

# Dirk Weissenborn

## Curriculum Vitae

### Professional Experience

- 2017 **Research Intern**, *DeepMind*, London.
- integration of common-sense and background knowledge into neural natural language understanding systems
- since 2014 **Research Scientist**, *German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence*, Berlin.
- basic research on machine- & deep-learning for NLP
  - project&development lead for project on neural information extraction with industry partner SAP funded by the Software Campus program
  - research in various information extraction projects (entity linking, biomedical concept recognition, question answering)
- 2013–2014 **Student Assistant**, *Bioinformatics Group, BIOTEC, TU Dresden*, Dresden.
- research on relation discovery and question answering in the biomedical domain
  - co-organization of first round of BioASQ challenge on biomedical question answering
- 2013 **Mentor for Google Summer of Code**, *Open Source Project DBpedia Spotlight*.
- 2012 **Student of Google Summer of Code**, *Open Source Project DBpedia Spotlight*.
- topical classification on Wikipedia
- 2011–2012 **Software Developer**, *T-Systems Multimedia Solutions*, Dresden.
- development of a recommender system for social network
  - build management in software project
- 2008–2010 **Software Developer**, *AvatR*, Dresden.
- development of recommender system of personal agent for webservices

### Education

- since 2014 **PhD Student**, *German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence*, Berlin.
- deep learning architectures for NLP with special focus on information extraction and question answering
  - integration of background knowledge in neural NLU
- 2008–2014 **Diplom Informatik (equivalent M.Sc. Computer Science)**, *Technische Universität Dresden*, Dresden, 1.1 (with distinction, equivalent to first-class honors).
- *Specialization*: Intelligent Systems
  - *Minor*: Mathematics

---

## Diploma thesis

Title *Relation Discovery between Indirectly Connected Biomedical Concepts*  
Supervisors Dr. Georgios Tsatsaronis, Prof. Michael Schroeder  
Description In this thesis a novel approach for relation discovery in the biomedical domain is introduced. The approach is based on the combination of information extracted from structured and unstructured data, represented by a graph. The constructed graph allows for the easy integration of heterogeneous information and discovery of indirect connections between biomedical concepts using machine learning to identify characteristic graph path patterns.

---

## Teaching

- 2017 **Supervision of Master Thesis.**  
Neural Domain Adaptation for Biomedical Question Answering  
2016 **Supervision of Master Thesis.**  
Clozing the Gap: Knowledge Base Population by Answering Cloze Queries

---

## Awards

- 2012 **Scholarship of Germany ("Deutschlandstipendium").**  
2010–2011 **DAAD Scholarship.**  
Scholarship for an exchange year abroad in Brazil

---

## Software

GitHub <https://github.com/dirkweissenborn>  
Jack-the-Reader Open-source framework neural machine reading. Main developer.  
<https://github.com/uclmr/jack>  
MOOD Open-source tool for joint entity linking and word sense disambiguation. Creator.  
<https://bitbucket.org/dfki-lt-re-group/mood>  
DBpedia Open source tool for entity linking. Active member (2012 to 2013).  
Spotlight <https://github.com/dbpedia-spotlight/dbpedia-spotlight>

---

## Technical Skills

**Programming Languages** *in descending order of proficiency*  
Python, Scala, Lua, Java, C++, C  
**Deep Learning Libraries**  
TensorFlow, PyTorch  
**NLP Libraries**  
Spacy, FactorIE, NLTK, StanfordNLP

---

## Languages

German **Mother tongue**  
English **Fluent**

Spanish **Fluent**  
Portuguese **Fluent**

---

## References

**Chris Dyer**

DeepMind

email: [cdyer@google.com](mailto:cdyer@google.com)

**Hans Uszkoreit**

DFKI GmbH, Language Technology Lab

e-mail: [hansu@dfki.de](mailto:hansu@dfki.de)

**Michael Schroeder**

BIOTEC, TU Dresden


email: [ms@biotec.tu-dresden.de](mailto:ms@biotec.tu-dresden.de)

---

## Publications

- [1] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Tomas Kocisky, and Chris Dyer. "Dynamic Integration of Background Knowledge in Neural NLU Systems". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1706.02596* (2017).
- [2] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Georg Wiese, and Laura Seiffe. "Making Neural QA as Simple as Possible but not Simpler". In: *CoNLL*. 2017.
- [3] Georg Wiese, **Dirk Weissenborn**, and Mariana Neves. "Neural Domain Adaptation for Biomedical Question Answering". In: *CoNLL*. 2017.
- [4] Sebastian Krause, Feiyu Xu, Hans Uszkoreit, and **Dirk Weissenborn**. "Event Linking with Sentential Features from Convolutional Neural Networks". In: *CoNLL*. 2016.
- [5] **Dirk Weissenborn**. "Neural associative memory for dual-sequence modeling". In: *Repl4NLP* (2016).
- [6] **Dirk Weissenborn**. "Separating Answers from Queries for Neural Reading Comprehension". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1607.03316* (2016).
- [7] **Dirk Weissenborn** and Tim Rocktäschel. "MuFuRU: The Multi-Function Recurrent Unit". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1606.03002* (2016).
- [8] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Michael Schroeder, and George Tsatsaronis. "Discovering Relations between Indirectly Connected Biomedical Concepts". In: *Journal of Biomedical Semantics* (to appear in 2015).
- [9] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Feiyu Xu, and Hans Uszkoreit. "DFKI: Multi-objective Optimization for the Joint Disambiguation of Entities and Nouns & Deep Verb Sense Disambiguation". In: *SemEval*. 2015.
- [10] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Leonhard Hennig, Feiyu Xu, and Hans Uszkoreit. "Multi-Objective Optimization for the Joint Disambiguation of Nouns and Named Entities". In: *ACL*. 2015.
- [11] George Tsatsaronis, Georgios Balikas, Prodromos Malakasiotis, Ioannis Partalas, Matthias Zschunke, Michael R Alvers, **Dirk Weissenborn**, Anastasia Krithara, Sergios Petridis, Dimitris Polychronopoulos, et al. "An overview of the BIOASQ large-scale biomedical semantic indexing and question answering competition". In: *BMC bioinformatics* 16.1 (2015), p. 138.

*Turmstr. 36 – 10551 Berlin – Germany*

 [dirkweissenborn.github.io](https://github.com/dirkweissenborn)

- [12] **Dirk Weissenborn**, Michael Schroeder, and George Tsatsaronis. "Discovering Relations between Indirectly Connected Biomedical Concepts". In: *Data Integration in the Life Sciences*. 2014, pp. 112–119.
- [13] Pablo N Mendes, **Dirk Weissenborn**, and Chris Hokamp. "DBpedia Spotlight at the MSM2013 Challenge". In: *Making Sense of Microposts (# MSM2013)* (2013).
- [14] **Dirk Weissenborn**, George Tsatsaronis, and Michael Schroeder. "Answering Factoid Questions in the Biomedical Domain." In: *BioASQ@ CLEF* 1094 (2013).