

Svitlana Vakulenko

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Project staff member in the Institute for Information Business
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conversational Search, Dialogue Systems, Social Media Analytics

EDUCATION

Vienna University of Technology **October 2015 – present**
PhD in Computer Science (advisors: Prof. Axel Polleres, Prof. Maarten de Rijke)

University of Tartu **September 2009 – June 2011**
MSc in Software Engineering (advisor: Prof. Marlon Dumas)

Kyiv National Economic University **September 2005 – June 2009**
BSc in Business Informatics

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Vienna University of Economics and Business **January 2017 – present**
Project staff member in the Institute for Information Business

MODUL University **September 2014 – December 2016**
Researcher in the Department of New Media Technology

University of Liechtenstein **September 2013 – August 2014**
Research Assistant in the Institute of Information Systems

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology **November 2011 – March 2012**
Research Associate in the Institute of Applied Informatics and Formal Description Methods

RESEARCH VISITS

Stanford University **6–20 June 2018**
Prof. Axel Polleres

Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro **April 2018 – May 2018**
Prof. Kate Revoredo

University of Amsterdam **July 2017 – September 2017**
Prof. Maarten de Rijke

I have published 14 peer-reviewed papers, with 62 citations, and an h-index of 4 (Google Scholar, August 2018)

1. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Vadim Savenkov and Maarten de Rijke. Conversational browsing: Dialog-based Access to Structured Information Sources. (Submitted)
2. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Kate Revoredo, Claudio Di Ciccio and Maarten de Rijke. QRFA: A Data-Driven Model of Information Seeking Dialogues. (Submitted)
3. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Maarten de Rijke, Michael Cochez, Vadim Savenkov and Axel Polleres. Measuring Semantic Coherence of a Conversation. Proceedings of the 17th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC). 2018.
4. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Ilya Markov and Maarten de Rijke. Conversational Exploratory Search via Interactive Storytelling. Proceedings of the Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI (SCAI@ICTIR). 2017.
5. **Svitlana Vakulenko** and Vadim Savenkov. TableQA: Question Answering on Tabular Data. Proceedings of SEMANTiCS Conference. 2017. *Best poster and demo paper nominee*
6. Sebastian Neumaier, Vadim Savenkov and **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Talking Open Data. Proceedings of the Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC), pp. 132-136. 2017.
7. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Lyndon Nixon, and Mihai Lupu. Character-based Neural Embeddings for Tweet Clustering. Proceedings of the Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Social Media (SocialNLP@EACL). 2017.
8. Albert Weichselbraun, Stefan Gindl, Fabian Fischer, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, and Arno Scharl. Aspect-based extraction and analysis of affective knowledge from social media streams. In IEEE Intelligent Systems, pp. 80-88. 2017.
9. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Albert Weichselbraun, and Arno Scharl. Detection of valid sentiment-target pairs in online product reviews and news media articles. Proceedings of the IEEE/WIC/ACM International Conference on Web Intelligence (WI), pp. 97-104. 2016.
10. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Max Göbel, Arno Scharl and Lyndon Nixon. Know which Way the Wind Blows: Visualising the Propagation of News on the Web. Proceedings of the Workshop on Recent Trends in News Information Retrieval (NewsIR@ECIR), pp. 60-62. 2016.
11. Gregory Katsios, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Anastasia Krithara and Georgios Paliouras. Towards Open Domain Event Extraction from Twitter: REVEALing Entity Relations. Proceedings of the Workshop on Detection, Representation, and Exploitation of Events in the Semantic Web (DERIVE@ESWC). 2015.
12. **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Oliver Müller, Jan vom Brocke. Enriching iTunes App Store Categories via Topic Modeling. Proceedings of the 35th International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS). 2014.
13. Nadine Reuter, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Jan vom Brocke, Stefan Debortoli, Oliver Müller. Identifying the Role of Information Systems in Achieving Energy-Related Environmental Sustainability using Text Mining. Proceedings of the European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS). 2014.
14. Andrea Herbst, Alexander Simons, Jan vom Brocke, Oliver Müller, Stefan Debortoli, **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Identifying and characterizing topics in enterprise content management: a latent semantic analysis of vendor case studies. Proceedings of the 22nd European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS), pp. 1-15. 2014.
15. Peep Küngas, Siim Karus, **Svitlana Vakulenko**, Marlon Dumas, Cristhian Parra, Fabio Casati. Reverse-engineering conference rankings: what does it take to make a reputable conference? Scientometrics, pp. 651-665. 2013.
16. **Svitlana Vakulenko**. Extraction of Process Models from Business Process Descriptions. Master thesis. University of Tartu. 2011. (Supervised by Marlon Dumas)

