Svitlana Vakulenko

PhD student in TU Wien
Project staff member in the Institute for Information Business
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Exploratory Search, Dialogue Systems, Social Media, Open Data, Information Retrieval

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Technology   October 2015 – present

PhD in Computer Science (advisors: Prof. Axel Polleres, Prof. Maarten de Rijke)

University of Tartu   September 2009 – June 2011

MSc in Software Engineering (advisor: Prof. Marlon Dumas)

Kyiv National Economic University   September 2005 – June 2009

BSc in Business Informatics

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Vienna University of Economics and Business   January 2017 – present

Project staff member in the Institute for Information Business

MODUL University   September 2014 – December 2016

Researcher in the Department of New Media Technology

University of Liechtenstein   September 2013 – August 2014

Research Assistant in the Institute of Information Systems

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology   November 2011 – March 2012

Research Associate in the Institute of Applied Informatics and Formal Description Methods

RESEARCH VISITS

Stanford University   6–20 June 2018

Prof. Axel Polleres

Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro   April 2018 – May 2018

Prof. Kate Revoredo

University of Amsterdam   July 2017 – September 2017

Prof. Maarten de Rijke

I have published 14 peer-reviewed papers, with 62 citations, and an h-index of 4 (Google Scholar, August 2018)

1. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Kate Revoredo, Claudio Di Ciccio and Maarten de Rijke. QRFA: A Data-Driven Model of Information Seeking Dialogues. (Submitted)
2. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Maarten de Rijke, Michael Cochez, Vadim Savenkov and Axel Polleres. Measuring Semantic Coherence of a Conversation. Proceedings of the 17th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC 2018). October 2018. (To appear)
3. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Ilya Markov and Maarten de Rijke. Conversational Exploratory Search via Interactive Storytelling. Proceedings of the Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI (SCAI@ICTIR). 2017.
4. **Svitlana Vakulenko** and Vadim Savenkov. TableQA: Question Answering on Tabular Data. Proceedings of SEMANTiCS Conference. 2017. ***Best poster and demo paper nominee***
5. Sebastian Neumaier, Vadim Savenkov and **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Talking Open Data. Proceedings of the Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC), pp. 132-136. 2017.
6. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Lyndon Nixon, and Mihai Lupu. Character-based Neural Embeddings for Tweet Clustering. Proceedings of the Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Social Media (SocialNLP@EACL). 2017.
7. Albert Weichselbraun, Stefan Gindl, Fabian Fischer, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, and Arno Scharl. Aspect-based extraction and analysis of affective knowledge from social media streams. In IEEE Intelligent Systems, pp. 80-88. 2017.
8. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Albert Weichselbraun, and Arno Scharl. Detection of valid sentiment-target pairs in online product reviews and news media articles. Proceedings of the IEEE/WIC/ACM International Conference on Web Intelligence (WI), pp. 97-104. 2016.
9. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Max Göbel, Arno Scharl and Lyndon Nixon. Know which Way the Wind Blows: Visualising the Propagation of News on the Web. Proceedings of the Workshop on Recent Trends in News Information Retrieval (NewsIR@ECIR), pp. 60-62. 2016.
10. Gregory Katsios, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Anastasia Krithara and Georgios Paliouras. Towards Open Domain Event Extraction from Twitter: REVEALing Entity Relations. Proceedings of the Workshop on Detection, Representation, and Exploitation of Events in the Semantic Web (DERIVE@ESWC). 2015.
11. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Oliver Müller, Jan vom Brocke. Enriching iTunes App Store Categories via Topic Modeling. Proceedings of the 35th International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS). 2014.
12. Nadine Reuter, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Jan vom Brocke, Stefan Debortoli, Oliver Müller. Identifying the Role of Information Systems in Achieving Energy-Related Environmental Sustainability using Text Mining. Proceedings of the European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS). 2014.
13. Andrea Herbst, Alexander Simons, Jan vom Brocke, Oliver Müller, Stefan Debortoli, **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Identifying and characterizing topics in enterprise content management: a latent semantic analysis of vendor case studies. Proceedings of the 22nd European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS), pp. 1-15. 2014.
14. Peep Küngas, Siim Karus, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Marlon Dumas, Cristhian Parra, Fabio Casati. Reverse-engineering conference rankings: what does it take to make a reputable conference? Scientometrics, pp. 651-665. 2013.
15. **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Extraction of Process Models from Business Process Descriptions. Master thesis. University of Tartu. 2011. (Supervised by Marlon Dumas)

