Wei Xu

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CURRENT POSITION	**Assistant Professor, The Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH *Department of Computer Science and Engineering*	Aug 2016 – present
EDUCATION	**Ph.D. in Computer Science, New York University**, New York, NY Thesis: *Data-driven Approaches for Paraphrasing Across Language Variations* Advisor: Ralph Grishman; Committee: Satoshi Sekine, Ernest Davis, Bill Dolan (Microsoft Research), Luke Zettlemoyer (University of Washington/Facebook AI Research)	2014
	B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing, CHINA Thesis: *Event-relevance Based Summarization*	2004/2007
RESEARCH	Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Social Media	
CITIZENSHIP	United States	
EXPERIENCE	**Visiting Faculty, Carnegie Mellon University**, Pittsburgh, PA *Language Technologies Institute* (Host: Graham Neubig)	Summer 2019
	Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA *Computer Information and Science Department* (Advisor: Chris Callison-Burch)	Feb 2014 – Aug 2016
	Visiting PhD Student, University of Washington, Seattle, WA *Computer Science and Engineering Department*	Jan 2012 – Dec 2013
	Research Intern, Microsoft Research, Seattle, WA *Internet Services Research Center*	Summer 2011
	Research Intern, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ *Natural Language and Speech Group*	Mar – May, Sep – Dec 2010
	Engineer Intern, Amazon.com, Seattle, WA *Catalog Quality Group*	Summer 2010
	Research Intern, Hong Kong Polytechnic University *Department of Computing*	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* PI (100%), total $375,732 (including $8,000 REU supplement)	2018 – 2021
	NSF CRII RI: Learning a Timely Semantic Resource from Social Media Data PI (100%), total $175,000	2018 – 2020
	IARPA Research Grant Better Extraction from Text Towards Enhanced Retrieval co-PI (50%), total $850,000 (prime: Brown University)	2019 – 2023
	DARPA Research Grant Computational Simulation of Online Social Behavior co-PI (50%), total $600,000 (prime: Leidos)	2017 – 2021
SERVICES	**Best Paper Award Committee:** EMNLP (2018) **Senior Area Chair:** ACL (2020) **Area Chair:** AAAI (2020), ACL (2019), NAACL (2019), COLING (2018), EMNLP (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) **Session Chair:** ACL (2019, 2014), NAACL (2019, 2015), EMNLP (2018, 2017, 2016, 2015), COLING (2018), AAAI (2015) **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 (2019, 2018, 2017), COLING (2016), ACL (2015)
SemEval Task 1: Paraphrase Identification and Semantic Similarity in Twitter (2015)
Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning (2016)

PUBLICATIONS (Underline is used to indicate student advisees at the Ohio State University. TACL is one of the most selective venues for NLP publications, which allows authors to choose any of the ACL/NAACL/EMNLP conferences to present the paper.)

Multi-task Pairwise Neural Ranking for Hashtag Segmentation
Mounica Maddela, Wei Xu, Daniel Preotiuc-Pietro
Proceedings of 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
Proceedings of 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
Proceedings of 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%)

The Importance of Subword Embeddings in 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 (shared-task overview)

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

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

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		
Wuwei Lan (PhD student at OSU)		2016 – present
Mounica Maddela (PhD student at OSU)		2017 – present
Chao Jiang (PhD student at OSU)		2018 – present
Yang Zhong (PhD student at OSU)		2019 – present

Vishal Sunder (PhD student at OSU)	2019 – present
Jeniya Tabassum (PhD student at OSU - co-advisor: Alan Ritter)	2016 – present
Sydney Lee (undergraduate at OSU)	2018 – present
Sarah Flanagan (undergraduate at OSU)	2018 – present
Sam Stevens (undergraduate at OSU)	2019 – present
Raleigh Potluri (undergraduate student at OSU)	2018 – 2019
Lillian Chow (undergraduate student at OSU)	2018 – 2019
Rita Tong (completed undergraduate student at OSU)	2018 – 2019
Pravar Mahajan (completed Masters student at OSU, now at IBM Research)	2016 – 2017
Piyush Ghai (completed Masters student at OSU, now at Amazon)	2017
Mingkun Gao (completed Masters student at UPenn, now a PhD student at UIUC)	2015
Siyu Qiu (completed Masters student at UPenn, now at Hulu)	2015
Jim Chen (completed undergraduate student at UPenn, now a PhD student at UW)	2014 – 2015
Ray Lei (completed undergraduate student at UPenn, now at Microsoft)	2014
Chaitanya Kulkarni (PhD student at OSU - advisor: Raghu Machiraju)	2017 – 2019
Sanqiang Zhao (PhD student at UPitt - phd thesis committee)	2019
Kai Cao (completed PhD student at NYU - phd thesis committee)	2017
Maria Pershina (completed PhD student at NYU, now at Bloomberg - phd thesis committee)	2014

Teaching

CSE 5522 Artificial Intelligence II: Advanced Techniques   Spring 2018, Autumn 2018
Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level
(teaching evaluation: 4.85/5.00 Autumn 2018, 4.50/5.00 Spring 2018)

CSE 5525 Speech and Language Processing   Spring 2017
Ohio State University, mixed undergraduate and graduate level (teaching evaluation 3.80/5.00 Spring 2017)

CSE 5539 Social Media and Text Analytics   Summer 2016, Autumn 2016, Autumn 2017, Autumn 2019
http://socialmedia-class.org/
A new course integrated with research, covering from basic to state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms
(teaching evaluation: 4.40/5.00 Autumn 2017, 4.60/5.00 Autumn 2016, 5.72/6.00 Summer 2015)

Invited Talks

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 ≈ 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		
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

#HashtagMaster: A Semantic Analysis Tool for Hashtags   Jun 2019
https://mounicam.github.io/hashtag_master

Pairwise Neural Ranking Model and SimplePPDB++   Oct 2018
https://github.com/lanwuwei/SPM_toolkit

SPM Toolkit for Sentence Pair Modeling   Aug 2018
https://github.com/lanwuwei/SPM_toolkit

LanguageNet: Large-scale Paraphrase Corpus   Sep 2017
https://github.com/lanwuwei/paraphrase-dataset

Syntax MT-based Text Simplification System and SARI Evaluation Metric   May 2015
https://github.com/cocoxu/simplification/ (contribution to the Joshua Machine Translation Toolkit)

NEWSELA Text Simplification Corpus   Sep 2015
https://newsela.com/data/ (widely adopted as the benchmark for text simplification research)

Multiple-instance Learning Paraphrase Model   Dec 2014
https://github.com/cocoxu/multip

Twitter Paraphrase Corpus (shared-task at SemEval-2015)   Oct 2014
http://alt.qcri.org/semeval2015/task1/

Event-based Twitter Summarization System   Nov 2013
https://github.com/cocoxu/twittersummarization/

Twitter Normalization Phrase Table   Oct 2014
https://github.com/cocoxu/twitterparaphrase/

Parallel Shakespeare Corpus and Model   Jul 2012
https://github.com/cocoxu/Shakespeare/