Elisa Bassignana

elba@itu.dk · elisabassignana.github.io

EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher Fellow   July 2024 – Present
IT University of Copenhagen   *Copenhagen, DK*
- Natural Language Processing and Computational Social Science;
- Research Visitor: MilaNLP, Bocconi University (2024-2026).

Ph.D. Fellow   Nov. 2020 – June 2024
IT University of Copenhagen   *Copenhagen, DK*
- Experience in Machine Learning algorithms and Deep Learning methods for NLP;
- Experience in large-scale annotation projects.

Applied Scientist Intern   July 2023 – Sep. 2023
Amazon   *Cambridge, UK*
- Summer inter in the Alexa-AI Natural Understanding team.

EDUCATION

IT University of Copenhagen   Copenhagen, DK
Ph.D. Computer Science   *Nov. 2020 – July 2024*
- **PhD Thesis**: *Cross-domain Relation Extraction*
- **Specialization in NLP.** Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Barbara Plank and Dr. Rob van der Goot;
- Affiliated Researcher: Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, since 2022;
- Research Visitor: University of Turku, 2022. Supervisors: Prof. Filip Ginter and Dr. Sampo Pyysalo;
- High-Performance Language Technologies (HPLT) & Nordic Language Processing Laboratory (NLPL) Winter School on Large-Scale Language Modeling and Neural Machine Translation with Web Data 2023;
- Advanced Language Processing Winter School (ALPS) 2022;
- Lisbon Machine Learning School (LxMLS) 2021.

University of Turin   Turin, IT
M.Sc. Computer Science (Summa Cum Laude)   *Oct. 2018 – Oct. 2020*
- Research Visitor: University of Groningen, Spring 2020;
- **Master Thesis**: *Personal-ITY: a YouTube Corpus for Personality Profiling in Italian Social Media.* Supervisors: Prof. Vivianna Patti and Prof. Malvina Nissim.

University of Turin   Turin, IT
B.Sc. Computer Science (Cum Laude)   *Oct. 2015 – Jul. 2018*
- **Bachelor Thesis**: *HurtLex: Developing a Multilingual Computational Lexicon of Words to Hurt.* Supervisors: Prof. Viviana Patti and Dr. Valerio Basile

AWARDS

Best Social Impact Paper Award, ACL 2025 (200 USD)	2025
Villum International Postdoc Grant, three year postdoc position at ITU (2.4M DKK)	2023
Outstanding Paper Award, Machine Learning Evaluation Standards at ICLR (2,000 USD)	2022
Student Volunteer Award, free attendance to ACL (300 USD)	2022
Pietro Torasso, best M.Sc. thesis in AI at the University of Turin (1,500 €)	2020
Erasmus+ Scholarship, sole recipient for an exchange semester at the University of Groningen	2020

SERVICES

Co-Chair: Workshop on Natural Language for Artificial Intelligence (NL4AI 2023), Student Research Workshop of the European chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistic (EACL-SRW 2023)
Committee Member: EACL Student Board (2022-)
Editor: Special Issue NL4AI on IJCoL
Member: ELRA (2024-), NEALT (2023-), ARSID (2022-), ACL (2020-), AICL (2018-2020)
Co-organiser: The Multi* Workshop on Linguistic Variation (ITU, 2023), Communicating State-of-the-art NLP Research to a Broader Audience (PhD Course ITU, 2021)
Reviewer: NAACL {2024}, ACL {2025, 2024, 2023}, W-NUT {2022, 2021}, EMNLP {2024, 2022}, PEOPLES {2020}
Volunteer: ACL 2022, CLiC-it 2018

TALKS

Center for Information and Language Processing (LMU)	December 2024
Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Copenaghen (Hellerup, DK)	October 2024
MilaNLP (Bocconi University)	May 2024
Content Center Computing (University of Turin)	October 2023
The Multi* Workshop on Linguistic Variation (IT University of Copenhagen)	October 2023
Huawei Finland Research Center	November 2022
Helsinki-NLP group (University of Helsinki)	October 2022
GroNLP group (University of Groningen)	October 2021

TEACHING

Introduction to Natural Language Processing and Deep Learning (Lecturer)	ITU, Spring 2022, 2023
Vertiefung der Grundlagen der Computerlinguistik (Guest Lecturer)	LMU, Fall 2022, 2023, 2024
Seminars in Data Science (Lecturer and Examiner)	ITU, Fall 2022
Introduction to Natural Language Processing and Deep Learning (Lecturer and Senior TA)	ITU, Spring 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed publications. (* = equal contribution)

21. **Elisa Bassignana***, Amanda Cercas Curry*, Dirk Hovy. "The AI Gap: How Socioeconomic Status Affects Language Technology Interactions". In Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2025). **Best Social Impact Award at ACL 2025**.

20. Frederik Bredgaard, Martin Lund Trinhammer, **Elisa Bassignana**. "The Language of Attachment: Modeling Attachment Dynamics in Psychotherapy". Pre-print.

18. Max Müller-Eberstein, Mike Zhang, **Elisa Bassignana**, Rob van der Goot. "DaKultur: Evaluating the Cultural Awareness of Language Models for Danish with Native Speakers". In Proceedings of the Third Workshop on Cross-Cultural Considerations in NLP (C3NLP 2025).