Teaching
- Lecturer of Principles of Software Programming, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Winter Semester 2017
- Lecturer of Introduction to Programming, University of Liechtenstein, Summer Semester 2014

Supervision

2018
- Paul Rudolf Zahrl BSc, Real-time Job Recommendations from Twitter
- Isabel Schwaninger MSc, Detecting Social Unrest on Chinese Microblogs
- Christiane Rank BSc, Social Media and the Future of News: Empirical Study
- Eric Bruch MSc, Open Data Gamification: Quizz Generator

2017
- Alexander Meisl BSc, Open Data for Social Science: Red Cross Use Case
- Amar Tauqeer MSc, Visualizing Geo-located Open Data
- Donatella Novakovic BSc, Social Media and the Future of News: Literature Review

Community Service

2018
- Scientific Committee member at the Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC 2018)
- Jury member at Open Minds Award
- Reviewer for the Semantic Web Journal (SWJ)

2017
- Co-organizer of Django Girls Vienna
- Jury member at Open Minds Award
- Reviewer for the Journal of Computer Science and Technology (JCST)

2016
- Reviewer for the International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2016), ACM Web Science (WebSci 2016), Medal 2016

2015
- Reviewer for the European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS 2015), International Conference on Wirtschaftsinformatik (WI 2015)

2014
- Reviewer for the Multikonferenz Wirtschaftsinformatik (MKWI 2014)

Honors and Awards
- Travel grant from the Austrian Research Association funding the research visit at Stanford. 2018
- Travel grant for attending the Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI. 2017
- Stipend for attending the IS Womens Network Workshop: "Advancing Women In IS". 2014
- Scholarship for attending the Research-Centered Summer School at NCSR Demokritos. 2014
- Scholarship for attending the Graduate School of Computer Science at Saarland University. 2012
- Scholarship from the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supporting my Master's studies. 2010-2011
- Scholarship for attending Baltic Summer School at Kaunas University of Technology. 2010
- EU's Eastern Partnership scholarship from the Open Estonia Foundation. 2010
- Scholarship from the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supporting my Master's studies. 2009-2010

Measuring Semantic Coherence of a Conversation   6 June 2018

Seminar on Linking Open Data and Knowledge Graphs
Stanford Center for Biomedical Informatics Research (BMIR), USA

Conversation Mining: Process Mining for Conversational Data   24 April 2018

Department of Applied Informatics
Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro (UNIRIO), Brazil

Semantic Coherence for Conversational Browsing of a Knowledge Graph   31 January 2018

Smart Data Analytics (SDA) research group meeting
University of Bonn, Germany

CommuniData: project report   1 December 2017

GovCamp Vienna
Vienna, Austria

Conversational Exploratory Search via Interactive Storytelling   5 September 2017

Information and Language Processing Systems (ILPS) group seminar
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Memory Networks for Question Answering on Tabular Data   7 June 2017

Grammarly Meetup
Kyiv, Ukraine

Open-source Software

Most of my research projects, as well as studying and teaching materials are released as open-source. I authored 39 public software repositories on Github in total (github.com/svakulenk0) and made 1,650 contributions in the last year (August 2018)

Technical Skills

Programming languages: Python (Gensim, Flask, Keras), JavaScript, Java (Vert.x)
Databases: SQL, NoSQL, SPARQL, Lucene
Other: Git, LaTeX, Jupyter

Languages

Russian and Ukrainian (Native), English (Professional), German (Advanced), Spanish (Basic)