LISA BYLININA

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PhD in linguistics, Assistant Professor in Computational Linguistics (Institute for Language Sciences, Utrecht University, the Netherlands). Researcher and language technology practitioner with 15+ years of experience in theoretical and data-driven linguistic analysis using neural and symbolic approaches to NLP and AI. Results published in top linguistic venues (ACL, EMNLP etc.)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Research and mentoring in the fields of Natural Language Processing and AI.
- Design and implementation of solutions to the whole landscape of NLP tasks using cutting-edge ML/DL techniques, including industry applications.
- Studies in language processing comparing human speakers and language models.
- ≈ 40 peer-reviewed publications, ≈ 60 conference talks, 300+ students taught.

EXPERIENCE

September 24–now: Utrecht University, Netherlands. Assistant Professor (UD1) at the Institute for Language Sciences.
- Involved in the Master of Applied Data Science program and the Communication and Information Bachelor program (teaching, supervision, mentoring in student research projects).
- Research in the Language and Communication group and the wider NLP@UU community.

December 22 – September 24: University of Groningen, Netherlands. Assistant Professor (UD2) at the Computational Linguistics group (a.k.a GroNLP), Center for Language and Cognition.
- Established research collaborations with NLP and AI research groups both within the Netherlands and internationally.
- Conducted computational experiments on training dynamics and linguistic capabilities of language models across model and dataset sizes.
- Taught and supervised student projects at BA, MA and PhD level and produced teaching materials for (future) NLP experts at different levels.

July 20 – December 22: Bookarang.com, Netherlands. NLP and ML engineer.
- Developed and implemented several solutions for text analysis (style and topic detection, target age group detection) using cutting-edge NLP techniques and models.
- Full cycle from method research and design to implementation.

November 16 – 20: Leiden University, Netherlands. Postdoctoral Researcher at Leiden University Centre for Linguistics. PI in a research project on number and quantity in natural language.
- Developed and pursued a research program combining logic, number cognition and language variation.
- Full-cycle budget management; designed the study, hired and managed a team of 16 interns, research assistants in a large-scale data collection project.
- On-site data collection. Design and analysis of a series of linguistic experiments.
- Authored study materials and applied them for teaching and mentoring.

- Editorial board member of *Semantics and Pragmatics* journal. Organizer of an international workshop.

November 13 – November 16: Meertens Institute, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Postdoctoral Researcher in a research program 'Knowledge and Culture' (Utrecht / Leiden / Amsterdam).

- Developed and tested scientific theories of language structure and meaning, utilizing varied research methodologies including original elicitation work. Collected and analyzed data on quantity expressions in natural language.
- Hired and managed a small team of interns / student research assistants for data collection. Taught and supervised.
- 6 papers, 12 conference / workshop presentations.
- Won a highly competitive early career Dutch 'talent scheme' grant.

November 09 – September 13: Utrecht University, Netherlands. PhD Researcher at Utrecht Institute for Linguistics.

- Synthesized a large amount of data from several languages, including English, Russian, Hungarian and Japanese.
- Wrote a thesis, using formal logics to model vagueness and subjectivity in natural language.
- 10 peer-reviewed publications; 20 conference / workshop presentations worldwide.

March – December 09: Yandex LLC, Moscow, Russia. Linguist in Group of Linguistic Projects, IR / NLP.

- Using statistical data-driven methods, enriched lexical representations to enhance IR and other language-related tasks.
- Research on Yandex ranking algorithm: context-dependent proper name forms in search queries.

January 07 – January 08: EPAM Systems, Moscow, Russia. Computational linguist in an NLP project for Clarabridge.

- Designed the linguistic component for a sentiment analysis system for Russian and English.

EDUCATION

2014 PhD in Linguistics, **Utrecht University**, the Netherlands. *Detailed under 'Experience'*.
2005 MA (cum laude) in Theoretical and Computational Linguistics, **Moscow State University**, Russia.

- Computational / math courses taken: logic, probability theory, statistics, calculus, algebra, geometry, formal languages, information theory, artificial intelligence.
- 5 publications, conference presentations; won several fellowships, produced formal descriptions of fragments of under-described languages (8 field-trips).

TECHNICAL AND DATA SKILLS

Python, Pytorch, Keras, Transformers, Pandas, Numpy, all major ML/DL approaches and tools.

Languages: Russian (native), English (near-native), Dutch (intermediate), French (intermediate).

Latest academic CV: [pdf]