

UNIMPLICIT 2021

**The First Workshop on Understanding
Implicit and Underspecified Language**

Proceedings of the Workshop

August 5-6, 2021
Bangkok, Thailand (online)

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Introduction

Welcome to UnImplicit: The First Workshop on Understanding Implicit and Underspecified Language. The focus of this workshop is on implicit and underspecified phenomena in language, which pose serious challenges to standard natural language processing models as they often require incorporating greater context, using symbolic inference and common-sense reasoning, or more generally, going beyond strictly lexical and compositional meaning constructs. This challenge spans all phases of the NLP model's life cycle: from collecting and annotating relevant data, through devising computational methods for modelling such phenomena, to evaluating and designing proper evaluation metrics.

In this workshop, our goal is to bring together theoreticians and practitioners from the entire NLP cycle, from annotation and benchmarking to modeling and applications, and to provide an umbrella for the development, discussion and standardization of the study of understanding implicit and underspecified language.

The workshop includes a shared task on modeling the necessity of clarifications due to aspects of meaning that are implicit or underspecified in context. Two teams participated in the shared task and submitted results.

In total, we received 23 paper submissions (among them 12 extended abstracts and 3 shared task papers), out of which 20 were accepted. All accepted submissions are presented as posters, including two additional presentations of Finding papers accepted to the ACL main conference. The workshop also includes two invited talks on topics related to implicit language. The program committee consisted of 24 researchers, who we'd like to thank for providing helpful and constructive reviews on the papers. We'd also like to thank all authors for their submissions and interest in our workshop.

Michael, Reut and Yoav

Organizers

Michael Roth, Stuttgart University
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Yoav Goldberg, Bar-Ilan University and AI2

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Sara Tonelli, Fondazione Bruno Kessler
Ben Van Durme, Johns Hopkins University & Microsoft Semantic Machines
Luke Zettlemoyer, University of Washington & Facebook

Invited Speakers

Martha Palmer, University of Colorado at Boulder
Chris Potts, Stanford University

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Workshop Program

Thursday, August 5, 2021 [UTC+0]

14:50–16:00 **Talk session I**

14:50–15:00 *Opening*

15:00–16:00 *Invited Talk: Martha Palmer*
Martha Palmer

16:00–17:00 **Poster session I**

16:00–17:00 *Let's be explicit about that: Distant supervision for implicit discourse relation classification via connective prediction*
Murathan Kurfalı and Robert Östling

16:00–17:00 *Implicit Phenomena in Short-answer Scoring Data*
Marie Bexte, Andrea Horbach and Torsten Zesch

16:00–17:00 *Evaluation Guidelines to Deal with Implicit Phenomena to Assess Factuality in Data-to-Text Generation*
Roy Eisenstadt and Michael Elhadad

16:00–17:00 *UnImplicit Shared Task Report: Detecting Clarification Requirements in Instructional Text*
Michael Roth and Talita Anthonio

16:00–17:00 *Additional posters: Finding papers and extended abstracts*

Thursday, August 5, 2021 [UTC+0] (continued)

17:00–17:45 Discussion Session I

17:45–18:45 Poster session II

17:45–18:45 *Improvements and Extensions on Metaphor Detection*
Weicheng Ma, Ruibo Liu, Lili Wang and Soroush Vosoughi

17:45–18:45 *Human-Model Divergence in the Handling of Vagueness*
Elias Stengel-Eskin, Jimena Guallar-Blasco and Benjamin Van Durme

17:45–18:45 *A Mention-Based System for Revision Requirements Detection*
Ahmed Ruby, Christian Hardmeier and Sara Stymne

17:45–18:45 *TTCB System Description to a Shared Task on Implicit and Underspecified Language 2021*
Peratham Wiriyathammabhum

17:45–18:45 Additional posters: Finding papers and extended abstracts

18:45–19:45 Talk session II

18:45–19:45 *Invited Talk: Chris Potts*
Chris Potts

Thursday, August 5, 2021 [UTC+0] (continued)

19:45–20:30 Discussion session II

