

Aurélie Herbelot

Centre for Mind/Brain Sciences, University of Trento
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NB: This is a reduced version of my CV.

Research interests

Computational linguistics: reference, formal semantics, distributional semantics and its application to Artificial Intelligence, models of quantification and genericity, philosophy of language.

Education

- 2006–2010 PhD in computer science, University of Cambridge, UK.
Supervisor: Ann Copestake
Dissertation Title: *Underspecified quantification*
- 2005–2006 MPhil in Computer Speech, Text and Internet Technology,
University of Cambridge, UK.
Supervisor: Ann Copestake
Dissertation Title: *Acquiring ontological relationships from corpora*
- 2000–2005 BSc Hons in Information Technology and Computing (1:1), Open
University, UK.
- 1997–1998 MA in Literature and Linguistics (Distinction), Université de Savoie,
France. Awarded with special mention (*‘Félicitations du jury’*).
- 1994–1997 BA in Literature and Linguistics, Université de Savoie, France.

Positions held / industry work

Research

- 2015- **Postdoctoral research fellow**, Centre for Mind/Brain Sciences,
University of Trento, Italy.
- 2015 (Apr-Oct) **Postdoctoral researcher**, Institut für Maschinelle
Sprachverarbeitung, Universität Stuttgart, Germany.
- 2013-2015 **Research associate** on the British Academy project *From
co-reference to reference resolution* (PI: Simone Teufel), and for
the Automated Language Teaching and Assessment (ALTA)
Institute, University of Cambridge, UK.

- 2011-2013 **Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow**, Universität Potsdam, Germany.
- Jun–Jul 09 **Doctoral researcher** at the *Summer research workshop* of Johns Hopkins University, USA.

Open source project

- 2015- Originator and manager of an open source project aiming at building a decentralised search engine powered by distributional semantics (PeARS: Peer-to-peer Agent for Reciprocated Search¹). The project has six regular contributors.

Peer-reviewed publications

Acceptance rates are given where known (marked as a.r.). First-authored contributions are marked in bold.

Journal articles

- 2016 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Eva Maria Vecchi, ‘Many speakers, many worlds: interannotator variations in the quantification of feature norms’, *Linguistic Issues in Language Technology*. *To appear*.
- 2014 **Aurélie Herbelot**, ‘The semantics of poetry: a distributional reading’, *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*, **40:4**, 516-531.

Conference & workshop publications

- 2016 **Aurélie Herbelot**, ‘PeARS: a Peer-to-peer Agent for Reciprocated Search’, *Proceedings of 25th International World Wide Web Conference*, Montreal, Canada. (40% a.r.).
- 2015 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Eva Maria Vecchi, ‘Building a true world: Mapping distributional to model-theoretic semantic spaces’, *Proceedings of Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP2015)*, Lisbon, Portugal. (24% a.r.) **Honourable mention for best paper award - top 1% of 600 submissions.**
- 2015 **Aurélie Herbelot**, ‘Mr Darcy and Mr Toad, gentlemen: distributional names and their kinds’, *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS 2015)*, London, UK. (36% a.r.).
- 2013 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Mohan Ganesalingam, ‘Measuring semantic content in distributional vectors’, *Proceedings of 51th Annual Meeting of*

¹Details about the project can be found at <http://aurelieherbelot.net/pears/>.

the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL2013), Sofia, Bulgaria. (24% a.r.).

- 2013 **Aurélie Herbelot**, ‘What is in a text, what isn’t, and what this has to do with lexical semantics’, *Proceedings of the International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS2013)*, Potsdam, Germany.
- 2012 **Aurélie Herbelot**, Eva von Redecker and Johanna Müller, ‘Distributional techniques for philosophical enquiry’, *Proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Language Technology for Cultural Heritage, Social Sciences, and Humanities, 13th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL2012)*, Avignon, France, pp. 45–54.
- 2011 Ann Copestake and Aurélie Herbelot, ‘Exciting and interesting: issues in the generation of binomials’, *Proceedings of UCNLG+Eval: Language Generation and Evaluation Workshop, Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP2011)*, Edinburgh, UK.
- 2011 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Ann Copestake, ‘Formalising and specifying underquantification’, *Proceedings of the International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS2011)*, Oxford, UK. (42% a.r.).
- 2010 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Ann Copestake, ‘Annotating underquantification’, *Proceedings of The Fourth Linguistic Annotation Workshop (LAW IV), 49th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL2010)*, Uppsala, Sweden.
- 2009 **Aurélie Herbelot**, ‘Finding Word Substitutions Using a Distributional Similarity Baseline and Immediate Context Overlap’, *Proceedings of Student session, 10th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL2009)*, Athens, Greece. (29% a.r.).
- 2006 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Ann Copestake, ‘Acquiring Ontological Relationships from Wikipedia Using RMRS’, *Proceedings of Workshop on Web Content Mining with Human Language Technologies, 5th International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC2006)*, Athens, GA.

