Prof Menno van Zaanen

BIO

Qualifications:

PhD Computer Science; University of Leeds, 2002
MA Computational Linguistics; University of Amsterdam, 1998
MSc Computer Science; Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 1997
Post-graduate certificate Higher Education; Macquarie University, 2008

Work experience:

Professor; North-West University
Assistant professor; Tilburg University
Researcher and lecturer; Tilburg University
Research fellow and casual lecturer; Macquarie University
Research fellow; Tilburg University
Research fellow; University of Amsterdam.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

As a professor in Digital Humanities, Menno is particularly interested in incorporating the use of computational techniques in the field of Humanities. His PhD in the area of computer science dealt with building systems that learn (linguistic) grammars from plain sequences (sentences). These empirical grammatical inference systems result in patterns that can be used for further analysis of the data, for instance, in applied machine learning, computational linguistics, or computational musicology. During his MA (computational linguistics) and MSc (computer science) studies, Menno used techniques from the one field and applied it to situations in the other, such as proofing tools and error correction, machine translation, and multi-modal information retrieval. Such techniques can be applied to Humanities data, but for them to be fully successful, the results still need to be interpreted in the context of Humanities.

DISCIPLINE

Data Science

TOP 10 PUBLICATIONS

van Zaanen, M., 2000. ABL: Alignment-Based Learning. In COLING 2000 Volume 2: The 18th International Conference on Computational Linguistics.

Mollá, D., van Zaanen, M. and Smith, D., 2006, November. Named Entity Recognition for Question Answering. In Australasian Language Technology Workshop (p. 51).

Van Zaanen, M. and Kanters, P., 2010, August. Automatic Mood Classification Using TF* IDF Based on Lyrics. In ISMIR (pp. 75-80).

Heinz, J., De la Higuera, C. and Van Zaanen, M., 2015. Grammatical inference for computational linguistics. Synthesis Lectures on Human Language Technologies, 8(4), pp.1-139.

Avontuur, T., Spronck, P. and Van Zaanen, M., 2013, November. Player skill modeling in Starcraft II. In Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment (Vol. 9, No. 1).

van Zaanen, M. and Adriaans, P., 2001. Alignment-based learning versus EMILE: a comparison. In BNAIC'01: proceedings of the thirteenth Belgian-Dutch Conference on Artificial Intelligence, 25-26 October 2001, Amsterdam, Netherlands (pp. 315-322).

Starkie, B., Coste, F. and van Zaanen, M., 2004, October. The Omphalos context-free grammar learning competition. In International Colloquium on Grammatical Inference (pp. 16-27). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg.

Van Zaanen, M., Roberts, A. and Atwell, E.S., 2004. A multilingual parallel parsed corpus as gold standard for grammatical inference evaluation. In Proceedings of LREC'04 Workshop on The Amazing Utility of Parallel and Comparable Corpora (pp. 58-61). European Language Resources Association.

Conijn, R., Roeser, J. and Van Zaanen, M., 2019. Understanding the keystroke log: the effect of writing task on keystroke features. Reading and Writing, 32(9), pp.2353-2374.

Stehouwer, H. and Van Zaanen, M., 2009. Language models for contextual error detection and correction. In EACL 2009Workshop on Computational Linguistic Aspects of Grammatical Inference CLAGI 2009 30 March–2009 Megaron Athens International Conference Centre Athens, Greece (pp. 41-48). Association for Computational Linguistics.

PERSONAL / DEPARTMENTAL / GROUP WEBSITE