

SHIVA TASLIMIPOOR

Research Group in Computational Linguistics ◇ University of Wolverhampton
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

EDUCATION

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

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

WORK EXPERIENCE

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

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*

- **Discrete Mathematics**, Jahrom University
- **Data Structures**, Jahrom University
- **Intro. to Formal Languages & Automata**, Andisheh Institute of higher Education
- **Artificial Intelligence**, Andisheh Institute of higher Education and Azad University of Jahrom
- **Supervisory of B.Sc projects**, Jahrom University
 - VSMs in Semantics, Document Categorization, Text Summerization, Spam Filtering, MT, etc.

SELECTED PROJECTS

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”

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)

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

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.