

Prof Serge Sharoff

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1 Current position

Title Professor of Language Technology and Digital Humanities,

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2 My research interests

Artificial Intelligence and more specifically Large Language Models, such as ChatGPT, have recently made a profound impact on how we interact with the computer by providing the ability to produce new texts in response to prompts. Fundamental research in this area is at the core of my expertise, I've been doing this since my own PhD in the 1990s (the topic was on building language models for information extraction). This pre-dated LLMs, but the idea of linking language to meanings remains the same.

My current research interests focus on the relationship between linguistic structures and language technology, such as the capability of language technology to understand stylistic properties of texts beyond the keywords, how to use language technology to help language learners and professional translators, how to interpret the inner blackboxes of large language models via linguistic structures.

3 Research awards

2024-2026 EU Horizon "Innovative and Inclusive Democratic Spaces for Deliberation and Participation" (PI for Leeds, €539,954)

2020-2022 EPSRC "AI tracing for detecting COVID19 misinformation" (PI, £39,954)

2019 EPSRC/Alan Turing Institute "Translation Workflow Automation by Determining Text Difficulty" (PI, £33,337), with UN and WTO.

2014-2016 InnovateUK grant "Palodiem" (PI, £216,411)

2011-2014 EU Marie-Curie grant "HyghTra: High-quality Hybrid Machine Translation" (CoI, €541,575)

2012 JISC grant "#IICT: Increasing Interoperability between Corpus Tools" (PI for Leeds, in collaboration with Coventry and Lancaster)

2010-2011 AHRC grant "Intellitext: Intelligent Tools for Creating and Analysing Electronic Text Corpora" (CoI, £159,293)

2010-2012 EU FP7 grant, "TTC: Terminology Extraction, Translation Tools and Comparable Corpora" (PI for Leeds, €369,786)

2010-2012 EU FP7 grant, "Accurat: Machine Translation for Under-resourced languages" (CoI for Leeds, €340,174)

2010-2011 EU LLP grant, "Kelly: Keywords for Language Learners" (PI for Leeds, €124,478)

2009 Google Research Award for Automatic Web documents classification (\$75,000)

2005-2007 EPSRC grant "ASSIST: Automated assistance for translators" (CoI, £124,000, in collaboration with Lancaster)

2000-2002 Fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany

1997-2000 EU INCO-Copernicus grant, "AGILE: Adaptive Multilingual Generation" (CoI)

4 Timeline of my academic history

2003–now Research Fellow, Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Professor, University of Leeds

2000-2002 Alexander von Humboldt Fellow, University of Bielefeld

1990-2000 Research Assistant – Senior Research Fellow, Russian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence.

5 Education

May, 1997 PhD in Computer Science, Moscow Lomonosov State University (the thesis title was "An instrumental tool for development of linguistic processors").

1985-1990 MSc in mathematics, Urals Gorky State University.

6 Academic publications

Over 140 academic publications with 4610 citations in total, see a separate list below.

<https://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=qcnf4QsAAAAJ>

I'm on the editorial board of Language Resources and Register Studies, as well as on the Programme Committee for a number of conferences.

7 PhD Supervision

19 students supervised to successful completion.