</i> (Host: Graham Neubig)	Summer 2019
	Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Pennsylvania , Philadelphia, PA <i>Computer Information and Science Department</i> (Advisor: Chris Callison-Burch)	Feb 2014 – Aug 2016
	Visiting PhD Student, University of Washington , Seattle, WA <i>Computer Science and Engineering Department</i>	Jan 2012 – Dec 2013
	Research Intern, Microsoft Research , Seattle, WA <i>Internet Services Research Center</i>	Summer 2011
	Research Intern, Educational Testing Service , Princeton, NJ <i>Natural Language and Speech Group</i>	Mar – May, Sep – Dec 2010
	Engineer Intern, Amazon.com , Seattle, WA <i>Catalog Quality Group</i>	Summer 2010
	Research Intern, Hong Kong Polytechnic University <i>Department of Computing</i>	Sep 2005 – Feb 2006
AWARDS	Best Paper Award, COLING , 2018	
	Criteo Faculty Research Award (\$20,000), 2018	
	CrowdFlower AI for Everyone Award (\$25,000), 2018	
	NSF CRII Award , 2018	
	NYU MacCracken PhD Fellowship , 2007 – 2012	
GRANTS	NSF Grant Collaborative Research: Automatic Text-Simplification and Reading-Assistance to Support Self-Directed Learning by Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Workers	2018 – 2021
	PI (100%), total \$375,732 (including \$8,000 REU supplement)	
	NSF CRII RI: Learning a Timely Semantic Resource from Social Media Data	2018 – 2021
	PI (100%), total \$183,000 (including \$8,000 REU supplement)	
	IARPA Research Grant Better Extraction from Text Towards Enhanced Retrieval	2019 – 2023
	co-PI (50%), total \$850,000 (prime: Brown University)	
	DARPA Research Grant Computational Simulation of Online Social Behavior	2017 – 2021
	co-PI (50%), total \$600,000 (prime: Leidos)	
SERVICES	Best Paper Award Committee: EMNLP (2018)	
	Area Chair/Senior Area Chair: ACL (2020, 2019), AAAI (2020), NAACL (2019), COLING (2018), EMNLP (2020, 2018, 2016)	
	Program Committee: ACL (2018, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013), EMNLP (2017, 2015, 2014), NAACL (2015) WWW (2017, 2016, 2015), AAAI (2016, 2015, 2012), KDD (2015), COLING (2014)	
	Publicity Chair: EMNLP (2019), NAACL (2018, 2016)	
	Workshop Chair: ACL (2017)	
	Steering Committee: SemEval (2017)	
	NSF Review Panelist: CISE (2017)	

Journal Reviewer: Transactions of the Association for Computational (TACL), Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR)

Organizer: Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (<http://noisy-text.github.io/>) at EMNLP (2020, 2019, 2018, 2017), COLING (2016), ACL (2015); Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning (2016); SemEval Task 1: Paraphrase Identification and Semantic Similarity in Twitter (2015)

PUBLICATIONS (Underline is used to indicate student advisees at the Georgia Tech and Ohio State University.)

GigaBERT: A Bilingual BERT for English and Arabic

Wuwei Lan, Yang Chen, Wei Xu, Alan Ritter

EMNLP 2020, short paper (acceptance rate 16.7%)

Neural CRF Model for Sentence Alignment in Text Simplification

Chao Jiang, Mounica Maddela, Wuwei Lan, Yang Zhong, Wei Xu

ACL 2020, long paper (acceptance rate 25.2%)

An Empirical Study of Named Entity Recognition in StackOverflow

Jeniya Tabassum, Mounica Maddela, Wei Xu, Alan Ritter

ACL 2020, long paper (acceptance rate 25.2%)

Generalizing Natural Language Analysis through Span-relation Representations

Zhengbao Jiang, Wei Xu, Jun Araki, Graham Neubig

ACL 2020, long paper (acceptance rate 25.2%)

Learning Relation Entailment with Structured and Textual Information

Zhengbao Jiang, Jun Araki, Donghan Yu, Ruohong Zhang, Wei Xu, Yiming Yang, Graham Neubig

