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ISBN 978-1-948087-10-0
Introduction

The eighth workshop in Cognitive Modelling and Computational Linguistics (CMCL 2018) was held in Salt Lake City, Utah. This time we decided to do things differently and co-locate our workshop with the first meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), which itself was held alongside the annual January meeting of the Linguistics Society of America. We did this instead of the usual workshop arrangement with an Association of Computational Linguistics (ACL) affiliated conference in order to emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the CMCL “mission” and attract papers and attendees who do not normally attend ACL-related venues. We intend to return to ACL conferences and possibly alternate between ACL and linguistics-focused venues in the future.

We are very pleased to report that our strategy was successful. This year’s proceedings cover a wide gamut of computational models and experimental techniques for linguistic and psycholinguistic phenomena, from fMRI work to language modeling for reading times. As before, we provided a Best Student Paper Award and four travel grants to student authors. Thanks to the generous support of the Department of Cognitive Science at Johns Hopkins University for enabling us to continue that tradition this year.

We received fifteen paper submissions in total, of which six were chosen for oral presentation and two for posters. One paper was chosen as an extended abstract and presented as a poster and does not appear in these proceedings. We would like to give special note to the extremely high quality of submissions relative to the limited time in our schedule; making final acceptance decisions was truly a very difficult process of choosing among excellent and interesting work.

Finally, once again, we would like to thank the authors, reviewers, and attendees for making this workshop a successful endeavour.

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Sunday, January 7, 2018

8:45–9:00  Opening Remarks

Oral presentations

9:00–9:30  Coreference and Focus in Reading Times
Evan Jaffe, Cory Shain and William Schuler

9:30–10:00  Predictive power of word surprisal for reading times is a linear function of language model quality
Adam Goodkind and Klinton Bicknell

10:00–10:30  Dynamic encoding of structural uncertainty in gradient symbols
Pyeong Whan Cho, Matthew Goldrick, Richard L. Lewis and Paul Smolensky

10:30–11:00  Phonological (un)certainty weights lexical activation
Laura Gwilliams, David Poeppel, Alec Marantz and Tal Linzen

11:00–11:30  Predicting and Explaining Human Semantic Search in a Cognitive Model
Filip Miscevic, Aida Nematzadeh and Suzanne Stevenson

11:30–12:00  Modeling bilingual word associations as connected monolingual networks
Yevgen Matusevych, Amir Ardalan Kalantari Dehaghi and Suzanne Stevenson
Sunday, January 7, 2018 (continued)

**Poster presentations**

12:00–12:30 *Experiential, Distributional and Dependency-based Word Embeddings have Complementary Roles in Decoding Brain Activity*  
Samira Abnar, Rasyan Ahmed, Max Mijnheer and Willem Zuidema

12:00–12:30 *Exactly two things to learn from modeling scope ambiguity resolution: Developmental continuity and numeral semantics*  
K.J. Savinelli, Greg Scontras and Lisa Pearl

12:00–12:30 *Uniform Information Density (UID) Effects on Syntactic Choice in Hindi and English* [extended abstract]  
A. Jain, V. Singh, S. Agarwal, R. Rajkumar