EACL 2014

14th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics



Proceedings of the 10th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2014)

> 26-27 April 2014 Gothenburg, Sweden

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Introduction

The 10th Workshop on Multiword Expressions (MWE 2014) took place on April 26 and 27, 2014 in Gothenburg, Sweden in conjunction with the 14th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL 2014) and was endorsed by the Special Interest Group on the Lexicon of the Association for Computational Linguistics (SIGLEX), as well as SIGLEX's Section dedicated to the study and research of Multiword Expressions (SIGLEX-MWE). Moreover, this year's edition of the MWE workshop was also supported by the IC1207 COST1 action PARSEME2 dedicated to Parsing and Multiword Expressions. This European initiative, which started in 2013, gathers 29 European COST member countries, one COST cooperating state and 3 non-COST institutions from the USA and Brazil. Its objective is to increase and enhance the information and communication technology support of the European multilingual heritage by bringing about a substantial progress in the understanding and modelling of MWEs within advanced multilingual NLP techniques, notably deep parsing. The special track of the MWE 2014 workshop endorsed by PARSEME gathered 8 papers where links between lexical and grammatical aspects of MWEs, as well as their role in deep parsing and NLP applications, such as machine translation, were addressed.

The workshop has been held almost every year since 2003 in conjunction with ACL, EACL, NAACL, COLING and LREC. It provides an important venue for interaction, sharing of resources and tools and collaboration efforts for advancing the computational treatment of Multiword Expressions (MWEs), attracting the attention of an ever-growing community working on a variety of languages and MWE types.

MWEs include idioms (storm in a teacup, sweep under the rug), fixed phrases (in vitro, by and large, rock'n roll), noun compounds (olive oil, laser printer), compound verbs (take a nap, bring about), among others. These, while easily mastered by native speakers, are a key issue and a current weakness for natural language parsing and generation, as well as real-life applications depending on some degree of semantic interpretation, such as machine translation, just to name a prominent one among many. However, thanks to the joint efforts of researchers from several fields working on MWEs, significant progress has been made in recent years, especially concerning the construction of large-scale language resources. For instance, there is a large number of recent papers that focus on acquisition of MWEs from corpora, and others that describe a variety of techniques to find paraphrases for MWEs. Current methods use a plethora of tools such as association measures, machine learning, syntactic patterns, web queries, etc.

In the call for papers we solicited submissions about major challenges in the overall process of MWE treatment, both from the theoretical and the computational viewpoint, focusing on original research related (but not limited) to the following topics:

- Manually and automatically constructed resources
- Representation of MWEs in dictionaries and ontologies
- MWEs and user interaction

- Multilingual acquisition
- Multilingualism and MWE processing
- Models of first and second language acquisition of MWEs
- Crosslinguistic studies on MWEs
- The role of MWEs in the domain adaptation of parsers
- Integration of MWEs into NLP applications
- Evaluation of MWE treatment techniques
- Lexical, syntactic or semantic aspects of MWEs

Submission modalities included Long Papers and Short Papers. From a total of 36 submissions, 14 were long papers and 22 were short papers, and we accepted 6 long papers for oral presentation and 2 as posters. We further accepted 6 short papers for oral presentation and 8 as posters. The overall acceptance rate is 58%. The workshop also featured 3 invited talks.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the members of the Program Committee for the timely reviews and the authors for their valuable contributions. We also want to thank PARSEME which funded travel and stay for at least 20 participants from the Action's member countries.

Valia Kordoni, Agata Savary, Markus Egg, Eric Wehrli, Stefan Evert Co-Organizers



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Invited Speakers:

Ekaterina Shutova, ICSI, UC Berkeley (USA) Preslav Nakov, Qatar Computing Research Institute (Qatar) One more invited speaker to be confirmed

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Conference Program

Saturday, April 26, 2014

8:45-9:00	Opening Remarks
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Oral Session 1: Detection and Extraction of MWEs

- 9:00–9:30 Breaking Bad: Extraction of Verb-Particle Constructions from a Parallel Subtitles Corpus Aaron Smith
- 9:30–10:00 A Supervised Model for Extraction of Multiword Expressions, Based on Statistical Context Features Meghdad Farahmand and Ronaldo Martins

Oral Session 2: PARSEME I – Parsing MWEs

- 10:00–10:30 *VPCTagger: Detecting Verb-Particle Constructions With Syntax-Based Methods* István Nagy T. and Veronika Vincze
- 10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00–12:00 Invited Talk 1: TBA

Oral Session 2: PARSEME I – Parsing MWEs (continued)

- 12:00–12:30 *The Relevance of Collocations for Parsing* Eric Wehrli
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch

Oral Session 3: Short papers – PARSEME II

14:00–14:20 *Parsing Modern Greek verb MWEs with LFG/XLE grammars* Niki Samaridi and Stella Markantonatou

14:20–14:40 *Evaluation of a Substitution Method for Idiom Transformation in Statistical Machine Translation* Giancarlo Salton, Robert Ross and John Kelleher

14:40–15:00 *Encoding MWEs in a conceptual lexicon* Aggeliki Fotopoulou, Stella Markantonatou and Voula Giouli

Saturday, April 26, 2014 (continued)

15:00–15:30 **Poster Booster Session (4 minutes per poster)**

German Compounds and Statistical Machine Translation. Can they get along? Carla Parra Escartín, Stephan Peitz and Hermann Ney

Extracting MWEs from Italian corpora: A case study for refining the POS-pattern methodology Sara Castagnoli, Malvina Nissim and Francesca Masini

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Detecting change and emergence for multiword expressions Martin Emms and Arun Jayapal

An Approach to Take Multi-Word Expressions Claire Bonial, Meredith Green, Jenette Preciado and Martha Palmer

- 15:30–16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00–17:30 Poster Session

Sunday, April 27, 2014

- 9:30–10:30 Invited Talk 2: TBA
- 10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

Oral Session 5: Short papers – MWEs in multilingual applications

- 11:00–11:20 *Paraphrasing Swedish Compound Nouns in Machine Translation* Edvin Ullman and Joakim Nivre
- 11:20–11:40 *Feature Norms of German Noun Compounds* Stephen Roller and Sabine Schulte im Walde
- 11:40–12:00 *Identifying collocations using cross-lingual association measures* Lis Pereira, Elga Strafella, Kevin Duh and Yuji Matsumoto

Oral Session 6: Issues in lexicon construction and Machine Translation

- 12:00–12:30 Unsupervised Construction of a Lexicon and a Repository of Variation Patterns for Arabic Modal Multiword Expressions Rania Al-Sabbagh, Roxana Girju and Jana diesner
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00–14:30 *Issues in Translating Verb-Particle Constructions from German to English* Nina Schottmüller and Joakim Nivre
- 14:30–15:30 Invited Talk 3: TBA
- 15:30–15:45 Closing remarks