

2006



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Workshop on Sentiment and Subjectivity in Text

Proceedings of the Workshop

Chairs:

Michael Gamon and Anthony Aue

22 July 2006

Sydney, Australia

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## Preface

This volume contains the papers prepared for and presented at the Workshop on Sentiment and Subjectivity in Text, held on 22 July 2006 in Sydney, Australia, immediately following COLING/ACL 2006.

Sentiment and subjectivity in text constitute a problem that is orthogonal to typical topic detection tasks in text classification. Despite the lack of a precise definition of sentiment or subjectivity, headway has been made in matching human judgments by automatic means. Such systems can prove useful in a variety of contexts. In many applications it is important to distinguish what an author is talking about from his or her subjective stance towards the topic. If the writing is highly subjective, as for example in an editorial text or comment, the text should be treated differently than if it were a mostly objective presentation of facts, as for example in a news article. Information extraction, summarization, and question answering can benefit from an accurate separation of subjective content from objective content. Furthermore, the particular sentiment expressed by an author towards a topic is important for “opinion mining”, i.e. the extraction of prevalent opinions about topics or items from a collection of texts. Similarly, in business intelligence it is important to automatically extract positive and negative perceptions about features of a product or service.

Over the past several years, there has been an increasing number of publications focused on the detection and classification of sentiment and subjectivity in text. The purpose of the workshop is to bring together researchers interested in the topic to share and discuss recent work in the area. The quality and diversity of submissions we received confirmed our belief that this area is and will continue to be a fascinating and fruitful one for some time to come.

We wish to thank all of the authors for submitting papers for consideration, and all of the members of the program committee for their careful and prompt attention to the review process. We also wish to thank our invited speakers, Bing Liu, Nicolas Nicolov, and Franco Salvetti.

Michael Gamon and Anthony Aue  
June 2006



# Organizers

## Chairs:

Michael Gamon and Anthony Aue, Microsoft Research

## Program Committee:

Shlomo Argamon, Illinois Institute of Technology  
Claire Cardie, Cornell University  
Graeme Hirst, University of Toronto  
Eduard Hovy, USC Information Sciences Institute  
Aravind Joshi, University of Pennsylvania  
Jussi Karlgren, Swedish Institute of Computer Science  
Roy Lipski, Oxford Catalysts  
Nicolas Nicolov, Umbria Inc.  
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Franco Salvetti, Umbria Inc.  
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Michael Strube, EML Research  
Pero Subasic, Yahoo Inc.  
Peter Turney, National Research Council Canada  
Özlem Uzuner, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Casey Whitelaw, University of Sydney  
Janyce Wiebe, University of Pittsburgh

## Invited Speakers:

Bing Liu, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Nicolas Nicolov and Franco Salvetti, Umbria Inc.





## Workshop Program

### Saturday, 22 July 2006

- 9:00–9:15 Welcome and Introductions
- 9:15–10:00 Invited Talk by Bing Liu: Extracting and Summarizing Opinions on the Web
- 10:00–10:30 *Extracting Opinions, Opinion Holders, and Topics Expressed in Online News Media Text*  
Soo-Min Kim and Eduard Hovy
- 10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00–11:30 *Toward Opinion Summarization: Linking the Sources*  
Veselin Stoyanov and Claire Cardie
- 11:30–12:00 *A System for Summarizing and Visualizing Arguments in Subjective Documents: Toward Supporting Decision Making*  
Atsushi Fujii and Tetsuya Ishikawa
- 12:00–12:30 *User-directed Sentiment Analysis: Visualizing the Affective Content of Documents*  
Michelle L. Gregory, Nancy Chinchor, Paul Whitney, Richard Carter, Elizabeth Hetzler and Alan Turner
- 12:30–1:45 Lunch
- 1:45–2:30 Invited Talk by Nicolas Nicolov and Franco Salvetti: The Good, the Bad, and the Money: How Industry is Capitalizing on Sentiment
- 2:30–3:00 *Annotating Attribution in the Penn Discourse TreeBank*  
Rashmi Prasad, Nikhil Dinesh, Alan Lee, Aravind Joshi and Bonnie Webber
- 3:00–3:30 *Searching for Sentences Expressing Opinions by Using Declaratively Subjective Clues*  
Nobuaki Hiroshima, Setsuo Yamada, Osamu Furuse and Ryoji Kataoka
- 3:30–4:00 Coffee Break
- 4:00–4:30 *Exploitation in Affect Detection in Open-Ended Improvisational Text*  
Li Zhang, John A. Barnden, Robert J. Hendley and Alan M. Wallington
- 4:30–5:00 *Towards a Validated Model for Affective Classification of Texts*  
Michel Génèreux and Roger Evans