Book articles

- 2015 Eugen Fischer, Paul Engelhardt and Aurélie Herbelot, ‘Intuitions and Illusions: From Explanation and Experiment to Assessment’, in *Method, Rationalism, and Naturalism. The Impact of Experimental Philosophy*, E. Fischer and J. Collins (eds.), London: Routledge, pp. 259–292.
- 2009 **Aurélie Herbelot** and Ann Copestake, ‘Annotating Genericity: How Do Humans Decide? (A Case Study in Ontology Extraction)’, in *The*

Fruits of Empirical Linguistics. Volume 1: Process, Sam Featherston and Susanne Winkler (eds.), de Gruyter, Berlin, pp. 103–121.

Conference & workshop presentations with peer-reviewed abstracts

- 2015 Aurélie Herbelot and Eva von Redecker, ‘Brilliant philosophers: An ordinary language analysis of the philosophical gender’, *Proceedings of the workshop ‘Issues in applied analytic philosophy’*, Essen, Germany.
- 2015 Aurélie Herbelot, ‘Big data for small data: using statistical representations of meaning for the analysis of single utterances’, *Proceedings of the conference ‘Big Data in a Transdisciplinary Perspective’*, Hannover, Germany. **Best lightning talk award.**
- 2014 Aurélie Herbelot, ‘Distributional semantics for philosophy’, *Proceedings of the workshop ‘Empirical Methods of Linguistics in Philosophy’*, Dortmund, Germany. (28% a.r.).
- 2013 Aurélie Herbelot, ‘Philosophy of language and computational linguistics: a theoretical exchange’, *Proceedings of the conference ‘(Digital) Humanities Revisited Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Age’*, Hannover, Germany. (20% a.r.).
- 2010 Aurélie Herbelot and Ann Copestake, ‘Underquantification: an application to mass terms’, *Proceedings of the workshop ‘Empirical, Theoretical and Computational Approaches to Countability in Natural Language’*, Bochum, Germany.

Editorial work

- in prep. Gemma Boleda and Aurélie Herbelot (ed.), *Special Issue on ‘Formal distributional semantics’*, Computational Linguistics.
- 2013 Aurélie Herbelot, Roberto Zamparelli and Gemma Boleda (ed.), *Proceedings of the workshop ‘Towards a Formal Distributional Semantics’ (TFDS2013)*, International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS2013).

Chairing/Organising

- 2015 Area chair for ‘Formal and linguistic semantics’ at the 4th Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM 2015).

- 2014-2015 Co-chair for *Language and Computation* at the 27th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI 2015) – the top international venue for the study of linguistics, logic and computation (48 courses and workshops in 2015).
- 2013 Instigator and co-chair of the workshop *Towards a formal distributional semantics*, co-located with the 10th International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS 2013), Potsdam, Germany. (With Roberto Zamparelli, University of Trento, and Gemma Boleda, University of Texas at Austin.)

Reviewing

Journals: Computational Linguistics, Cognitive Processing, Journal of Applied Logic, Language Resources and Evaluation, Natural Language Engineering, PeerJ.

Conferences: Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), European chapter of the ACL (EACL), North American Chapter of the ACL (NAACL), Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING), International Conference on Computational Semantics (IWCS), Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM), Computability in Europe (CiE), Workshop on Distributional Data Semantics (DiDaS), Workshop on Distributional Semantics and Linguistic Theory (DSALT), Computational Linguistics in the UK (CLUK).

Book proposals: Cambridge University Press.

Grant proposals: Swiss National Science Foundation.