AKBC 2020, long paper

Discourse Level Factors for Sentence Deletion in Text Simplification

Yang Zhong, Chao Jiang, Wei Xu, Junyi Jessy Li

AAAI 2020, long paper (acceptance rate 20.6%; oral presentation)

Multi-task Pairwise Neural Ranking for Hashtag Segmentation

Mounica Maddela, Wei Xu, Daniel Preotiuc-Pietro

ACL 2019, long paper (acceptance rate 25.7%)

A Word-Complexity Lexicon and A Neural Readability Ranking Model for Lexical Simplification

Mounica Maddela, Wei Xu

EMNLP 2018, long paper (acceptance rate 25.8%; oral presentation)

Neural Network Models for Paraphrase Identification, Semantic Textual Similarity, Natural Language Inference, and Question Answering

Wuwei Lan, Wei Xu

COLING 2018, long paper (**Best Paper Award**; selection rate $8/888 = 0.90\%$)

An Annotated Corpus for Machine Reading of Instructions in Wet Lab Protocols

Chaitanya Kulkarni, Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Raghu Machiraju

NAACL 2018, short paper (acceptance rate 29%)

Character-based Neural Networks for Sentence Pair Modeling

Wuwei Lan, Wei Xu

NAACL 2018, short paper (acceptance rate 29%)

A Continuously Growing Dataset of Sentential Paraphrases

Wuwei Lan, Siyu Qiu, Hua He, Wei Xu

EMNLP 2017, long paper (acceptance rate 25.8%)

From Shakespeare to Twitter: What are Language Styles all about?

Wei Xu

EMNLP 2017 Workshop on Stylistic Variation

A Minimally Supervised Method for Recognizing and Normalizing Time Expressions in Twitter

Jeniya Tabassum, Alan Ritter, Wei Xu

EMNLP 2016, long paper (acceptance rate 26%; oral presentation)

Optimizing Statistical Machine Translation for Simplification

Wei Xu, Courtney Napoles, Ellie Pavlick, Quanze Chen, Chris Callison-Burch

TACL 2016, long paper (oral presentation at ACL 2016)

Discovering User Attribute Stylistic Differences via Paraphrasing

Daniel Preotiuc-Pietro, Wei Xu, Lyle Ungar

AAAI 2016, long paper (acceptance rate 26%; oral presentation)

Results of the WNUT16 Named Entity Recognition Shared Task

Benjamin Strauss, Bethany Toma, Alan Ritter, Marie-Catherine de Marneffe, Wei Xu
COLING 2016 Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (shared-task overview)

Problems in Current Text Simplification Research: New Data Can Help
Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch, Courtney Napoles
TACL 2015, long paper (oral presentation at EMNLP 2015)

Cost Optimization for Crowdsourcing Translation
Mingkun Gao, Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch
NAACL 2015, long paper (acceptance rate 29%)

SemEval-2015 Task 1: Paraphrase and Semantic Similarity in Twitter
Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch, William B. Dolan
SemEval 2015, long paper (shared-task overview)

Shared Tasks of the 2015 Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text: Twitter Lexical Normalization and Named Entity Recognition
Timothy Baldwin, Marie Catherine de Marneffe, Bo Han, Young-Bum Kim, Alan Ritter, Wei Xu
ACL 2015 Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (shared-task overview; author ordered alphabetically)

Extracting Lexically Divergent Paraphrases from Twitter
Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Chris Callison-Burch, William B. Dolan, Yangfeng Ji
TACL 2014, long paper (oral presentation at NAACL 2015)

Infusion of Labeled Data into Distant Supervision for Relation Extraction
Maria Pershina, Bonan Min, Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman
ACL 2014, short paper (acceptance rate 25.2%; oral presentation)

Filling Knowledge Base Gaps for Distant Supervision of Relation Extraction
Wei Xu, Raphael Hoffmann, Le Zhao, Ralph Grishman
ACL 2013, short paper (acceptance rate 24%)

Gathering and Generating Paraphrases from Twitter with Application to Normalization
Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Ralph Grishman
ACL Workshop on Building and Using Comparable Corpora 2013

A Preliminary Study of Tweet Summarization using Information Extraction
Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman, Adam Meyers, Alan Ritter
NAACL Workshop on Language Analysis in Social Media 2013

