

Preface: SCiL 2019 Editors' Note

Gaja Jarosz, Max Nelson, Brendan O'Connor and Joe Pater
University of Massachusetts Amherst

This volume contains research presented at the second annual meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), held in New York City, January 3-6, 2019, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

Research was submitted to be reviewed either in the form of a paper, or as an abstract. The oral presentations, or talks, at the conference included both papers and abstracts. The papers presented as talks are the first 13 papers listed in the proceedings, and the remaining 16 papers were presented as posters. Authors of accepted abstracts were given the option of publishing an extended version; these follow the papers, and are themselves followed in this volume by abstracts that are published in their original two-page length.

In total, we received 96 submissions to the conference, 52 abstracts and 44 papers. 22 submissions were selected for oral presentation (23%) and 38 for poster presentation (40%). 51 of the submissions (53%) included a female author, and 34 (57%) of accepted submissions included a female author. 11 of the talks (50%) included a female author, and 23 of the posters (60%) included a female author¹. We thank our reviewers for their indispensable help in selecting the research for presentation at the conference:

Adam Albright, Jacob Andreas, Michael Becker, Leon Bergen, Su Lin Blodgett, Samuel Bowman, Miriam Butt, Damir Cavar, Alexander Clark, Jennifer Culbertson, Robert Daland, Hal Daumé III, Vera Demberg, Brian Dillon, Ewan Dunbar, Chris Dyer, Jacob Eisenstein, Allyson Ettinger, Robert Frank, Matt Goldrick, Sharon Goldwater, Thomas Graf, John Hale, Jeff Heinz, Kasia Hitczenko, Tracy Holloway King, Tim Hunter, Mohit Iyer, Gerhard Jaeger, Dan Jurafsky, Roni Katzir, Greg Kobele, Andrew Lamont, Tal Linzen, Giorgio Magri, Fred Mailhot, Rob Malouf, Andrea E. Martin, Nazarré Merchant, Elliott Moreton, Emily Morgan, Aleksei Nazarov, Brendan O'Connor, Tim O'Donnell, Alexis Palmer, Martha Palmer, Lisa Pearl, Heather Pon-Barry, Christopher Potts, Brandon Prickett, Ezer Rasin, James Rogers, Asad Sayeed, Nathan Schneider, Andrea Sims, Noah Smith, Edward Stabler, Mark Steedman, Emma Strubell, Colin Wilson, Kristine Yu

Thanks also to Tom Maxfield for logistical help and Andrew Lamont for help preparing the proceedings.

SCiL 2019 also included invited tutorials by Kasia Hitczenko (on Bayesian Models) and Allyson Ettinger (on Vector Space Models), invited talks by Mark Johnson and Gaja Jarosz on “Learning Hidden Linguistic Structure”, and an invited panel discussion on

¹ The gender statistics were collected informally and may have inaccuracies. We plan to discuss better methods for collecting and reporting gender information at the business meeting. Thanks to Yiding Hao for feedback.

“What Should Linguists Know About NLP/ML” by Sam Bowman, Chris Dyer, Allyson Ettinger, and Noah Smith. These invited sessions were funded by NSF conference grant BCS-1832737 to the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Further information can be found at our website: <https://blogs.umass.edu/scil/scil-2019/>.