

Acknowledgements

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/nlp.13.ack>

Pages vii–viii of

Negation and Speculation Detection

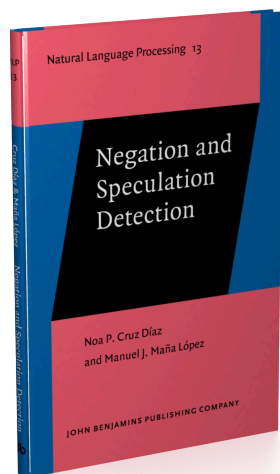
Noa P. Cruz Díaz and Manuel J. Maña López

[*Natural Language Processing*, 13] 2019. ix, 95 pp.

© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights



Acknowledgements

Writing a book that collects all the knowledge about the subject in which you have invested so many hours of your life is one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had. This experience will always be part of the beautiful and inexplicable path that I chose: that of science.

The result that you have today in your hands would be impossible without all those masters who preceded us, all those who were also interested in science, technology and natural language processing. Thank you to all of them for showing us the way.

The things that scare us are those that we end up remembering. Of course, my most sincere gratitude goes also to all the people who trusted me, assuaged my fears and believed that I would be up to what is required to write a book such as this.

In the difficult and arduous task of writing a book while carrying out many other activities, there are countless moments when your strength and resilience waver. These are the moments when beautiful people provide you with that toughness of spirit. It is impossible to name everyone but you know that regardless of the moments we have shared in this time, a part of this book is also yours. Thank you!

And finally, I would like to thank you, reader, for taking an interest in this task that has gained so much relevance in recent years and that can benefit so many other tasks in natural language processing. Science and technology give us the opportunity to create a better world; they provide us with the necessary tools that make the future ours to create. Therefore, thank you to science and technology and thank you to everyone who is a part of them.

The time has come, this book is already yours.

Seville (Spain), January 2, 2018.

Noa P. Cruz Díaz

In these lines I would like to thank the people who, during the past 20 years, have accompanied me in the exciting task of research in the field of natural language processing. My first thanks I would like to extend to Manuel de Buenaga, who taught me a course in a doctoral programme and introduced me to this exciting field of research. Manuel de Buenaga was also my doctoral advisor and since then I have been lucky enough to collaborate with him on many projects and research papers, to continue learning from him and to count on his friendship. Manuel, thank you for your brilliance.

In this very long and geographically varied period of my professional career there are many colleagues with whom I have had the opportunity to share hours of work and research, most of them from the Universities of Vigo and Huelva, where I have worked during these years. From all of them I have learnt important lessons, so I would like to thank them for the fact that I have grown as a researcher and as a person.

Working at the University has given me the opportunity to meet hundreds of students during this time. Among other subjects, I have taught courses in natural language processing, information retrieval, search engines and text mining to a large number of them. I have tried to instil in all my students the passion that I feel about these subjects and many of them have returned it to me in equal measure. I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude to all of them.

In September 2008, I began a new line of research: the detection of negation and speculation in biomedical documents. I proposed to Noa Cruz that I advise her on a master's thesis in this subject. Ten years later, we wrote this book. Thank you, Noa, for the last ten years of work and collaboration.

Now it is the reader's turn. I trust that this book will help other students and researchers to develop their own interests in the problems that, in recent years, researchers from all over the world have devoted so much effort to solving. If this book succeeds in awakening readers' curiosity – or even their passion – for the work associated with the detection of negation and speculation, then we shall declare ourselves well and truly satisfied.

Huelva (Spain), January 2, 2018.
Manuel J. Maña López.