College of Information and Computer Sciences
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
✉ *lalor@cs.umass.edu*
jplalor.github.io

John P. Lalor

Research Interests

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Health Informatics, Computer Science Education

Education

2019 (expected) **Ph.D. Computer Science**, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.
Advisor: Hong Yu

2015 **M.S. Computer Science**, DePaul University, Chicago, IL.
Graduated with Distinction

2011 **B.B.A. IT Management**, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.
Minor: Irish Language and Literature Graduated Cum Laude

Professional Experience

2018 **Applied Scientist Intern**, Amazon Alexa, Cambridge, MA.
Supervisors: Bill Campbell and Eunah Cho

2015 - present **Research Assistant**, BioNLP Group, Amherst, MA.
Supervisor: Hong Yu

2017 **Applied Scientist Intern**, Amazon Alexa, Cambridge, MA.
Supervisors: Imre Kiss and Francois Mairesse

2016 **Graduate Intern**, ESPN Advanced Technology Group, Bristol, CT.
Supervisor: Zvi Topol

2015 **Teaching Assistant**, Introduction to Computer Science, Amherst College, Amherst, MA.
Professor: Crystal Valentine

2013 - 2015 **Software Developer**, Eze Software Group, Chicago, IL.

2011 - 2013 **Advisory Sr. Associate**, KPMG, Philadelphia, PA, Chicago, IL.

Manuscripts Under Review

1 **J.P. Lalor**, B. Woolf, H. Yu. Improving EHR Note Comprehension with NoteAid: A Randomized Trial of EHR Note Comprehension Interventions with Crowdsourced Workers. *JMIR Preprints.* 27/04/2018:10793 DOI: 10.2196/preprints.10793

Publications

1 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, T. Munkhdalai, H. Yu. Understanding Deep Learning Performance through an Examination of Test Set Difficulty: A Psychometric Case Study. To appear in *EMNLP 2018: Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2018.

2 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, H. Yu. Soft Label Memorization-Generalization for Natural Language Inference. *Workshop on Uncertainty in Deep Learning. Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2018.

3 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, L. Chen, K. Mazor, H. Yu. ComprehENotes, an Instrument for Assessing Patient Electronic Health Record Note Reading Comprehension: Development and Validation. *J Med Internet Res* 2018;20(4):e139. doi:10.2196/jmir.9380

4 T. Munkhdalai, **J.P. Lalor**, H. Yu. Citation Analysis with Neural Attention Models. *LOUHI 2016 : The Seventh International Workshop on Health Text Mining and Information Analysis*, Austin, Texas, USA, November 2016.

5 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, H. Yu. Building an Evaluation Scale using Item Response Theory. *EMNLP 2016: Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, Austin, Texas, USA, November 2016.

6 C. Miller, A. Settle, **J.P. Lalor**. Learning Object-Oriented Programming in Python: Towards an Inventory of Difficulties and Testing Pitfalls. *SIGITE 2015: The Special Interest Group for Information Technology Education Conference*, Chicago, Illinois, October 2015

7 A. Settle, **J.P. Lalor**, T. Steinbach. Evaluating a Linked-Courses Learning Community for Development Majors. *SIGITE 2015: The Special Interest Group for Information Technology Education Conference*, Chicago, Illinois, October 2015

8 A. Settle, **J.P. Lalor**, T. Steinbach. A Computer Science Linked-Courses Learning Community. *ITiCSE 2015: The 20th Annual Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education*. Vilnius, Lithuania, July 2015

9 A. Settle, **J.P. Lalor**, T. Steinbach. Reconsidering the Impact of CS1 on Novice Attitudes. *SIGCSE 2015: The ACM Special Interest Group on Computer Science Education*. Kansas City, Missouri, March 2015

Posters and Abstracts

1 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, H. Yu. Modeling Difficulty to Understand Deep Learning Performance. *Northern Lights Deep Learning Workshop (NLDL)*, 2018.

2 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, H. Yu. CIFT: Crowd-Informed Fine-Tuning to Improve Machine Learning Ability. *Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP)* Works-in-Progress, 2017.

3 **J.P. Lalor**, H. Wu, L. Chen, K. Mazor, H. Yu. Generating a Test of Electronic Health Record Narrative Comprehension with Item Response Theory. *American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Annual Symposium* Podium Abstract, 2017.

Invited Talks

10/12/2018 ComprehENotes: A New Test of EHR Note Comprehension. *University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business.*

09/26/2018 Leveraging Uncertainty for Better DNN Training and Evaluation. *UMass Lowell Data Science Lecture Series.*

09/29/2017 Building Better Evaluations using Item Response Theory. *University of Notre Dame Natural Language Processing Group.*

12/08/2016 Building Evaluation Scales for NLP using Item Response Theory. *UMass CICS Machine Learning and Friends Lunch series.*

Honors and Awards

2018 UMass CICS Travel Grant recipient

2015 DePaul University Graduate Assistantship

2015 Inducted into the Upsilon Pi Epsilon computer science honor society, DePaul chapter

2007 - 2011 Dean's List 4 semesters at Notre Dame

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Fall 2018 **Instructor**, UMass Lowell Data Science Lecture Series, University of Massachusetts Lowell.
Prepared and gave three lectures on evaluation and interpretability in deep neural networks

Fall 2018 **Instructor**, CICS First Year Seminar, University of Massachusetts Amherst.
Seminar topic: Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

2017-2018 **Research Mentor**, Nikhil Titus, M.S. in Computer Science, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

2018 **Research Mentor**, UMass CICS Industry Mentor Program.

Service

2018 - present Organizer, UMass CICS Machine Learning and Friends Lunch.

2018 - present Reviewer, American Journal of Preventative Medicine (AJPM).

2018 - present Reviewer, American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium (AMIA).

2017 - present Reviewer, Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR).

2014 - 2015 DePaul University Graduate Ambassador for prospective students

2014 - 2015 DePaul Tutor for undergraduate students