Paraphrasing for Style
Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Bill Dolan, Ralph Grishman, Colin Cherry
COLING 2012, long paper (acceptance rate 25%)

Exploiting Syntactic and Distributional Information for Spelling Correction with Web-Scale N-grams Models
Wei Xu, Joel Tetreault, Martin Chodorow, Ralph Grishman, Le Zhao
EMNLP 2011, long paper (acceptance rate 23.7%)

New York University 2011 System for KBP (Knowledge Base Population) Slot Filing
Ang Sun, Ralph Grishman, Wei Xu, Bonan Min
TAC 2011 (best performance system in NIST KBP-2011 evaluation)

Passage Retrieval for Information Extraction using Distant Supervision
Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman, Le Zhao
IJCNLP 2011, long paper (acceptance rate 36%)

Who, What, When, Where, Why? Comparing Multiple Approaches to the Cross-Lingual 5W Task
Kristen Parton, Kathleen McKeown, Bob Coyne, Mona Diab, Ralph Grishman, Dilek Hakkani-Tür, Mary Harper, Heng Ji, Weiyun Ma, Adam Meyers, Sara Stolbach, Ang Sun, Gokhan Tur, Wei Xu, Sibel Yaman
ACL 2009, long paper (acceptance rate 21%; oral presentation)

A Parse-and-Trim Approach with Information Significance for Chinese Sentence Compression
Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman
ACL Workshop on Language Generation and Summarisation 2009

Transducing Logical Relations from Automatic and Manual Annotation
Adam Meyers, Michiko Kosaka, Heng Ji, Nianwen Xue, Mary Harper, Ang Sun, Wei Xu, Shasha Liao
ACL Workshop on Linguistic Annotation 2009

Automatic Recognition of Logical Relations for English, Chinese and Japanese in the GLARF Framework
Adam Meyers, Michiko Kosaka, Nianwen Xue, Heng Ji, Ang Sun, Shasha Liao, Wei Xu
SemEval 2009, long paper

Extractive Summarization using Inter- and Intra- Event Relevance

Wenjie Li, Wei Xu, Mingli Wu, Chunfa Yuan, Qin Lu
ACL 2006, long paper (acceptance rate 23%; oral presentation)

Using Non-Local Features to Improve Named Entity Recognition Recall
Xinnian Mao, Wei Xu, Yuan Dong, Haila Wang
PACLIC 2007, long paper

Deriving Event Relevance from the Ontology Constructed with Formal Concept Analysis
Wei Xu, Wenjie Li, Mingli Wu, Wei Li, Chunfa Yuan
CICLing 2006, long paper (acceptance rate 30.4%; oral presentation)

Building Document Graph for Text Summarization: An Event-based Approach
Wei Xu, Wenjie Li, Mingli Wu, Wei Li, Chunfa Yuan
ICCPOL 2006

The THU/PolyU System at MSE 2006: An Event-relevance based Approach
Wei Xu, Chunfa Yuan, Mingling Wu, Wenjie Li
MSE 2006

