

Wei Xu

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RESEARCH	Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Social Media	
EMPLOYMENT	Assistant Professor, Ohio State University , Columbus, OH <i>Department of Computer Science and Engineering</i>	Aug 2016 – present
	Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Pennsylvania , Philadelphia, PA <i>Computer Information and Science Department</i> (Advisor: Chris Callison-Burch)	Feb 2014 – Aug 2016
	Visiting Researcher, 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>	Jun – Sep 2011
	Research Consultant, Educational Testing Service , Princeton, NJ <i>Natural Language and Speech Group</i>	Mar – Dec 2010
EDUCATION	Ph.D. in Computer Science, New York University , New York, NY Thesis: <i>Data-driven Approaches for Paraphrasing Across Language Variations</i> (Advisor: Ralph Grishman)	2014
	B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science, Tsinghua University , Beijing, CHINA Thesis: <i>Event-relevance Based Summarization</i>	2004/2007
AWARDS & GRANTS	NSF CRII Award RI: Learning a Timely Semantic Resource from Social Media Data Sole PI, total \$175,000	2018 – 2020
	CrowdFlower AI for Everyone Award (\$25,000)	2018 – 2019
	DARPA Research Grant Computational Simulation of Online Social Behavior co-PI (50% share), total \$600,000	2017 – 2011
	NYU MacCracken Fellowship (total \$230,000)	2007 – 2012
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS	<i>Neural Network Models for Paraphrase Identification, Semantic Textual Similarity, Natural Language Inference, and Question Answering</i> Wuwei Lan, Wei Xu Proceedings of COLING 2018, long paper (Best Paper Award)	
	<i>The Importance of Subword Embeddings in Sentence Pair Modeling</i> Wuwei Lan, Wei Xu Proceedings of NAACL 2018, short paper (acceptance rate 29%)	
	<i>Taking the First Essential Steps in Automating the Wet Laboratory: Annotating a Corpus of Protocols for Reproducibility</i> Chaitanya Kulkarni, Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Raghu Machiraju Proceedings of NAACL 2018, short paper (acceptance rate 29%)	
	<i>A Continuously Growing Dataset of Sentential Paraphrases</i> Wuwei Lan, Siyu Qiu, Hua He, Wei Xu Proceedings of EMNLP 2017, long paper (acceptance rate 25.8%)	
	<i>A Minimally Supervised Method for Recognizing and Normalizing Time Expressions in Twitter</i> Jeniya Tabassum, Alan Ritter, Wei Xu Proceedings of EMNLP 2016, long paper (acceptance rate 26%), oral presentation	
	<i>Optimizing Statistical Machine Translation for Simplification</i> Wei Xu, Courtney Napoles, Ellie Pavlick, Quanze Chen, Chris Callison-Burch TACL 2016; oral presentation at ACL 2016	
	<i>Discovering User Attribute Stylistic Differences via Paraphrasing</i> Daniel Preotiuc, Wei Xu, Lyle Ungar Proceedings of AAAI 2016, long paper (acceptance rate 26%)	
	<i>Problems in Current Text Simplification Research: New Data Can Help</i> Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch, Courtney Napoles TACL 2015; oral presentation at EMNLP 2015	

Cost Optimization for Crowdsourcing Translation
Mingkun Gao, Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch
Proceedings of 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
Proceedings of SemEval 2015

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

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

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

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

Paraphrasing for Style
Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Bill Dolan, Ralph Grishman, Colin Cherry
Proceedings of 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
Proceedings of EMNLP 2011, long paper (acceptance rate 23.7%)

Passage Retrieval for Information Extraction using Distant Supervision
Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman, Le Zhao
Proceedings of IJCNLP 2011, long paper

Extractive Summarization using Inter- and Intra- Event Relevance
Wenjia Li, Wei Xu, Mingli Wu, Chunfa Yuan, Qin Lu
Proceedings of COLING-ACL 2006, long paper (acceptance rate 23%), oral presentation

SERVICE

Workshop Chair: ACL (2017); **Publicity Chair:** NAACL (2018, 2016)
Area Chair: COLING (2018), EMNLP (2018, 2016)
NSF Review Panelist: CISE (2017); **Journal Reviewer:** TACL, JAIR
Program Committee: ACL (2018, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013), EMNLP (2017, 2015, 2014), NAACL (2018, 2015), WWW (2017, 2016, 2015), AAAI (2016, 2015, 2012), KDD (2015), COLING (2014)
Organizer: Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text (EMNLP 2018 & 2017, COLING 2016, ACL 2015); Shared-task on Paraphrase Identification and Semantic Similarity in Twitter (SemEval 2015)

INVITED TALKS

Learning Large-scale Paraphrases for Natural Language Understanding and Generation Nov 2017 - 2018
Midwest Machine Learning Symposium, Chicago; Facebook, Menlo Park; Twitter, San Francisco; IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center

How AI Understand Language?
Women in Analytics Conference (main stage panel), Columbus, OH Mar 2018

Can Paraphrase be a Ultimate Solution for NLU and NLG? July 2017
Google Research, New York

Paraphrase \approx Monolingual Translation Aug 2016
Amazon, Berlin, Germany

Multiple Instance Learning from Unlimited Text Oct 2015 – Dec 2016
Microsoft Research Asia; University of Delaware; University of Edinburgh; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Arizona State University; Vanderbilt University; Imperial College London; University of Waterloo; Indiana University, Bloomington; Washington University, St Louis; Simon Fraser University; University of Alberta; Yale University; University of Maryland

Learning and Generating Paraphrases from Twitter and Beyond Feb 2015
Carnegie Mellon University; Columbia University; Johns Hopkins University

Paraphrases in Twitter
Twitter, San Francisco

Feb 2015

Modeling Lexically Divergent Paraphrases in Twitter (and Shakespeare!) Aug 2014 – Mar 2015
City University of New York; IBM Research, Almaden; University of California, Berkeley; University of Texas, Austin; Yahoo!, New York; Carnegie Mellon University; Microsoft Research, Redmond

TEACHING

CSE 5522 Artificial Intelligence II: Advanced Techniques Spring 2018
https://cocoxu.github.io/courses/5522_spring18.html

Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level, teaching evaluation 4.5 out of 5

CSE 5525 Speech and Language Processing Spring 2017
https://cocoxu.github.io/courses/5525_spring17.html

Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level, teaching evaluation 3.8 out of 5

CSE 5539 Social Media and Text Analytics Summer 2016, Autumn 2016, Autumn 2017
<http://socialmedia-class.org/>

Designed a new course integrated with research, covering from basic to state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms. The course material I created has been used by other universities (e.g., University of Utah CS 1060, Georgia Tech CS 6452, Iowa State University MIS 546).

Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level, teaching evaluation 4.6 out of 5 (Autumn 2016), 4.4 out of 5 (Autumn 2017)

North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI), interdisciplinary graduate level, teaching evaluation: 5.72 out of 6 (average across instructors was 5.23)