

LIMO 2023

**The 1st Workshop on Linguistic Insights from and for
Multimodal Language Processing**

Proceedings of the Workshop

September 22, 2023

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Foreword

Processing multimodal information (like visual representations of the environment, auditory cues, images, gestures, gaze etc.) and integrating them is a constant and effortless process in human language processing. Recent progress in the area of language & vision, large-scale visually grounded language models, and multimodal learning (e. g. CLIP (Radford et al., 2021), VILBERT (Lu et al., 2019) etc.) have led to breakthroughs in challenging multimodal NLP applications like image-text retrieval, image captioning (Cornia et al., 2020) or visual question answering (Antol et al., 2015). Yet, modeling the semantics and pragmatics of situated language understanding and generation and, generally, language processing beyond the linguistic context, i. e. in combination with multiple other modalities, is still one of the biggest challenges in NLP and Computational Linguistics (Bisk et al., 2020).

Recent efforts in understanding complex multimodal phenomena in language and dialogue have explored a variety of aspects of multimodality and produced a substantial amount of valuable multimodal datasets and models that include various types of text (from short and informal social media comments to more formal news, instructions/manuals and legal documents, they are also usually accompanied by an image, meme, animation or video) and dialogue (from reference games, instruction dialogues to fully situated interaction with agents and robots). The variety in this wide problem space and the downstream tasks also require variety in the approaches to tackle them. As a result, Multimodal Language Processing is approached by many different sub-areas of Computational Linguistics and NLP—in computational semantics and pragmatics, dialogue modeling, language modeling, and grounding, multimodal and crossmodal learning, and beyond, including physical or robotic actions.

While there have been recent venues and workshops targeting multimodal representation learning and large-scale Language and Vision models, there is a lack of discussion in the community that focuses on linguistic multimodal phenomena, domain- and task-specific analyses of multimodality and, generally, contributions of computational linguistics to multimodal learning and vice versa (Parcalabescu et al., 2022). With this workshop, we aim to bring together researchers who work on various linguistic aspects of multimodal language processing to discuss and share the recent advances in this interdisciplinary field.

The main goals of this workshop are to

- Discuss various tasks, phenomena, models, and problems in multimodal language processing
- Discuss how insights from (computational) linguistics can inform multimodal learning and modeling
- Facilitate networking and encourage collaboration between researchers working on different aspects of multimodality in computational linguistics and language processing

The LIMO 2023 workshop organizers:

Piush Aggarwal, Özge Alaçam, Carina Silberer, Sina Zarrieß and Torsten Zesch

Organizing Committee

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Invited Speakers

Letitia Parcalabescu (Heidelberg University, Germany)

Sandro Pezzelle (ILLC, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands)

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Conference Program

Friday, September 22, 2023

9:00–9:10 *Kick-off for LIMO workshop*

9:10–9:30 **2 Min. Teaser for Accepted Papers**

A Pipeline for the Creation of Multimodal Corpora from YouTube Videos

Nathan Dykes, Anna Wilson and Peter Uhrig

Multi-Modal Learning Application – Support Language Learners with NLP Techniques and Eye-Tracking

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FlowchartQA: The First Large-Scale Benchmark for Reasoning over Flowcharts

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Presenting an Annotation Pipeline for Fine-grained Linguistic Analyses of Multimodal Corpora

Elena Volkanovska, Sherry Tan, Changxu Duan, Debajyoti Chowdhury and Sabine Bartsch

9:30–10:30 *Invited Talk by Dr. Letitia Parcalabescu*

10:30–10:50 *Coffee Break*

Friday, September 22, 2023 (continued)

10:50–12:00 **Poster Session**

12:00–13:00 *Invited Talk by Dr. Sandro Pezzelle*