Wei Xu

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The Ohio State University

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

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RESEARCH Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Social Media

CURRENT Assistant Professor, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH Aug 2016–Present

Position Department of Computer Science and Engineering

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Computer Science, New York University, New York, NY 2014

Thesis: Data-driven Approaches for Paraphrasing Across Language Variations

B.S. and M.S. in Computer Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing, CHINA 2004/2007

Thesis: Event-relevance Based Summarization

EXPERIENCE Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA Feb 2014–Aug 2016

Computer Information and Science Department

Visiting Researcher, University of Washington, Seattle, WA Jan 2012–Dec 2013

Computer Science and Engineering Department

Research Intern, Microsoft Research, Seattle, WA Jun-Sep 2011

Internet Services Research Center

Consultant, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ Mar–Dec 2010

Natural Language and Speech Group

SERVICES Workshop Chair: ACL (2017)

Area Chair: COLING (2018), EMNLP (2016)

Publicity Chair: NAACL (2018, 2016)

Session Chair: EMNLP (2017, 2016, 2015), NAACL (2015), AAAI (2015), ACL (2014)

NSF Review Panelist: CISE (2017) Steering Committee: SemEval (2017)

Program Committee:

ACL (2017, 2015, 2014, 2013), EMNLP (2017, 2015, 2014), NAACL (2015)

WWW (2017, 2016, 2015), AAAI (2016, 2015, 2012), KDD (2015), COLING (2014)

WWW Workshop on #Microposts (2016)

ACL Workshop on Social Factors in Natural Language Processing (2016)

EACL Workshop on Language Analysis in Social Media (2014)

Journal Reviewer:

Transactions of the Association for Computational (TACL)

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR)

Workshop Organizer:

Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text at ACL (2015), COLING (2016), EMNLP (2017)

Shared-task Organizer:

SemEval (2015): Paraphrase Identification and Semantic Similarity in Twitter

(19 research teams participated; 200+ research groups worldwide have requested the data since)

Grants DARPA Grant Computational Simulation of Online Social Behavior (\$600,000 award) 2017–2021

NYU MacCracken Fellowship (5 continuous years; \$230,000 award) 2007–2012

Travel Grants: Google, Grace Hopper, CRA-Women

Publications Referred Journal and Conference Papers (all have acceptance rates $\approx 25\%$)

A Continuously Growing Dataset of Sentential Paraphrases Wuwei Lan, Siyu Qiu, Hua He, Wei Xu

Proceedings of EMNLP 2017, long paper

A Minimally Supervised Method for Recognizing and Normalizing Time Expressions in Twitter Jeniya Tabassum, Alan Ritter, Wei Xu

Proceedings of EMNLP 2016, long paper, oral presentation

Optimizing Statistical Machine Translation for Simplification

Wei Xu, Courtney Napoles, Ellie Pavlick, Quanze Chen, Chris Callison-Burch Transactions of the Association for Computational (TACL), 4(1): pages 401-415, 2016 oral presentation at ACL 2016

Discovering User Attribute Stylistic Differences via Paraphrasing Daniel Preotiuc, Wei Xu, Lyle Ungar Proceedings of AAAI 2016, long paper

Problems in Current Text Simplification Research: New Data Can Help

Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch, Courtney Napoles

Transactions of the Association for Computational (TACL), 3(1): pages 283-297, 2015 oral presentation at EMNLP 2015

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

Extracting Lexically Divergent Paraphrases from Twitter
Wei Xu, Alan Ritter, Chris Callison-Burch, William B. Dolan, Yangfeng Ji
Transactions of the Association for Computational (TACL), 2(1): pages 435-448, 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

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

Paraphrasing for Style

 $Wei\ Xu,\ Alan\ Ritter,\ Bill\ Dolan,\ Ralph\ Grishman,\ Colin\ Cherry$

Proceedings of COLING 2012, long paper

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

Passage Retrieval for Information Extraction using Distant Supervision

Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman, Le Zhao

Proceedings of IJCNLP 2011, long paper

Who, What, When, Where, Why? Comparing Multiple Approaches to the Cross-Lingual 5W Task Kristen Parton, Kathleen R. McKeown, Bob Coyne, Mona T. Diab, Ralph Grishman, Dilek Hakkani-Tür, Mary Harper, Heng Ji, Wei Yun Ma, Adam Meyers, Sara Stolbach, Ang Sun, Gokhan Tur, Wei Xu, Sibel Yaman

Proceedings of ACL-IJCNLP 2009, long paper

Extractive Summarization using Inter- and Intra- Event Relevance Wenjie Li, Wei Xu, Mingli Wu, Chunfa Yuan, Qin Lu Proceedings of COLING-ACL 2006, long paper, oral presentation

Refereed Workshop Papers (all peer-reviewed)

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

Proceedings of EMNLP Workshop on Stylistic Variation 2017

Results of the WNUT16 Named Entity Recognition Shared Task
Benjamin Strauss, Bethany Toma, Alan Ritter, Marie-Catherine de Marneffe, Wei Xu
Proceedings of COLING Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text 2016

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 Proceedings of ACL Workshop on Noisy User-generated Text 2015 (alphabetical author order)

SemEval-2015 Task 1: Paraphrase and Semantic Similarity in Twitter (PIT) Wei Xu, Chris Callison-Burch, William B. Dolan Proceedings of SemEval 2015

Poetry of the Crowd: A Human Computation Algorithm to Convert Prose into Rhyming Verse Quanze Chen, Chenyang Lei, Wei Xu, Ellie Pavlick, Chris Callison-Burch Proceedings of HCOMP 2014

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

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

New York University 2011 System for KBP (Knowledge Base Population) Slot Filing Ang Sun, Ralph Grishman, Wei Xu, Bonan Min

