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Research Interests

Natural language processing, machine learning, artificial intelligence, data mining, medical informatics.

Education

Ph.D. Computer Science, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2010.

M.S. Computer Science, State University of New York, Buffalo, 2004.

B.S. Computer Science, Loyola University, Chicago, 1999.

Professional Experience

Associate Professor, Loyola University Chicago, 2021 - present.

Associate Professor, Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine, 2021 - present.

Honorary Fellow, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine, 2020 - present.

Assistant Professor, Loyola University Chicago, 2016 - 2021.

Assistant Professor, Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine, 2016 - 2021.

Instructor (entry-level faculty appointment), Harvard Medical School, 2014 - 2015.

Associate Scientific Research Stuff, Boston Children's Hospital, 2014 - 2015.

Research Fellow, Harvard Medical School, 2011 - 2014.

Research Fellow, Boston Children's Hospital, 2011 - 2014.

Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2010 – 2011.

Research Assistant, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2005 – 2010.

Research Scientist, Pronto Inc., Boulder, CO, 2005.

Teaching Assistant, State University of New York, Buffalo, 2003 – 2005.

Senior Software Engineer, Motorola, Inc., Arlington Heights, IL, 2000 – 2003.

Development Analyst, Commonwealth Edison, Chicago, IL, 1999 – 2000.

Network Administrator, Graver, Bokhof, Goodwin & Sullivan, Chicago, IL, 1997 – 1998.

Peer-reviewed Publications

Journal Articles

John Caskey, Iain L. McConnell, Madeline Oguss, Dmitriy Dligach, Rachel Kulikoff, Brittany Grogan, Crystal Gibson, Elizabeth Wimmer, Traci E DeSalvo, Edwin E Nyakoe-Nyasani, Matthew M Churpek, Majid Afshar. *A Natural Language Processing Pipeline to Identify COVID-19 Outbreaks from Contact Tracing Interview Forms for Public Health Departments*. JMIR Public Health and Surveillance. 2022.

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Hale M Thompson, Brihat Sharma, Sameer Bhalla, Randy Boley, Connor McCluskey, Dmitriy Dligach, Matthew M Churpek, Niranjan S Karnik, Majid Afshar. Bias and fairness assessment of a natural language processing opioid misuse classifier: detection and mitigation of electronic health record data disadvantages across racial subgroups. *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association*. 2021.

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Dmitriy Dligach, Majid Afshar, Timothy Miller. Pre-training phenotyping classifiers. *Journal of Biomedical Informatics*. 2020.

Jian Zhang, Anil Can, Pui Man Rosalind Lai, Srinivasan Mukundan, Victor M Castro, Dmitriy Dligach, Sean Finan, Vivian Gainer, Nancy Shadick, Guergana Savova, Shawn N Murphy, Tianxi Cai, Scott T Weiss, Rose Du. Geometric Variations Associated with Posterior Communicating Artery Aneurysms. *Journal of NeuroInterventional Surgery*. 2020.

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Majid Afshar, Andrew Phillips, Anthony Oakey, Richard Cooper, Jeanne Meuller, Richard Gonzalez, Dmitry Dligach. Natural language processing and machine learning to identify alcohol misuse from the electronic health record in trauma patients: Development and internal validation. *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association*. 2019.

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*Chen Lin, *Elizabeth W. Karlson, *Dmitriy Dligach, Monica Ramirez, Timothy A. Miller, Huan Mo, Natalie S. Braggs, Andrew Cagan, Joshua C. Denny, Guergana K. Savova. Automatic Identification of Methotrexate-induced Liver Toxicity in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis from the Electronic Medical Record. *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association*. 2015. doi: 10.1136/amiajnl-2014-002642. *Indicates co-first authors

Dmitriy Dligach, Steven Bethard, Lee Becker, Timothy A. Miller, Guergana K. Savova. Discovering Body Site and Severity Modifiers in Clinical Texts. *Journal of American Medical Informatics Association*. 2014; 2014;21:438-447. doi:10.1136/amiajnl-2013-001949.

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Dmitriy Dligach and Timothy Miller. Learning Patient Representations from Text. In *SEM 2018: Proceedings of the 7th Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics. New Orleans, LA. June, 2018.

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Dmitriy Dligach and Martha Palmer. Good Seed Makes a Good Crop: Accelerating Active Learning Using Language Modeling. In *ACL '11: Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies.* June 19 - 24, 2011, Portland, OR.

