Cedric Waterschoot | Curriculum Vitae

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https://cwaterschoot.github.io/

Work Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher   **Maastricht, NL**
Department of Advanced Computing Sciences   October 2024 - Present
Faculty of Sciences and Engineering, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

PhD Candidate / Researcher   **Amsterdam, NL**
KNAW Meertens Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands   September 2020 – September 2024

Education

PhD Computational Linguistics   **Amsterdam/Utrecht, NL**
Institute for Language Sciences, Utrecht University   September 2020 – September 2024
Amsterdam Center for Language and Communication, University of Amsterdam
NWO-funded project – Informed citizen: Better Informing Citizens about Current Debates

Double degree MSc. Public Policy and Human Development   **Maastricht, NL**
Maastricht University / UNU-MERIT, Maastricht, The Netherlands   September 2019 – August 2020

BSc. Cognitive Science   **Osnabrück, DE**
University of Osnabrück, Osnabrück, Germany   September 2015 – July 2019

Erasmus Semester   **Amsterdam, NL**
University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands   September 2017 – January 2018

Applied Linguistics (Dutch, English, German)   **Antwerpen, BE**
KU Leuven, Antwerpen, Belgium   September 2013 – August 2015

Publications (peer-reviewed)

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Waterschoot, Cedric; Tintarev, Nava; Barile, Francesco. (2025). Consistent Explainers or Unreliable Narrators? Understanding LLM-generated Group Recommendations. In RecSys '25: Proceedings of the Nineteenth ACM Conference on Recommender Systems. p. 539-544. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. doi: 10.1145/3705328.3748015

Waterschoot, Cedric; Tintarev, Nava; Barile, Francesco. (2025). The Pitfalls of Growing Group Complexity: LLMs and Social Choice-Based Aggregation for Group Recommendations. In Adjunct Proceedings of the 33rd ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization (UMAP '25). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. doi: 10.1145/3708319.3733659

Waterschoot, Cedric; Yera Toledo, Raciel; Tintarev, Nava; Barile, Francesco. (2025). With Friends Like These, Who Needs Explanations? Evaluating User Understanding of Group Recommendations. In Proceedings of the 33rd ACM Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization (UMAP '25). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. doi:10.1145/3699682.3728345

Waterschoot, Cedric; van den Hemel, Ernst; van den Bosch, Antal. (2025). The Impact of Featuring Comments in Online Discussions. In: Aiello, L.M., Chakraborty, T., Gaito, S. (eds) Social Networks Analysis and Mining. ASONAM 2024. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 15212. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-78538-2_5

Waterschoot, Cedric. Governing the 'Third Half of the Internet': The Dynamics of Human and AI-assisted Content Moderation (2024). Governing the Digital Society: Platforms, Artificial Intelligence, and Public Values, van Dijck, José; van Es, Karin; Helmond, Anne; van der Vlist, Fernando (eds.), Amsterdam University Press (forthcoming)

Waterschoot, Cedric; van den Bosch, Antal. A Time-Robust Group Recommender for Featured Comments on News Platforms (2024). Frontiers in Big Data (7)

Waterschoot, Cedric; Van den Bosch, Antal; Van den Hemel, Ernst. Detecting Minority Arguments for Mutual Understanding: A Moderation Tool for the Online Climate Change Debate (2022). In Proceedings of the 29th International Conference on Computational Linguistics, pages 6715–6725, Gyeongju, Republic of Korea. International Committee on Computational Linguistics.

Waterschoot, Cedric; van den Bosch, Antal; van den Hemel, Ernst, Calculating Argument Diversity in Online Threads' (2021). 3rd Conference on Language, Data and Knowledge (LDK2021). redactie / Dagmar Gromann; Gilles Sérasset; Thierry Declerck; John P. McCrae; Jorge Gracia; Julia Bosque-Gil; Fernando Bobillo; Barbara Heinisch. Vol. 93 Dagstuhl, Germany: OASICS Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, Dagstuhl

Teaching

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Recommender Systems. 2025. Department of Advanced Computing Sciences (DACS), Maastricht University

Digital Methods Initiative Summer School 2021, Searching constructive/authentic posts in media comment sections. July 2021

Supervision

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Bachelor thesis supervision, Maastricht University, 2025

Master thesis supervision, University of Amsterdam, 2021

Grants
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Rising Talent Grant 2025, Department of Advanced Computing Sciences, Maastricht University.
Budget: 5,000 euro

Main co-applicant. NWO grant 'Science Communication': 'Wie is de trol? Kruip in de huid van de moderator en verbeter het trollenjageralgoritme.' Budget: 132,000 euro

Digital Output
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Wie is de trol? - www.wie-is-de-trol.nl
A game for school student and libraries to learn about online discussions, content moderation and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Together with Basten Stokhuyzen and Mathilde Jansen

Relevant Experience / Organization
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Co-organizer, 4th Workshop on Group Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization (GMAP), co-located at the 33rd ACM International Conference on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization, New York, USA

Project Organizer, Digital Methods Initiative UvA Summer School. The Constructive Turn. August 2021.

Invited Talks
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De Derde Helft van het Internet: Het Moderatie Raadsel. **NTR lunchlezing: Moderatie en vrijheid van Meningsuiting,** May 2025

Guest lecturer, AI in a Connected Society, Radboud University, February 2025

Guest lecturer, Text and Media Analytics, Utrecht University, December 2023

Presentations (Selected)

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19th ACM conference on Recommender Systems (Recsys '25), Prague, Czech Republic
Consistent Explainers or Unreliable Narrators? Understanding LLM-generated Group Recommendations

35th Computational Linguistics in The Netherlands (CLIN35), Leuven, Belgium
Using Conversational Agents to Simulate Joint Decision-Making Data for Group Recommender Systems

NWO ICT.OPEN 2025, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Multi-step evaluation of a recommender system for high-quality comments on online news platforms

The 16th International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM-2024), Rende, Italy
The Impact of Featuring Comments in Online Discussions

Religion in Motion – Between Borders and Belonging. NGG 2023 conference, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Agency and Dynamics in Large datasets: Islam discourse on social media

Cyber troops and Computational Propaganda in Southeast Asia: A comparative Study of Public Opinion Manipulation. Workshop April 2023
'Tis the season to be angry': Agency and Dynamics in Large Datasets

Digital Society Conference 2022, Utrecht, The Netherlands
'Constructive behavior? No idea, but we recognize it when we see it'

29th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING2022), Gyeongju, Republic of Korea
Detecting Minority Arguments for Mutual Understanding

32nd Computational Linguistics in The Netherlands (CLIN32), Tilburg, The Netherlands
Minority Arguments on Online Platforms: Collection, Classification and Comprehension

3rd Conference on Language, Data & Knowledge 2021 (LDK2021), Zaragoza, Spain
Calculating Argument Diversity in Online Threads

31st Computational Linguistics in The Netherlands (CLIN31), Ghent, Belgium
Better-MODS: Better Informing Citizens About Current Debates