17. Mike Zhang, Max Müller-Eberstein, **Elisa Bassignana**, Rob van der Goot. "SnakModel: Lessons Learned from Training an Open Danish Large Language Model". In Proceedings of the Joint 25th Nordic Conference on Computational Linguistics and 11th Baltic Conference on Human Language Technologies (NoDaLiDa/Baltic-HLT 2025).

16. Rob van der Goot, Anette Jensen, Emil Allerslev Schledermann, Mikkel Wildner Kildeberg, Nicolaj Larsen, Mike Zhang, **Elisa Bassignana**. "MorSeD: Morphological Segmentation of Danish and its Effect on Language Modeling". In Proceedings of the Joint 25th Nordic Conference on Computational Linguistics and 11th Baltic Conference on Human Language Technologies (NoDaLiDa/Baltic-HLT 2025).

15. **Elisa Bassignana**. "Cross-domain Relation Extraction". PhD Thesis, IT University of Copenhagen.

14. Marco Antonio Stranisci*, Pere-Lluís Huguet Cabot*, **Elisa Bassignana***, Roberto Navigli. *"Dissecting Biases in Relation Extraction: A Cross-Dataset Analysis on People's Gender and Origin"*. In Proceedings of the 5th Workshop on Gender Bias in Natural Language Processing (GeBNLP 2024).

13. **Elisa Bassignana**, Rob van der Goot and Barbara Plank. *"What's wrong with your model? A Quantitative Analysis of Relation Classification"*. In Proceedings of the 13th Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM 2024).

12. **Elisa Bassignana**, Viggo Unmack Gascou, Frida Nøhr Laustsen, Gustav Kristensen, Marie Haahr Petersen, Rob van der Goot and Barbara Plank. *"How to Encode Domain Information in Relation Classification"*. In Proceedings of the 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC-COLING 2024).

11. Maria Barrett*, Max Müller-Eberstein*, **Elisa Bassignana***, Amalie Brogaard Pauli*, Mike Zhang* and Rob van der Goot*. *"Can Humans Identify Domains?"*. In Proceedings of the 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC-COLING 2024).

10. **Elisa Bassignana**, Filip Ginter, Sampo Pyysalo, Rob van der Goot, and Barbara Plank. *"Silver Syntax Pre-training for Cross-Domain Relation Extraction"*. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2023.

9. **Elisa Bassignana**, Filip Ginter, Sampo Pyysalo, Rob van der Goot, and Barbara Plank. *"Multi-CrossRE A Multi-lingual Multi-Domain Dataset for Relation Extraction"*. In Proceedings of the 24rd Nordic Conference on Computational Linguistics (NoDaLiDa).

8. **Elisa Bassignana**, and Barbara Plank. *"CrossRE: A Cross-Domain Dataset for Relation Extraction"*. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2022.

7. Dennis Ulmer, **Elisa Bassignana**, Max Müller-Eberstein, Daniel Varab, Mike Zhang, Rob van der Goot, Christian Hardmeier, and Barbara Plank. *"Experimental Standards for Deep Learning in Natural Language Processing Research"*. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2022.

6. **Elisa Bassignana***, Max Müller-Eberstein*, Mike Zhang*, and Barbara Plank. *"Evidence > Intuition: Transferability Estimation for Encoder Selection"*. In Proceedings of The 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2022)

5. **Elisa Bassignana**, and Barbara Plank. *"What do You Mean by Relation Extraction? A Survey on Datasets and Study on Scientific Relation Classification"*. In Proceedings of the 60th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Student Research Workshop (SWR-ACL 2022).

4. Dennis Ulmer, **Elisa Bassignana**, Max Müller-Eberstein, Daniel Varab, Mike Zhang, Christian Hardmeier, and Barbara Plank. *"Experimental Standards for Deep Learning Research: A Natural Language Processing Perspective"*. Machine Learning Evaluation Standards at ICLR 2022. **Outstanding Paper Award**.

3. **Elisa Bassignana**, Malvina Nissim, and Viviana Patti. *"Personal-ITY: A Novel YouTube-based Corpus for Personality Prediction in Italian"*. In Proceedings of the Seventh Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics (CLiC-it 2020).

2. **Elisa Bassignana**, Malvina Nissim, and Viviana Patti. *"Matching Theory and Data with Personal-ITY: What a Corpus of Italian YouTube Comments Reveals About Personality"*. In Proceedings of the Third Workshop on Computational Modeling of People's Opinions, Personality, and Emotion's in Social Media (PEOPLES 2020).

1. **Elisa Bassignana**, Valerio Basile, and Viviana Patti. *"Hurtlex: A multilingual lexicon of words to hurt"*. In Proceedings of the Fifth Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics (CLiC-it 2018).

Technical Skills

Languages: Italian (Native), English (Fluent), Danish (Advanced)
Programming Languages: Python, C, Java, SQL, CLIPS, Prolog, Haskell
Developer Tools: PyCharm, Git, Visual Studio, IntelliJ
Libraries: Pandas, PyTorch, scikit-learn, NumPy, Matplotlib

Extracurricular

Music: Conservatory Certification of Pre-acadmic Level (Cello), Ghedini Conservatory, Cuneo
Other activities: Au-Pair Experience in London (Summer 2019), Scoutmaster, Kids Educator