Proceedings of TAC 2011 (best performance system in NIST KBP-2011 Evaluation)

A Parse-and-Trim Approach with Information Significance for Chinese Sentence Compression Wei Xu, Ralph Grishman

Proceedings of the ACL-IJNLP 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

Proceedings of ACL-IJNLP 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 Proceedings of NAACL-HLT Workshop on Semantic Evaluations 2009

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

Deriving Event Relevance from the Ontology Constructed with Formal Concept Analysis Wei Xu, Wenjie Li, Mingli Wu, Wei Li, Chunfa Yuan Proceedings of CICLing 2006

Building Document Graph for Text Summarization: An Event-based Approach

Wei Xu, Wenjie Li, Mingli Wu, Wei Li, Chunfa Yuan

Proceedings of ICCPOL 2006

The THU/PolyU System at MSE 2006: An Event-relevance based Approach

Wei Xu, Chunfa Yuan, Mingling Wu, Wenjie Li

Proceedings of MSE 2006

STUDENT
RESEARCH
ADVISING

Wuwei Lan (current PhD student at OSU)

Mounica Maddela (current PhD student at OSU)

Chaitanya Kulkarni (current PhD student at OSU; primary advisor: Raghu Machiraju)

Pravar Mahajan (current masters student at OSU) Piyush Ghai (current masters student at OSU)

Mingkun Gao (completed masters student, now a PhD student at UIUC)

Wenchao Du (completed undergraduate student, now a masters student at CMU LTI)

Siyu Qiu (completed masters student, now at Hulu.com)

Jim Chen (completed undergraduate student, now a PhD student at University of Washington)

Bin Fu (completed undergraduate student, now at Google NYC)

Ray Lei (completed undergraduate student, now at Microsoft Redmond)

INVITED TALKS

Can Paraphrase be a Ultimate Solution for NLU and NLG?

Google Research, New York	x, NY	July 2017

Paraphrase \approx Monolingual Translation

Amazon.com, Berlin,	Germany	Aug	g 2016

Multiple Instance Learning from Unlimited Text

Multiple instance Learning from Chiminted Text	
Microsoft Research Asia, Beijing, China	$\mathrm{Dec}\ 2016$
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)	${\rm Oct}\ 2015$

Large-scale Paraphrase Acquisition from Twitter

DARPA's DEF	Γ Project Pl	I 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.com, San Francisco, CA Feb 2015

Modeling Lexically Divergent Paraphrases in Twitter (and Shakespeare!)

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The City	University	of New	York,	New York,	NY	(NLP	Seminar)			Mar 2015
IBM Res	search - Alr	naden, S	an Jos	e, CA						Feb 2015

	University of California, Berkeley, CA The University of Texas, Austin, TX (Forum for Artificial Intelligence) Yahoo!, New York, NY Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA (CL+NLP Lunch Seminar) Microsoft Research, Seattle, WA (Visiting Speaker Series)	Feb 2015 Feb 2015 Dec 2014 Nov 2014 Aug 2014
	Incremental Information Extraction Stanford Research Institute, Palo Alto, CA IARPA's KDD Project PI Meeting, San Diego, CA	Apr 2012 May 2011
	Information Extraction Research University of Washington, Seattle, WA	Jan 2011
	Event-based Summarization Thomson Reuters, Eagan, Minnesota, MN	Nov 2009
Press	New Scientist - One Per Cent	Oct 29, 2014
	New York Times - Government Aims to Build a "Data Eye in the Sky"	Oct 11, 2011
	A Continuously Growing Dataset of Sentential Paraphrases https://github.com/lanwuwei/paraphrase-dataset/	Sep 2017 – ongoing
	Syntax MT-based Text Simplification System and Crowdsourced Dataset (contribution to the Joshua MT Toolkit) https://github.com/cocoxu/simplification/	May 2015
	NEWSELA Text Simplification Corpus https://newsela.com/data/	Sep 2015
	Multiple-instance Learning Paraphrase Model https://www.cis.upenn.edu/~xwe/multip/	Dec 2014
	Twitter Paraphrase Corpus (shared-task at SemEval-2015) http://alt.qcri.org/semeval2015/task1/	Oct 2014
	Event-based Twitter Summarization System https://github.com/cocoxu/twittersummarization/	Nov 2013
	Twitter Normalization Phrase Table https://github.com/cocoxu/twitterparaphrase/	Oct 2014
	Parallel Shakespeare Corpus and Model https://github.com/cocoxu/Shakespeare/	Jul 2012
TEACHING	Instructor, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH Course: CSE 5525 Speech and Language Processing (dual-listed undergraduate https://cocoxu.github.io/courses/5525_spring17.html	Spring 2017 e and graduate course)

Instructor, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Autumn 2016, 2017

Course: CSE 5539 Social Media and Text Analytics (dual-listed undergraduate and graduate course) http://socialmedia-class.org/

Designed and taught a new course, covering from basic to state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms for text processing and social media analysis.

Instructor, New Brunswick, NJ

Summer 2016

North American Summer School on Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI)

Course: Social Media and Text Analytics (interdisciplinary)

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)

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http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~ccb/

Raymond J. Mooney

Professor, Computer Science Department, University of Texas, Austin, TX

AAAI fellow (2005), ACM fellow (2010), ACL fellow (2014)

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Bill Dolan

Research Manager/Principal Researcher, Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Manager of the Natural Language Processing Group

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http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/people/billdol/

Ralph Grishman

Professor, Computer Science Department, New York University, New York, NY

Department Chairman (1986-1988), President of ACL (1991)

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http://cs.nyu.edu/grishman/

Joel Tetreault

Director of Research, Grammarly, New York, NY

Treasurer of NAACL (2013-present)

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http://www.cs.rochester.edu/~tetreaul/academic.html