

# SHIVA TASLIMPOOR

Research Group in Computational Linguistics ◊ University of Wolverhampton

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Natural Language Processing, Multiword Expressions, Semantic Similarity, Figurative Language, Cross-lingual Text Processing, Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning.

## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Natural Language Processing, University of Wolverhampton, UK** *2014-2018*

. Thesis: Automatic Identification and Translation of Multiword Expressions

Supervisor: Prof. Ruslan Mitkov

**M. Sc. in Artificial Intelligence, Shiraz University** *2009-2012*

. Thesis: Automatic Investigation of the Semantics of Persian Compound Verbs

Supervisor: Dr. Afsaneh Fazly

**B. Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering, Shiraz University** *2004-2008*

. Thesis: Detecting Openness of Pistachio Nuts Using Image Classification Methods

supervisor: Prof. Zohreh Azimifar

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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<b>Programming Languages</b>	Python, MATLAB, Java, C/C++ (prior experience)
<b>NLP Tools</b>	SpaCy, Gensim, NLTK, SketchEngine, WordNet
<b>ML Tools</b>	Keras (with Tensorflow backend), Scikit-learn
<b>ML Expertise</b>	Deep learning, representation learning, classification, regression, tagging, structured prediction and statistical analysis

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Postdoctoral Research Associate** *October 2018 - Present*

*Research Group in Computational Linguistics, University of Wolverhampton*

- . Question-answer generation
- . Predicting item characteristics for Multiple Choice Question Answering

**Research Assistant** *2014 - 2018*

*Research Group in Computational Linguistics, University of Wolverhampton*

- . Research towards PhD (refer to Section Selected Project)

**Researcher & Developer** *2013 - 2014*

*Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Lab, Shiraz University*

- . Stereopsis problems for traffic analysis project for the municipality of the city of Shiraz

**Instructor** *Fall 2012 & Spring 2013*

*Jahrom Universities, Iran*

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|--------------------------------|---|
| . Discrete Mathematics         | . Artificial Intelligence               |
| . Data Structures              | . Intro. to Formal Languages & Automata |
| . Supervisory of B.Sc projects |   |
- . VSMs in Semantics, Document Categorization, Text Summerization, Spam Filtering, MT, etc.

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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**Multiword Expression (MWE) identification** *July 2014 - Present*

- proposed a sequence labelling model that combined Graph Convolutional Neural Networks with Self-Attention improving state-of-the-art on a standard multi-lingual dataset

- designed language-independent neural sequence labelling methods to identify MWEs (implemented in **Keras** and **ranked 1st** in Parseme 2018 shared task on “automatic identification of verbal MWEs”)
- proposed a classification approach to disambiguate idiomatic expressions (using **gensim** & **sklearn**)
- re-examined standard evaluation for MWEs & proposed a more accurate cross-validation method
- utilised features derived from eye tracking data to improve MWE identification

#### **Extracting Translation Equivalents (TE)**

*July 2014 - June 2018*

- proposed an original semi-supervised **word2vec**-based method to extract TEs for MWEs
- developed and exploited comparable corpora for low resource languages

#### **Irony Detection**

*October 2017 - January 2018*

- developed irony detection system using sentiment and embedding features, which **ranked 3rd** in SemEval 2018 shared task 3 “Irony detection in English tweets”

#### **Semantic Discrimination**

*November 2017 - January 2018*

- developed a model using SketchEngine, ConceptNet, embeddings & google Ngrams, which **ranked 4th** (joint) in SemEval 2018 shared task 10 “Capturing Discriminative Attributes”

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### **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Best paper award** in RANLP 2017

**Best paper award** by a young researcher in Europhras2015

PARSEME grant for the 2nd training school

Ph.D. Scholarship from the University of Wolverhampton, UK, (2014-2017)

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### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

#### **Editorial Assistant**

*2014 - Present*

Cambridge Journal of Natural Language Engineering

#### **Organising Committee Member**

- Summer School on Deep Learning in NLP (DLinNLP), Varna, Bulgaria *29-30 August 2019*  
I will be an instructor for a practical coding session on sequence labelling and multi-task learning
- EUROPHRAS 2017, London, UK *13-14 November 2017*
- Student Research Workshop, held in conjunction with EUROPHRAS 2017, London, UK.

#### **Programme Committee Member & Reviewer**

RANLP 2019, EUROPHRAS 2019, JNLE, SemEval 2019 & 2018, RANLP 2017, SLSP 2017, CICLing 2017, RANLP 2015, AISP 2012

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### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

**Bridging the Gap: Attending to Discontinuity in Identification of Multiword Expressions**, O. Rohanian, S. Taslimipoor, S. Kouchaki, L. A. Ha, R. Mitkov, *accepted for publication in NAACL-HLT*, 2019. (Equal collaboration with the first author)

**GCN-Sem at SemEval-2019 Task 1: Semantic Parsing Using Graph Convolutional and Recurrent Neural Networks**, S. Taslimipoor, O. Rohanian, S. Moze, In *SemEval 2019 Task 1*, 2019.

**Identification of Multiword Expressions: A Fresh Look at Modelling and Evaluation**, S. Taslimipoor, O. Rohanian, R. Mitkov, A. Fazly. In *Multiword expressions at length and in depth. Extended papers from the MWE 2017 workshop*, Language Science Press, 2018.

**Wolves at SemEval-2018 Task 10: Semantic Discrimination based on Knowledge and Association**, S. Taslimipoor, O. Rohanian, L. A. Ha, G. Corpas, R. Mitkov. In *SemEval*, 2018.

**Investigating the Opacity of Verb-noun Multiword Expression Usages in Context**, S. Taslimipoor, O. Rohanian, R. Mitkov, and A. Fazly, in *proceedings MWE@EACL*, 2017.

**Bilingual Contexts from Comparable Corpora to Mine for Translations of Collocations**, S. Taslimipoor, R. Mitkov, G. Corpas, A. Fazly, in *CICLing*, 2016.

**Using Noun Similarity to Adapt an Acceptability Measure for Persian Light Verb Constructions**, S. Taslimipoor, A. Fazly and A. Hamzeh: In *LREC'12*, 2012.