Susan Windisch Brown, Dmitriy Dligach, and Martha Palmer. VerbNet Class Assignment as a WSD Task. In *IWSC* 2011: *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Computational Semantics*. January 12 - 14, 2011, Oxford, UK.

Dmitriy Dligach and Martha Palmer. Improving Verb Sense Disambiguation with Automatically Retrieved Semantic Knowledge. In *ICSC '08: Proceedings of the Second IEEE International Conference on Semantic Computing*. August 4 - 7, 2008, Santa Clara, CA.

Dmitriy Dligach and Martha Palmer. Novel Semantic Features for Verb Sense Disambiguation. In *ACL '08: Proceedings of the 46th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies.* June 15 - 20, 2008, Columbus, OH.

Jinying Chen, Dmitriy Dligach, and Martha Palmer. Towards Large-scale High-Performance English Verb Sense Disambiguation by Using Linguistically Motivated Features. In *ICSC '07: Proceedings of the First IEEE International Conference on Semantic Computing.* Sep 17 - 19, 2007, Irvine, CA.

Cecily Jill Duffield, Jena D. Hwang, Susan Windisch Brown, Dmitriy Dligach, Sarah E. Vieweg, Jenny Davis, and Martha Palmer. Criteria for the Manual Clustering of Verb Senses. In *CogSci '07: Proceedings of the 29th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society*. August 1-4, 2007, Nashville, TN.

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Kristin Wright-Bettner, Chen Lin, Timothy Miller, Steven Bethard, Dmitriy Dligach, Martha Palmer, James H. Martin and Guergana Savova. Defining and Learning Refined Temporal Relations in the Clinical Narrative. In 11th International Workshop on Health Text Mining and Information Analysis (LOUHI 2020) colocated with EMNLP 2020. November 2020.

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Dmitriy Dligach, Sean Finan, Peter Abramowitsch. Apache cTAKES and Python; Apache cTAKES High Throughput Orchestration. *ApacheCon*. October 2020.

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Xin Su, Timothy Miller, Majid Afshar, Dmitriy Dligach. Learning Hierarchical Transformer-based Representations of Clinical Notes. *American Medical Informatics Association Symposium*. Chicago, IL. November 2020.

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Daniel To, Brihat Sharma, Cara Joyce, Dmitriy Dligach, Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar, Niranjan Karnik, Majid Afshar, Subtypes of Alcohol Misuse in Hospitalized Patients. *AMIA* 2020 *Informatics Summit*. Houston, TX, March 2019.

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Amy L. Olex, Tamas Gal, Majid Afshar, Dmitriy Dligach, Niranjan Karnik, Travis Oakes, Brihat Sharma, Meng Xie, Bridget T. McInnes, Julian Solway, Abel Kho, William C. Cramer, and F. Gerard Moeller. Untapped Potential of Clinical Text for Opioid Surveillance. *American Medical Informatics Association Symposium*. Washington, DC. November 2019.

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Timothy A. Miller and Dmitriy Dligach. Extracting Drug Information with Apache cTAKES and ClearTK. N2C2 2018 Shared Task Workshop at AMIA 2018. San-Francisco, CA. November, 2018.

Anthony Oakey, Dmitry Dligach, Philip Yang, Perry Formanek, Susan Zelisko, Ron Price, Cara Joyce, Richard Cooper, Majid Afshar. Natural language processing and machine learning for identification of Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. The American Thoracic Society (ATS) 2018. San Diego, CA. May, 2018.

Dmitriy Dligach, Timothy Miller, Chen Lin, Steven Bethard, and Guergana Savova. Neural Models for Clinical Temporal Relation Extraction. Midwest Speech and Language Days & Midwest Computational Linguistics Colloquium 2017. Chicago, IL. May, 2017.

Timothy A. Miller, Dmitriy Dligach, Chen Lin, Steven Bethard, Guergana K. Savova. Cross-domain Coreference Feature Exploration. AMIA Annual Symposium. Chicago, IL. November, 2016.

Elena Rodina and Dmitriy Dligach. An on-line dictator; A Textual Analysis of the Instagram Account of Ramzan Kadyrov, President of the Chechen Republic. Amsterdam Text Analysis Conference. Amsterdam, Netherlands. June 2016.

Timothy A. Miller, Sean Finan, Dmitriy Dligach, Guergana Savova. Robust Sentence Segmentation for Clinical Text. AMIA Annual Symposium. San-Francisco, CA. November, 2015.

Dmitriy Dligach, Steven Bethard, Lee Becker, Timothy A. Miller, Guergana K. Savova. Discovering Body Site and Severity Modifiers in Clinical Texts. In *American Medical Informatics Association Symposium*. Washington DC, November, 2013.