STUDENTS	Mounica Maddela (PhD student at GaTech)	2017 – present
	Chao Jiang (PhD student at GaTech)	2018 – present
	Wuwei Lan (PhD student at OSU)	2016 – present
	Jeniya Tabassum (PhD student at OSU - co-advisor: Alan Ritter)	2016 – present
	Yang Zhong (PhD student at OSU)	2019 – present
	Jonathan Zheng (undergraduate at GaTech)	Autumn 2020 – present
	Sarah Flanagan (undergraduate at OSU)	2018 – present
	Kenneth Koepcke (undergraduate at OSU)	Summer 2020 – present
	Yulu Qin (undergraduate at OSU)	Summer 2020
	Brian Seeds (undergraduate at OSU)	Summer 2020
	Panya Bhinder (high school intern at OSU)	Summer 2020
	Solomon Wood (high school intern at OSU)	Spring 2020
	Sam Stevens (undergraduate at OSU)	2019 – 2020
	Ethan Lee (undergraduate at OSU)	2019 – 2020
	Daniel Szoke (undergraduate at OSU)	2019 – 2020
	Jaewook Lee (undergraduate at OSU)	2019 – 2020
	Raleigh Potluri (undergraduate student at OSU)	2018 – 2019
	Lillian Chow (undergraduate student at OSU)	2018 – 2019
	Sydney Lee (completed undergraduate at OSU, now at Capital One)	2018 – 2020
Rita Tong (completed undergraduate student at OSU, now a masters student at UWisconsin)	2018 – 2019	
Pravar Mahajan (completed Masters student at OSU, now at Google)	2016 – 2017	
Piyush Ghai (completed Masters student at OSU, now at Amazon)	Autumn 2017	
THESIS	Sanqiang Zhao (PhD student at UPitt – advisor: Daqing He)	2020 (expected)
COMMITTEE	Kai Cao (completed PhD student at NYU – advisor: Ralph Grishman)	2017
	Maria Pershina (completed PhD student at NYU – advisor: Ralph Grishman)	2014
TEACHING	<i>CSE 5539 Social Media and Text Analytics</i> (http://socialmedia-class.org/)	
	A new course integrated with research, covering from basic to state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms (teaching evaluation: 4.13/5.00 Autumn 2019, 4.40/5.00 Autumn 2017, 4.60/5.00 Autumn 2016; 5.72/6.00 at NASSLLI 2015)	
	<i>CSE 5522 Artificial Intelligence II: Advanced Techniques</i>	
	Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level (teaching evaluation: Spring 2020, 4.85/5.00 Autumn 2018, 4.50/5.00 Spring 2018)	
INVITED TALKS	<i>CSE 5525 Speech and Language Processing</i>	
	Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level (teaching evaluation 3.80/5.00 Spring 2017)	
	Understanding and Generating Human Language	
	Emory University, Atlanta, GA (CS Department Seminar)	Sep 2020
University of Maryland, College Park, MD (CS Colloquium)	Feb 2020	
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA	Jan 2020	
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA	Dec 2019	
Learning for Unlimited Human Language		
Peking University, Beijing, China		Dec 2018
Learning Large-scale Paraphrases for Natural Language Understanding and Generation		
Midwest Machine Learning Symposium, Chicago, IL		Jun 2018

Facebook, Menlo Park, CA	May 2018
Stanford Research Institute, Menlo Park, CA	May 2018
Twitter, San Francisco, CA	May 2018
IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, New York, NY	Nov 2017
How does AI Understand Language?	
Women in Analytics Conference, Columbus, OH (Main Stage Panel)	Mar 2018
Can Paraphrase be a Ultimate Solution for NLU and NLG?	
Google Research, New York, NY	Jul 2017
Paraphrase \approx Monolingual Translation	
Amazon, Berlin, Germany	Aug 2016
Multiple Instance Learning from Unlimited Text	
Microsoft Research Asia, Beijing, China	Dec 2016
University of Delaware, Newark, DE	Sep 2016
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom	May 2016
Ohio State University, Columbus, OH	Apr 2016
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC	Apr 2016
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ	Mar 2016
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	Mar 2016
Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom	Mar 2016
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada (CS Seminar)	Mar 2016
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN (Computer Science Colloquium Series)	Feb 2016
Washington University, St Louis, MI (Computer Science & Engineering Colloquia Series)	Feb 2016
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, Canada	Feb 2016
University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada	Feb 2016
Yale University, New Haven, CT (CS Talk)	Feb 2016
University of Maryland, College Park, MD (CLIP Colloquium)	Oct 2015
Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (Clippers Seminar)	Oct 2015
Large-scale Paraphrase Acquisition from Twitter	
DARPA's DEFT Project Meeting, Boulder, CO	May 2015
Learning and Generating Paraphrases from Twitter and Beyond	
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA	Apr 2015
Columbia University, New York, NY (NLP Talk)	Apr 2015
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD (CLSP Colloquium)	Feb 2015
Paraphrases in Twitter	
Twitter, San Francisco, CA	Feb 2015
Modeling Lexically Divergent Paraphrases in Twitter (and Shakespeare!)	
The City University of New York, New York, NY (NLP Seminar)	Mar 2015
IBM Research - Almaden, San Jose, CA	Feb 2015
University of California, Berkeley, CA	Feb 2015
The University of Texas, Austin, TX (Forum for Artificial Intelligence)	Feb 2015
Yahoo!, New York, NY	Dec 2014
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA (CL+NLP Lunch Seminar)	Nov 2014
Microsoft Research, Seattle, WA (Visiting Speaker Series)	Aug 2014
Incremental Information Extraction	
Stanford Research Institute, Palo Alto, CA	Apr 2012
IARPA's KDD Project Meeting, San Diego, CA	May 2011
Information Extraction Research	
University of Washington, Seattle, WA	Jan 2011
Event-based Summarization	
Thomson Reuters, Eagan, Minnesota, MN	Nov 2009
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	
Mentor, Group Mentoring Sessions for undergraduate/master students at ACL 2020	July 2020
Speaker/Judge, Ohio High School Hackathon	Mar 2019
Speaker, Franklin Friday art and science festival in Columbus Ohio	Mar 2019
Panelist, CogFest - Cognitive Science Festival	Apr 2018
Mentor, Women and Underrepresented Minorities in NLP Workshop	Jun 2018
Mentor, OSU's AI Hackathon	Apr 2018
Speaker/Panelist, Women in Analytics Conference	Mar 2018
Speaker, OSU's AI Club	Feb 2018

