

Hannah Rashkin

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EDUCATION

University of Washington, Fall 2014 - present
PhD, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering.
Advisor: Yejin Choi
Expected Spring 2020
MS, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering.
Received Spring 2016

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Fall 2010 - Spring 2014
BS with Highest Honors in Computer Science.
Minor in International Engineering in Japanese Studies.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- formalizing and creating connotative language resources for interpreting writer’s intent
- creating benchmarks and tools for training and evaluating the social commonsense reasoning capabilities of NLP models
- creating NLP frameworks that incorporate common sense reasoning about social dynamics for tasks such as story generation, narrative understanding, empathetic response generation

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate research assistant, University of Washington, Fall 2014-present

- **Connotation Frames**: creating formalism that can be learned to infer implicit information from text (ACL 2016). Ongoing work looks at: cross-cultural analysis (ACL 2017), analysis of subtle biases in language used to discuss women and minority groups (EMNLP 2017), extensions to learning commonsense relationships between event participants.
- **Document-Level Sentiment Inference**: predicting relationships between named entities appearing in text documents that incorporates document-level inference (ACL 2016)
- **Fact-checking and Fake News Detection**: linguistic analysis of unreliable news that examines the differing purposes behind fake news as well as the differing levels of truthfulness that can arise from partially obscuring the truth. (EMNLP 2017) Investigation into the detection of automatic fake news detection with more powerful pretrained language models (NeurIPS 2019).
- **Mental State and Social Commonsense Inference**: creating resources for incorporating information about social situations into natural language processing models. Ongoing work in predicting mental states of characters in stories (ACL 2018), inferring explanations of intent and reactions to common events (ACL 2018, AAAI 2019), and creating benchmarks to evaluate models ability to reason about social interactions and dynamics (EMNLP 2019).

Undergraduate research, University of Illinois, Winter 2013-Spring 2014

- Worked with Professor Julia Hockenmaier on project for senior thesis. The project involved NLP analysis of cross-caption coreference resolution.

PUBLICATIONS

- *Social IQA: Commonsense Reasoning about Social Interactions*. Maarten Sap*, [Hannah Rashkin](#)*, Derek Chen, Ronan LeBras, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of EMNLP, 2019.
- *Defending Against Neural Fake News*. Rowan Zellers, Ari Holtzman, [Hannah Rashkin](#), Yonatan Bisk, Ali Farhadi, Franziska Roesner, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of NeurIPS, 2019.
- *Towards Empathetic Open-domain Conversation Models: a New Benchmark and Dataset*. [Hannah Rashkin](#), Eric Michael Smith, Margaret Li, Y-Lan Boureau. In Proceedings of ACL, 2019.
- *COMET: Commonsense Transformers for Automatic Knowledge Graph Construction*. Antoine Bosselut, [Hannah Rashkin](#), Maarten Sap, Chaitanya Malaviya, Asli Celikyilmaz, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of ACL, 2019.
- *ATOMIC: An Atlas of Machine Commonsense for If-Then Reasoning*. Maarten Sap, Ronan LeBras, Emily Allaway, Chandra Bhagavatula, Nicholas Lourie, [Hannah Rashkin](#), Brendan Roof, Noah A Smith, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of AAAI, 2019.
- *Modeling Naive Psychology of Characters in Simple Commonsense Stories*. [Hannah Rashkin](#), Antoine Bosselut, Maarten Sap, Kevin Knight and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of ACL, 2018.
- *Event2Mind: Commonsense Inference on Events, Intents, and Reactions*. [Hannah Rashkin](#)*, Maarten Sap*, Emily Allaway, Noah A. Smith, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of ACL, 2018.
- *Connotation Frames of Agency and Power in Modern Films*. Maarten Sap, Marcella Cindy Prasettio, Ari Holtzman, [Hannah Rashkin](#), and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of EMNLP - Short, 2017.
- *Truth of Varying Shades: On Political Fact-Checking and Fake News*. [Hannah Rashkin](#), Eunsol Choi, Jin Yea Jang, Svitlana Volkova and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of EMNLP - Short, 2017.
- *Multilingual Connotation Frames: A Case Study on Social Media for Targeted Sentiment Analysis and Forecast*. [Hannah Rashkin](#), Eric Bell, Yejin Choi, and Svitlana Volkova. In Proceedings of ACL - Short, 2017.
- *Connotation Frames: A Data Driven Investigation*. [Hannah Rashkin](#), Sameer Singh, and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of ACL, 2016.
- *Document-Level Sentiment Inference with Social, Factual, and Discourse Context*. Eunsol Choi, [Hannah Rashkin](#), Luke Zettlemoyer and Yejin Choi. In Proceedings of ACL, 2016.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Microsoft Research Intern, MSR, Summer 2019-Fall 2019
Worked with Asli Celikyilmaz as a graduate intern on project for creating PLOTMACHINES, a model for story generation from outlines with dynamic plot state tracking (in submission)

AI2 Research Intern, Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Fall 2018-Spring 2019
Part of Mosaic Project led by Yejin Choi. Creating resources for commonsense reasoning, and inference over everyday social situations.

Facebook AI Research Intern, FAIR, Summer 2018-Fall 2018
Worked with Y-Lan Boureau as a graduate intern. Completed project for collecting and modeling empathetic dialogues conditioned on emotions.

National Security Internship Program, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Summer 2016
Worked with Svitlana Volkova as a graduate intern on projects related to event and sentiment detection over the twitter domain. Created extension to connotation frames for analysis of multi-lingual sentiment dynamics.

*These authors contributed equally.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Winter 2019
University of Washington

Course title: Natural Language Processing (Graduate Level)
Held weekly office hours, helped students with their projects, and graded assignments and projects.

Teaching Assistant, Spring 2017
University of Washington

Course title: Natural Language Processing Capstone.
Held weekly meetings with undergraduate students to help them design and implement NLP research projects.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant and Lab Instructor, Fall 2012-Spring 2014
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Course title: Computer Architecture.
Responsible for leading weekly lab sections, held regular office hours.

SERVICE

Organizing Committee NeuralGen Workshop 2019

Program Committee/Reviewer ICLR 19-20, NeurIPS 19, EMNLP 19, NAACL 19, TACL 18

ACADEMIC AWARDS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Spring 2015-Present

Bronze Tablet, University of Illinois Spring 2014

James Scholar, University of Illinois 2010-2014

Engineering International Scholarship, University of Illinois 2010-2014