

Silviu Paun

Nationality: Romanian

<https://www.silviupaun.com/>

Date of birth: 3rd June, 1991

spaun3691@gmail.com

Education **University of Essex, UK**

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science 2013 - 2017

(**EPSRC Case Studentship** with **BT** the industrial sponsor)

Thesis: Topic models for short text data

Supervisors, university side: Udo Kruschwitz, Massimo Poesio

Supervisors, BT: Paul Mckee, Mike Fisher

Examiners: Hinrich Schütze (University of Munich), Luca Citi (internal)

University of Essex, UK

Bachelor of Science with Honours Class I in Computer Science 2010 - 2013

Relevant **Postdoctoral Research Associate**

Mar 2017 - Present

Work Massimo Poesio's Research Group

Queen Mary University of London, UK

I am part of the DALI project (ERC Grant 695662), in charge of the analysis of the annotations collected using Phrase Detectives, a GWAP (game with a purpose) developed for gathering labels for coreference resolution, with over 5 million judgements collected. My work ranges from aggregating annotations, to adapting neural models to learn with disagreement, and the training and evaluation of coreference systems.

I work in a diverse team with game developers and computational linguists, and am directly involved in some capacity in all aspects of the project, offering machine learning / statistical expertise to pretty much all members of the team, and to the PhD students part of our group. I also have collaborations with a number of researchers from other groups worldwide including Bob Carpenter (Flatiron Institute), Dirk Hovy (Bocconi University), Barbara Plank (IT University of Copenhagen) and Edwin Simpson (University of Bristol). My publications reflect the topics of the research done within the group and with outside collaborators and vary from Statistics to NLP.

Tutorials **Aggregating and Learning from Multiple Annotators**

Silviu Paun, Edwin Simpson

Tutorial given at *The 16th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL)*, 2021.

Books **Statistical Methods for Annotation Analysis**

Silviu Paun, Ron Artstein, and Massimo Poesio

To appear in *Synthesis Lectures on Human Language Technologies*, Morgan & Claypool Publishers, 2021

- Journal
Articles
- Scoring Coreference Chains with Split-Antecedent Anaphors**
Silviu Paun, Juntao Yu, Nafise Sadat Moosavi, and Massimo Poesio
In submission at *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)*, 2021
- Learning from Disagreement: A Survey**
Alexandra Uma, Tommaso Fornaciari, Dirk Hovy, Silviu Paun, Barbara Plank, and Massimo Poesio
Accepted at *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research (JAIR)*, 2021
- Comparing Bayesian Models of Annotation**
Silviu Paun, Bob Carpenter, Jon Chamberlain, Dirk Hovy, Udo Kruschwitz, and Massimo Poesio
In *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)*, 2018
- Conference
Articles
- Beyond Black & White: Leveraging Annotator Disagreement via Soft-Label Multi-Task Learning**
Tommaso Fornaciari, Alexandra Uma, Silviu Paun, Barbara Plank, Dirk Hovy and Massimo Poesio
In *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (NAACL)*, 2021
- Stay Together: A System for Single and Split-antecedent Anaphora Resolution**
Juntao Yu, Nafise Sadat Moosavi, Silviu Paun, and Massimo Poesio
In *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (NAACL)*, 2021
- Free the Plural: Unrestricted Split-Antecedent Anaphora Resolution**
Juntao Yu, Nafise Sadat Moosavi, Silviu Paun, and Massimo Poesio
In *Proceedings of the 28th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING)*, 2020
- A Case for Soft Loss Functions**
Alexandra Uma, Tommaso Fornaciari, Dirk Hovy, Silviu Paun, Barbara Plank, and Massimo Poesio
In *Proceedings of the 8th AAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP)*, 2020
- A Mention-Pair Model of Annotation with Nonparametric User Communities**
Silviu Paun, Juntao Yu, Jon Chamberlain, Udo Kruschwitz, and Massimo Poesio
The paper can be found on [OpenReview.net](https://openreview.net), 2019

Progression in a Language Annotation Game with a Purpose

Chris Madge, Juntao Yu, Jon Chamberlain, Udo Kruschwitz, Silviu Paun, and Massimo Poesio

In *Proceedings of the 7th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP)*, 2019

Crowdsourcing and Aggregating Nested Markable Annotations

Chris Madge, Juntao Yu, Jon Chamberlain, Udo Kruschwitz, Silviu Paun, and Massimo Poesio

In *Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2019

A Crowdsourced Corpus of Multiple Judgments and Disagreement on Anaphoric Interpretation

Massimo Poesio, Jon Chamberlain, Silviu Paun, Juntao Yu, Alexandra Uma, and Udo Kruschwitz

In *Proceedings of the 2019 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (NAACL)*, 2019

A Probabilistic Annotation Model for Crowdsourcing Coreference

Silviu Paun, Jon Chamberlain, Udo Kruschwitz, Juntao Yu, and Massimo Poesio

In *Proceedings of the 2018 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2018

Other
Research
Activities

The First Workshop on Aggregating and Analysing Crowdsourced Annotations for NLP

Organisers: Silviu Paun, Dirk Hovy

The workshop was part of *The 2019 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2019

Howly Seminar, Queen Mary University of London

I organise a theoretical seminar every once in a while at the university. The sessions follow more of an old-school format, no slides, just a whiteboard and free discussions. The topics I discussed so far cover mostly parameter estimation techniques and models of annotation, probabilistic and neural. Some of the material from the talks I gave can be found on my blog page.

Internships

BT Research Department, UK

Jul 2012 - Sep 2012

Managed to get as a result of the internship a scholarship that funded my PhD studies.

Saitama University, Japan

Sep 2011 - Oct 2011

Got a one month scholarship to work in their Computer Science department.