	Judge, HackOhio	Oct 2017
	Mentor, Women and Underrepresented Minorities in NLP Workshop	Jul 2017
	Judge, Ohio High School Hackathon	Mar 2017
	Presenter, Philadelphia Science Festival	Apr 2015
OPEN SOURCE CODE / DATA	<i>#HashtagMaster: A Semantic Analysis Tool for Hashtags</i>	Jun 2019
	https://mounicam.github.io/hashtag_master	
	<i>Pairwise Neural Ranking Model and SimplePPDB++</i>	Oct 2018
	https://github.com/lanwuwei/SPM_toolkit	
	<i>SPM Toolkit for Sentence Pair Modeling</i>	Aug 2018
	https://github.com/lanwuwei/SPM_toolkit	
	<i>LanguageNet: Large-scale Paraphrase Corpus</i>	Sep 2017
	https://github.com/lanwuwei/paraphrase-dataset	
	<i>Syntax MT-based Text Simplification System and SARI Evaluation Metric</i>	May 2015
	https://github.com/cocoxu/simplification/ (contribution to the Joshua Machine Translation Toolkit)	
	<i>NEWSLA Text Simplification Corpus</i>	Sep 2015
	https://newsela.com/data/ (widely adopted as the benchmark for text simplification research)	
	<i>Multiple-instance Learning Paraphrase Model</i>	Dec 2014
	https://github.com/cocoxu/multip	
	<i>Twitter Paraphrase Corpus</i> (shared-task at SemEval-2015)	Oct 2014
	http://alt.qcri.org/semeval2015/task1/	
	<i>Event-based Twitter Summarization System</i>	Nov 2013
	https://github.com/cocoxu/twittersummarization/	
	<i>Twitter Normalization Phrase Table</i>	Oct 2014
	https://github.com/cocoxu/twitterparaphrase/	
	<i>Parallel Shakespeare Corpus and Model</i>	Jul 2012
	https://github.com/cocoxu/Shakespeare/	

REFERENCES

Chris Callison-Burch

Associate Professor, Computer and Information Science Department
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Sloan Research Fellow (2014), Chair of the NAACL Executive Board (2012-2013)
✉ ccb@cis.upenn.edu
<http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~ccb/>

Ralph Grishman

Professor, Computer Science Department, New York University, New York, NY
ACL Fellow (2017), President of ACL (1991), Department Chairman (1986-1988)
✉ grishman@cs.nyu.edu
<http://cs.nyu.edu/grishman/>

Mitch Marcus

Professor Emeritus, Computer and Information Science Department
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
ACL fellow (2011), AAAI fellow (1992), President of ACL (1997), Department Chairman
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<https://www.cis.upenn.edu/~mitch/home.html>

Raymond Mooney

Professor, Computer Science Department, University of Texas, Austin, TX
ACL fellow (2014), ACM fellow (2010), AAAI fellow (2005)
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Luke Zettlemoyer

Associate Professor, Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering
University of Washington, Seattle, WA / Facebook AI Research
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<https://www.cs.washington.edu/people/faculty/lsz>