EMNLP 2018

Search-Oriented Conversational AI (SCAI)

Proceedings of the 2018 EMNLP Workshop SCAI: The 2nd International Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI

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Introduction

Welcome to the the 2nd International Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI. Following the successful first edition co-located with the International Conference on the Theory of Information Retrieval (ICTIR 2017), we decided to run this workshop again, this time at an NLP conference, with the aim to bring together researchers from NLP, Machine Learning, and IR communities to instigate future direction of search-oriented conversational systems.

This year we received 22 valid submissions and decided to accept 6 papers for oral presentation and 7 papers for posters. That yields an acceptance rate of 27% for oral presentations and 59% total acceptance rate. We hope that by accepting more papers we will have more lively discussions. We are thankful to the program committee for their hard work. A separate thanks goes to the additional reviewers helping with the last-minute reviews and the PC chairs finalizing the decisions.

Aleksandr Chuklin, Jeff Dalton, Julia Kiseleva, Alexey Borisov, and Mikhail Burtsev

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Invited Speakers:

Milica Gašić, University of Cambridge
Mari Ostendorf, University of Washington
Antoine Bordes, Facebook Research
Yun-Nung (Vivian) Chen, National Taiwan University

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Workshop Program

Wednesday, October 31, 2018

09:00–09:10 *Introduction*

Session 1

09:10–09:50 *Keynote 1: Antoine Bordes*

09:50–10:10 *Neural Response Ranking for Social Conversation: A Data-Efficient Approach*
Igor Shalyminov, Ondřej Dušek and Oliver Lemon

10:10–10:30 *Autonomous Sub-domain Modeling for Dialogue Policy with Hierarchical Deep Reinforcement Learning*
Giovanni Yoko Kristianto, Huiwen Zhang, Bin Tong, Makoto Iwayama and Yoshiyuki Kobayashi

10:30–11:00 *Break*

Session 2

11:00–11:40 *Keynote 2: Milica Gašić*

11:40–12:00 *Building Dialogue Structure from Discourse Tree of a Question*
Boris Galitsky and Dmitry Ilvovsky

12:00–12:20 *A Methodology for Evaluating Interaction Strategies of Task-Oriented Conversational Agents*
Marco Guerini, Sara Falcone and Bernardo Magnini

12:20–12:40 *A Reinforcement Learning-driven Translation Model for Search-Oriented Conversational Systems*
Wafa Aissa, Laure Soulier and Ludovic Denoyer

12:40–14:00 *Lunch*

Wednesday, October 31, 2018 (continued)

Session 3

14:00–14:40 *Keynote 3: Yun-Nung (Vivian) Chen*

14:40–15:00 *Research Challenges in Building a Voice-based Artificial Personal Shopper - Position Paper*
Nut Limsopatham, Oleg Rokhlenko and David Carmel

15:00–15:30 *Poster session*

15:30–16:00 *Break*

Session 4

16:00–16:40 *Keynote 4: Mari Ostendorf*

16:40–17:20 *Roundtable discussion*

17:20–17:30 *Closing*