TEACHING

- Lecturer of Principles of Software Programming, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Winter Semester 2017
- Lecturer of Introduction to Programming, University of Liechtenstein, Summer Semester 2014

SUPERVISION

2018

- Paul Rudolf Zahrl BSc, Real-time Job Recommendations from Twitter
- Christiane Rank BSc, Social Media and the Future of News: Empirical Study
- Isabel Schwaninger MSc, Detecting Social Unrest on Chinese Microblogs
- Eric Bruch MSc, Open Data Gamification: Quizz Generator

2017

- Alexander Meisl BSc, Open Data for Social Science: Red Cross Use Case
- Donatella Novakovic BSc, Semantic Literature Review on Rumour Detection
- Amar Tauqeer MSc, Visualizing Geo-located Open Data

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2018

- Scientific Committee member at the Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC 2018)
- Jury member at Open Minds Award
- Reviewer for the Semantic Web Journal (SWJ), Knowledge and Information Systems (KAIS) Journal

2017

- Co-organizer of Django Girls Vienna workshop
- Jury member at Open Minds Award
- Reviewer for the Journal of Computer Science and Technology (JCST)

2016

- Reviewer for the International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2016), ACM Web Science (WebSci 2016), Medal 2016

2015

- Reviewer for the European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS 2015), International Conference on Wirtschaftsinformatik (WI 2015)

2014

- Reviewer for the Multikonferenz Wirtschaftsinformatik (MKWI 2014)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Travel grant from the Austrian Research Association funding the research visit at Stanford. 2018
- Travel grant for attending the Workshop on Search-Oriented Conversational AI. 2017
- Stipend for attending the IS Womens Network Workshop: “Advancing Women In IS”. 2014
- Scholarship for attending the Research-Centered Summer School at NCSR Demokritos. 2014
- Scholarship for attending the Graduate School of Computer Science at Saarland University. 2012
- Scholarship from the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supporting my Master’s studies. 2010-2011
- Scholarship for attending Baltic Summer School at Kaunas University of Technology. 2010
- EU’s Eastern Partnership scholarship from the Open Estonia Foundation. 2010
- Scholarship from the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supporting my Master’s studies. 2009-2010

TALKS

- Measuring Semantic Coherence of a Conversation** 6 June 2018
Seminar on Linking Open Data and Knowledge Graphs
Stanford Center for Biomedical Informatics Research (BMIR), USA
- Conversation Mining: Process Mining for Conversational Data** 24 April 2018
Department of Applied Informatics
Federal University of the State of Rio de Janeiro (UNIRIO), Brazil
- Semantic Coherence for Conversational Browsing of a Knowledge Graph** 31 January 2018
Smart Data Analytics (SDA) research group meeting
University of Bonn, Germany
- CommuniData: project report** 1 December 2017
GovCamp Vienna
Vienna, Austria
- Conversational Exploratory Search via Interactive Storytelling** 5 September 2017
Information and Language Processing Systems (ILPS) group seminar
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Memory Networks for Question Answering on Tabular Data** 7 June 2017
Grammarly Meetup
Kyiv, Ukraine

OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

Most of my research projects, as well as studying and teaching materials are released as open-source. I authored 39 public software repositories on Github in total (github.com/svakulenk0) and made 1,650 contributions in the last year (August 2018)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming languages: Python (Gensim, Flask, Keras), JavaScript, Java (Vert.x)
Databases: SQL, NoSQL, SPARQL, Lucene
Other: Git, LaTeX, Jupyter

LANGUAGES

Russian and Ukrainian (Native), English (Professional), German (Advanced), Spanish (Basic)