

EMNLP 2015

Workshop on
Linking Models of Lexical, Sentential
and
Discourse-level Semantics (LSDSem)

Workshop Proceedings

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Introduction

Welcome to the EMNLP 2015 Workshop on Linking Models of Lexical, Sentential and Discourse-level Semantics.

This workshop takes place for the first time, with the goal of gathering and showcasing theoretical and computational approaches to joint models of semantics, and applications that incorporate multi-level semantics. Improved computational models of semantics hold great promise for applications in language technology, be it semantics at the lexical level, sentence level or discourse level. Large-scale corpora with corresponding annotations (word senses, propositions, attributions and discourse relations) are making it possible to develop statistical models for many tasks and applications. However, developments in lexical and sentence-level semantics remain largely distinct from those in discourse semantics.

This workshop aims to bridge this gap. Our goal is to gather and showcase theoretical and computational approaches to joint models of semantics, and applications that incorporate multi-level semantics. This workshop will serve as a venue for dialog between researchers from various areas: linguists and cognitive scientists working on aspects of representing text with multiple levels of semantics, machine learning researchers interested in joint inference over different types of semantic cues, and also researchers who are interested in applications which require multi-level semantics.

We received 24 papers in total, out of which we accepted 12. These papers are presented as talks at the workshop as well as in a poster session. In addition, the workshop program features talks from three invited speakers who work on different aspects of computational semantics. The day will end with a panel session where invited speakers and workshop participants further discuss the insights gained during the workshop.

Our program committee consisted of 32 researchers who provided constructive and thoughtful reviews. This workshop would not have been possible without their hard work. Many thanks to you all. Finally, a huge thank you to all the authors who submitted papers to this workshop and made it a big success.

Michael, Annie, Bonnie and Tim

Organizers:

Michael Roth, University of Edinburgh
Annie Louis, University of Edinburgh
Bonnie Webber, University of Edinburgh
Tim Baldwin, University of Melbourne

Program Committee:

Regina Barzilay, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Johan Bos, University of Groningen
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Jan Šnajder, University of Zagreb
Swapna Somasundaran, Educational Testing Service
Caroline Sporleder, Trier University
Manfred Stede, University of Potsdam
Joel Tetreault, Yahoo! Labs
Marilyn Walker, University of California Santa Cruz
Luke Zettlemoyer, University of Washington

Invited Speakers:

Michael Strube, Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies

Jacob Eisenstein, Georgia Institute of Technology

Rada Mihalcea, University of Michigan

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Conference Program

Friday, September 18, 2015

09:00–10:30 Morning Session

09:00–09:05 *Introduction*
Michael Roth

09:05–09:50 *Invited Talk: From Distributed Semantics to Discourse, and Back*
Jacob Eisenstein

09:50–10:05 *An Exploration of Discourse-Based Sentence Spaces for Compositional Distributional Semantics*
Tamara Polajnar, Laura Rimell and Stephen Clark

10:05–10:20 *Linking discourse modes and situation entity types in a cross-linguistic corpus study*
Kleio-Isidora Mavridou, Annemarie Friedrich, Melissa Peate Sørensen, Alexis Palmer and Manfred Pinkal

10:20–10:30 *Recovering discourse relations: Varying influence of discourse adverbials*
Hannah Rohde, Anna Dickinson, Chris Clark, Annie Louis and Bonnie Webber

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 Pre-Lunch Session

11:00–11:15 *Semantics and Discourse Processing for Expressive TTS*
Rodolfo Delmonte and Rocco Tripodi

11:15–11:30 *Semantically Enriched Models for Modal Sense Classification*
Mengfei Zhou, Anette Frank, Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer

11:30–11:45 *Identification and Disambiguation of Lexical Cues of Rhetorical Relations across Different Text Genres*
Taraneh Khazaei, Lu Xiao and Robert Mercer

11:45–11:55 *Bridging Sentential and Discourse-level Semantics through Clausal Adjuncts*
Rashmi Prasad, Bonnie Webber, Alan Lee, Sameer Pradhan and Aravind Joshi

11:55–12:05 *Lexical Level Distribution of Metadiscourse in Spoken Language*
Rui Correia, Maxine Eskenazi and Nuno Mamede

Friday, September 18, 2015 (continued)

12:05–12:15 *Idiom Paraphrases: Seventh Heaven vs Cloud Nine*
Maria Pershina, Yifan He and Ralph Grishman

12:15–12:25 *Where Was Alexander the Great in 325 BC? Toward Understanding History Text with a World Model*
Yuki Murakami and Yoshimasa Tsuruoka

12:30–14:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00–15:30 **Post-Lunch Session**

14:00–14:05 *TextLink: EU COST action on Structuring Discourse in a Multi-Lingual Europe*
Bonnie Webber

14:05–14:50 *Invited Talk: What Men Say, What Women Hear: Using Semantics To Make Better Sense of Gender Differences in Social Media*
Rada Mihalcea

14:50–15:00 *Predicting word sense annotation agreement*
Héctor Martínez Alonso, Anders Johannsen, Oier Lopez de Lacalle and Eneko Agirre

15:00–15:10 *Distributional Semantics in Use*
Raffaella Bernardi, Gemma Boleda, Raquel Fernandez and Denis Paperno

15:10–16:00 **Poster Session (Including Coffee Break)**

15:30–16:00 *Coffee Break*

Friday, September 18, 2015 (continued)

16:00–17:30 Afternoon Session

16:00–16:45 *Invited Talk: The (Non)Utility of Semantics for Coreference Resolution*
Michael Strube

16:45–17:30 *Panel Discussion*
Various speakers