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Chen Lin, Elizabeth W. Karlson, Helena Canhao, Timothy A. Miller, Dmitriy Dligach, Pei Jun Chen, Raul Natanael Guzman Perez, Tianxi Cai, Michael E. Weinblatt, Nancy A. Shadick, Robert M. Plenge, Guergana K. Savova. Automatic Prediction of Rheumatoid Arthritis Disease Activity from the Electronic Medical Records. In *American Medical Informatics Association Symposium*. Washington DC, November, 2013.

Timothy Miller, Dmitriy Dligach, Steven Bethard, Sameer Pradhan, Chen Lin, Guergana K. Savova. Discovering Time Expressions in Clinical Text. In *American Medical Informatics Association Symposium*. Washington DC, November, 2013.

Susan Windisch Brown, Cecily Jill Duffield, Jena D. Hwang, Dmitrity Dligach, Sarah E. Vieweg, Jenny Davis, Martha Palmer. The role of functional nouns in manual grouping of verb senses. In *Poster Session of Concept Types and Frames in Language, Cognition, and Science*. August 20-22, 2007, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Invited Talks

Automatic Phenotyping in the Age of Deep Learning. DePaul University Research Colloquium. September 2021.

Pretraining phenotyping classifiers. University of Wisconsin Madison. Churpek/Afshar lab. December 2020.

Pretraining NLP classifiers. University of Chicago, Matt Churpek lab. February 2018.

Clinical Natural Language Processing with cTAKES. Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. Chicago, IL. August, 2018.

Neural Models for Temporal Relation Extraction. Northwestern University, Department of Computer Science. Chicago, IL. May 2017.

Semantic Processing of Clinical Texts. Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. Chicago, IL. March 2016.

Semantic Analysis of Clinical Texts. Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Chicago, IL. June 2015.

Semantic Analysis of Clinical Narratives. NorthShore University Health System Research Institute. Evanston, IL. June 2014.

Active Learning for Phenotyping Tasks. i2b2 3rd Annual Academic User Group Conference and NLP Workshop. Boston, MA. June 2013.

Discovering Body Site and Severity Modifiers in Rheumatoid Arthritis Data. i2b2 2nd Annual Academic User Group Conference and NLP Workshop. Boston, MA. June 2012.

Discovering Severity and Body Site Modifiers: A Relation Extraction Task. Strategic Health IT Advanced Research Project Annual Meeting. Rochester, MN. June, 2012.

Ph.D. Thesis

Dmitriy Dligach. High-performance Word Sense Disambiguation with Less Manual Effort. Ph.D. thesis, University of Colorado at Boulder, August 2010.

Minor Contributions

William J. Rapaport. Philosophy of Computer Science: An Introductory Course. In *Teaching Philosophy* 28(4): 319-341. 2005.

Courses Taught

COMP 379/479: Introduction to Machine Learning. Loyola University Chicago. Fall 2016-2020.

COMP 329/488: Introduction to Natural Language Processing. Loyola University Chicago. Spring 2018, 2020.

COMP 170: Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming. Loyola University Chicago. 2016-2017.

CSCI 3202: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence. University of Colorado, Boulder, Invited lecture, Fall 2008.

LING 7800: Advanced Computational Linguistics: Lexical Semantics. University of Colorado, Boulder, Invited lecture, Spring 2007.

LING 5200: Computational Corpus Linguistics. University of Colorado, Boulder, Invited lecture, Spring 2006

CSE/PHI 510: Philosophy of Computer Science. State University of New York, Buffalo, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2004.

CSE 116: Introduction To Computer Science for Majors II. State University of New York, Buffalo, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2003, Spring 2004.

Courses Prepared to Teach

Natural Language Processing

Machine Learning

Deep Learning

Artificial Intelligence

Information Retrieval

Data Mining

Service

Journal of Biomedical Informatics. Paper Reviewer. October 2020.

Journal of American Medical Informatics Association. Paper Reviewer. September 2020.

Clinical NLP Workshop at EMNLP. Program Committee. 2020.

Clinical NLP Workshop at EMNLP. Paper Reviewer. 2020.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. 2020.

Journal of American Medical Informatics Association. Paper Reviewer. April 2019.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Program Committee. 2019.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. 2019.

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) conference. Program Committee. 2019.

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. 2019.

Clinical NLP Workshop at COLING. Program Committee. 2019.

Clinical NLP Workshop at COLING. Paper Reviewer. 2019.

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) conference. Program Committee. December 2018.

North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. December 2018.

