

EACL 2026

**The 6th International Workshop on Computational
Approaches to Language Change (LChange'26)**

Proceedings of the Workshop

March 28, 2026

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Preface by the General Chair

Welcome to the 6th International Workshop on Computational Approaches to Language Change (LChange'26) co-located with EACL 2026. After a year-long break, we are now back with a highly anticipated edition. LChange is held on March 28th, 2026, as a half-day workshop where the primary mode of presentation is poster presentation. The introduction and lightning talk sessions are offered in hybrid mode, while the poster session is on-site in Morocco. Because we were only allotted a half-day workshop, for the first time in LChange history, there will be no keynotes. Our keynotes have been very appreciated in the past and we intend to have them back in the next edition. New for this year is that we have dropped the word *Historical* from the title, to highlight that we are open to the study of all language change, modern and historical alike.

Characterizing the time-varying nature of language will have broad implications and applications in multiple fields, including linguistics, artificial intelligence, digital humanities, computational cognitive and social sciences. In this workshop, we bring together the world's pioneers and experts in computational approaches to language change with a focus on digital text corpora. In doing so, this workshop carries out the triple goals of disseminating state-of-the-art research on diachronic modeling of language change, fostering cross-disciplinary collaborations, and exploring the fundamental theoretical and methodological challenges in this growing niche of computational linguistic research.

In response to the call, we received 24 submissions of which two were desk rejected because they did not fit the workshop theme. Each of the remaining submissions was carefully evaluated by at least two members of the Program Committee, whom we believed to be most appropriate for each paper. Most papers received 3 or more reviews. Based on the reviewers' feedback, we accepted 14 full and short papers as poster presentations. This year, we also received one submission that we deemed to be (fully or majorly) LLM-generated, which was rejected by the organizers after careful reviewing. The 14 accepted papers cover a wide range of topics, phenomena and methods in the field of language change. The methods employed span deep neural networks with monolingual and multilingual language models, and statistical analyses based on usage similarities and dependency co-occurrence patterns. We also highlight the diversity of cultural and historical contexts for language change studied in these papers, featuring studies on Japanese economic language during the "Lost Decade" (1990–2000), tonogenesis in Tibetan, and slang word detection. Additionally, some papers focus on contemporary sociolinguistic phenomena, such as neology in social media or semantic broadening in specific contexts, while others introduce tools and resources for modeling semantic change on a broad scale. This diversity underscores the richness of current research on language change.

We hope that you will find the workshop papers insightful and inspiring. We would like to thank the authors of all papers for their interesting contributions, and the members of the Program Committee for their insightful reviews. Our special thanks go to the emergency reviewers who stepped in to provide their expertise. We also express our gratitude to the EACL 2026 workshop chairs for their kind assistance during the organization process. Finally, our thanks go to our sponsors, the research program "Change is Key!" (Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, contract M21-0021).

As in the past editions, we are looking forward to a productive workshop and hope that it will foster new collaborations and contribute to building an ever-growing community.

Nina Tahmasebi, chair, University of Gothenburg (Sweden)

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Andrey Kutuzov, University of Oslo (Norway)

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Program Committee

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Table of Contents

<i>The SlangTrack Dataset: Supporting the Detection of Words Used in Slang Senses</i> Afnan Mohammed Aloraini, Riza Batista-Navarro, Goran Nenadic and Viktor Schlegel	1
<i>Statistical Semantic Change Detection via Usage Similarities</i> Taichi Aida, Daichi Mochihashi, Hiroya Takamura, Toshinobu Ogiso and Mamoru Komachi	20
<i>The Tonogenesis Continuum in Tibetan: A Computational Investigation</i> Siyu Liang and Zhaxi Zerong	27
<i>Cross-lingual Lexical Semantic Change in Romance Languages</i> Ana Sabina Uban, Liviu P Dinu, Anca Daniela Dinu and Simona Georgescu	35
<i>Threshold-Calibrated Word Sense Disambiguation: Semantic Broadening Without Sense Redistribution in Schizophrenia</i> Naomi Baes and Nick Haslam	50
<i>Using Correspondence Patterns to Identify Irregular Words in Cognate Sets Through Leave-One-Out Validation</i> Frederic Blum and Johann-Mattis List	75
<i>DHPLT: large-scale multilingual diachronic corpora and word representations for semantic change modelling</i> Mariia Fedorova, Andrey Kutuzov and Khonzoda Umarova	87
<i>Transparent Semantic Change Detection with Dependency-Based Profiles</i> Bach Phan Tat, Kris Heylen, Dirk Geeraerts, Stefano De Pascale and Dirk Speelman	97
<i>Semantic Change Characterization with LLMs using Rhetorics</i> Jáder Martins Camboim de Sá, Jooyoung Lee, Marcos Da Silveira and Cedric Pruski	110
<i>Using BERT to Explore Lexical Semantic Change of Prepositions</i> Liudmila Radchankava	124
<i>A Computational Analysis of the Emergence of Therapy-speak in Social Media</i> Alina Iacob and Ana Sabina Uban	131
<i>Rethinking Metrics for Lexical Semantic Change Detection</i> Roksana Goworek and Haim Dubossarsky	147
<i>From sunblock to softblock: Analyzing the correlates of neology in published writing and on social media</i> Maria Ryskina, Matthew R. Gormley, Kyle Mahowald, David R. Mortensen, Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick and Vivek Kulkarni	162

Program

Saturday, March 28, 2026

09:15 - 09:45 *Introduction*

09:45 - 10:30 *Poster pitch*

10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee Break*

10:30 - 12:30 *Poster Session*

Threshold-Calibrated Word Sense Disambiguation: Semantic Broadening Without Sense Redistribution in Schizophrenia

Naomi Baes and Nick Haslam

From sunblock to softblock: Analyzing the correlates of neology in published writing and on social media

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Rethinking Metrics for Lexical Semantic Change Detection

Roksana Goworek and Haim Dubossarsky

The SlangTrack Dataset: Supporting the Detection of Words Used in Slang Senses

Afnan Mohammed Aloraini, Riza Batista-Navarro, Goran Nenadic and Viktor Schlegel

Saturday, March 28, 2026 (continued)

Tracking Lexical Semantic Change with a Three-Level Network: Evidence from Japanese Economic News during Japan's Lost Decade"(1990-2000)

Jiabao Wang

The Tonogenesis Continuum in Tibetan: A Computational Investigation

Siyu Liang and Zhaxi Zerong

Statistical Semantic Change Detection via Usage Similarities

Taichi Aida, Daichi Mochihashi, Hiroya Takamura, Toshinobu Ogiso and Mamoru Komachi

Semantic Change Characterization with LLMs using Rhetorics

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Cross-lingual Lexical Semantic Change in Romance Languages

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