

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

NAACL 2018 Workshop on Figurative Language Processing

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA – June 5 or 6, 2018

<https://sites.google.com/site/figlangworkshop/>

Submission deadline: March 12, 2018

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Figurative language processing is a rapidly growing area in NLP, including processing of metaphors, idioms, puns, irony, sarcasm, as well as other figures. Characteristic to all areas of human activity (from poetic to ordinary to scientific) and, thus, to all types of discourse, figurative language becomes an important problem for NLP systems. Its ubiquity in language has been established in a number of corpus studies and the role it plays in human reasoning has been confirmed in psychological experiments. This makes figurative language an important research area for computational and cognitive linguistics, and its automatic identification and interpretation indispensable for any semantics-oriented NLP application.

The work on figurative language in NLP and AI started in the 1980s, mainly focusing on metaphor and metonymy, and providing us with a wealth of ideas on the structure and mechanisms of these phenomena. In recent years, the problem of figurative language understanding has been steadily gaining interest within the NLP community, with a growing number of approaches exploiting statistical techniques and venturing into further areas, such as sarcasm, irony and puns. Advances in other areas of computational semantics continue to open many new avenues for the creation of open-domain, large-scale tools for recognition, interpretation, and generation of figurative language. In addition, the growth of the area of social media analysis provides an exciting platform to study figurative language in its social and pragmatic context.

The goal of the proposed workshop is to build upon the successful start of the Metaphor in NLP workshop series, substantially expanding its scope to incorporate the rapidly growing body of research on various types of figurative language in NLP, with the aim of maintaining and nourishing a community of NLP researchers interested in this topic. The main focus of the workshop will be on computational modelling of figurative language using state-of-the-art NLP techniques. However, papers on cognitive, linguistic, social, rhetorical, and applied aspects are also of interest, provided that they are presented within a computational, a formal, or a quantitative framework. In addition, we intend to conduct a shared task on metaphor detection.

The workshop will solicit both full papers and short papers for either oral or poster presentation. Topics will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

Identification and interpretation of different types of figurative language

Linguistic, conceptual and extended metaphor

Irony, sarcasm, puns

Simile, metonymy, personification, synecdoche, hyperbole

Systems for processing figurative language that incorporate state-of-the-art NLP methods

Machine learning for figurative language processing

The use of lexical resources in figurative language processing
Paraphrasing of figurative language
Generation of figurative language
Multilingual processing and translation of figurative language

Resources and evaluation

Annotation of figurative language in corpora
Figurative language in lexical resources
Datasets for evaluation of tools for automated processing of figurative language
Evaluation methodologies and frameworks

Processing of figurative language for NLP applications

Figurative language in sentiment analysis
Figurative language in computational social science
Figurative language in educational applications
Figurative language and mental health
Figurative language in dialog systems
Figurative language in digital humanities

Figurative language and cognition

Computational approaches to metaphor and other figures inspired by cognitive evidence
Cognitive models of processing of figurative language by the human brain
Models of metaphor and other figures across languages and cultures

Figurative language in social context

Figurative language in political communication
Figurative language in education
Figurative language in social media

Interaction of figurative language with other linguistic phenomena

Figurative language and compositionality
Figurative language and abstractness / concreteness
Figurative language and sentiment
Figurative language and argumentation
Figurative language and grammar

IMPORTANT DATES

March 12, 2018	Paper submissions due (23:59 West Coast USA time)
April 2, 2018	Notification of acceptance
April 16, 2018	Camera-ready papers due
June 5 or 6, 2018	Workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Authors are invited to submit a full paper of up to 8 pages, with up to 2 additional pages for references. We also invite short papers of up to 4 pages, with up to 2 additional pages for references.

All submissions should follow the two-column format of NAACL 2018 proceedings. Please use ACL LaTeX style files or Microsoft Word style files tailored for this year's conference; these style files are available from

NAACL 2018 website. Submissions must conform to the official style guidelines, which are contained in the style files, and they must be electronic in PDF format. Please see [naaclhlt2018.pdf](#) for detailed formatting instructions.

Previously published papers cannot be accepted. The submissions will be reviewed by the program committee. As reviewing will be blind, please ensure that papers are anonymous. Self-references that reveal the author's identity, e.g., "We previously showed (Smith, 1991) ...", should be avoided. Instead, use citations such as "Smith previously showed (Smith, 1991) ...". Papers that do not conform to these requirements will be rejected without review. In addition, please do not post your submissions on the web until after the review process is complete.

WORKSHOP CO-CHAIRS

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