International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING). Paper Reviewer. April 2018.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Program Committee. March 2018.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. February 2018.

American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Symposium. Paper Reviewer. March 2017.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. February 2017.

Clinical NLP Workshop at COLING 2016. Program Committee. December 2016.

Clinical NLP Workshop at COLING 2016. Paper Reviewer. December 2016.

American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Symposium. Paper Reviewer. April 2016.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. March 2016.

American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Symposium. Paper Reviewer. April 2015.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Program Committee. February 2015.

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) conference. Paper Reviewer. February 2015.

SemEval 2015. Paper Reviewer. February 2015.

International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS). Program Committee. January 2015.

International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS). Paper Reviewer. January 2015.

RANLP NLP for Medicine and Biology Workshop. Paper Reviewer. September 2013.

American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Symposium. Paper Reviewer. May 2013.

International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS). Program Committee. March 2013.

International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS). Paper Reviewer. March 2013.

i2b2/VA/Cincinnati 2011 Shared Task and Workshop. Paper Reviewer. September 2011.

Computational Linguistics. Paper Reviewer. May 2011.

SemEval 2010. Program Committee. April 2010.

SemEval 2010. Paper Reviewer. April 2010.

SemEval 2010 Tasks 14: Word Sense Induction & Disambiguation Task. Organizing Committee. April 2010.

Mentoring

Carbon fellowship mentor. Laura Maskeri. 2020.

K award mentor. Anoop Mayampurath (University of Chicago). 2020.

MS thesis advisor. Robert Kania. Predicting Drug Misuse Status Using Machine Learning on Electronic Health Records. 2020.

MS thesis reader. Paul Okoro. Optimizing Gene Expression Prediction and Omics Integration in Populations of African Ancestry.

MS thesis advisor. Brihat Sharma. Opioid misuse detection in hospitalized patients using convolutional neural networks. 2019.

MS thesis advisor. Andrew Phillips. Using Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning for the Identification of Alcohol Misuse in Trauma Patients. 2018.

Funding

Ro1. NIH/NIDDK. Using Machine Learning for Early Recognition and Personalized Treatment of Acute Kidney Injury (1Ro1DK126933). Site PI. Loyola budget: \$82,640 over 5 years.

Ro1. NIH/NHLBI. Developing a clinical decision support tool for the identification, diagnosis, and treatment of critical illness in hospitalized patients (1Ro1HL157262). Site PI. Loyola budget: \$200,441 over 5 years.

Ro1. NIH/NIDA. Data Driven Strategies for Substance Misuse Identification in Hospitalized Patients (Ro1DAo51464). Site PI. Loyola budget: \$491,973 over 5 years.

Ro1. NIH/NLM. Temporal relation discovery for clinical text (Ro1LMo10090). Site PI. Loyola budget: \$202,301 over 4 years. 2019.

Ro1. NIH/NLM. Learning Universal Patient Representations from Clinical Text with Hierarchical Recurrent Neural Networks (Ro1LM012973). Site PI. Loyola budget: \$229,248 over 3 years. 2019.

NIDA clinical trial network. Great Lakes Node (UG1DA049467). Resource faculty.

Loyola University Chicago. Center for Health Outcomes and Informatics Research (CHOIR) grant. Identification of substance misuse in hospitalized patients: using readily available electronic health record data to build computable phenotypes for surveillance and screening. \$50,000 for 1 year. 2019.

Loyola University Chicago. Center for Health Outcomes and Informatics Research (CHOIR) grant. RA funding for two semesters.

'ITM 2.0: Advancing Translational Science in Metropolitan Chicago'. RA funding for two semesters.

Loyola University Chicago, Research Support Grant. Natural Language Processing for Phenotyping Tasks. PI: Dmitriy Dligach. May 2017. \$4,998.

NVIDIA Hardware Grant Program. Titan X GPU. July 2016. About \$1,200 value.

Boston Children's Hospital, The Program for Patient Safety and Quality. "Natural Language Processing for Quality Metrics". PI: Dmitriy Dligach. July 2015. \$19,388.

Honors

Sujack Family Award for Excellence in Faculty Research. Loyola University Chicago. 2021.

Presidential Fellowship, State University of New York, Buffalo.

Fr. Gerst Memorial Award ("presented to a single graduating senior who has displayed outstanding academic achievement in mathematics or computer science"), Loyola University, Chicago, 1999.

Graduated Magna Cum Laude, Loyola University, Chicago, 1999.

Loyola University scholarship, Loyola University, Chicago, 1996.

Last updated: February 14, 2022