

Veselin Stoyanov

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Applied Research Leader building AI-powered products that enhance productivity and creativity. Strong track record of innovating to solve real-world problems. Led teams to create industry-standard pretraining and LLMs such as RoBERTa, XLM-R and MultiRay and apply them to problems such as reducing the prevalence of hate speech and bullying. Author of widely cited research with over 75K citations on Google Scholar.

EXPERIENCE

Lightfield AI, San Francisco, CA

Co-founder and Head of AI

Nov 2024 - current

Redefining the CRM category with AI.

Tome AI, San Francisco, CA

Head of AI/ML

Apr 2023- Nov 2024

Developing new paradigms for AI-powered products in the productivity space.

Mohamed bin Zayed University of AI (MBZUAI), Abu Dhabi, UAE

Adjunct Professor

Oct 2023- Current

Advising research efforts on LLMs and their applications to real-world problems.

Facebook / Meta Inc, Menlo Park, CA

Applied Research Scientist Manager

Jul 2018 - Nov 2022

Research Scientist

Jan 2013 - Jul 2018

Project highlights

MultiRay

Service to run multiple very large and accurate models on the same input, and share the majority of the computational costs. MultiRay makes it possible for very accurate self-supervised models to be run on every piece of content. ([paper](#), [blog](#))

Cross-lingual NLP through XLM-R

XLM-R is a state-of-the-art large-scale multilingual language model ([paper](#), [blog](#)). We applied it to extend Integrity classifiers to many languages ([blog](#)). Extended upon previous work on multilingual word embeddings ([blog](#)).

RoBERTa for Integrity

RoBERTa is a state-of-the-art self-supervised method ([paper](#), [blog](#), [blog](#)). Applied it to identifying violations such as hate speech ([blog](#)) and bullying. ([paper](#), [blog](#))

Neural Machine Translation

Shipped the first commercial Neural MT system. Big improvements to quality. ([blog](#), [news](#))

NLP for Search

Shipped several impactful NLP features to Facebook Search including phonetic name search, intent classification and keyword typeahead.

Center for Language and Speech Processing (CLSP), Johns Hopkins University

Assistant Research Scientist

Oct 2010 - Jan 2013

Computing Innovation Fellowship (by CRA) working on learning for Structured Prediction.

EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ph.D. in Computer Science

August 2010

Master of Science in Computer Science

May 2005

Advisor: Prof. Claire Cardie. Thesis: *Opinion Summarization: Automatically Creating Useful Representations of Opinions Expressed in Text.*

University of Delaware

Honors BSc, with Distinction in Computer Science

May 2002

Graduated Summa Cum Laude; GPA: 4.00/4.00. Minors in Mathematics and Cognitive Science.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

34,000+ citations. Full publication list on [Google Scholar](#) and [Semantic Scholar](#).

RoBERTa: A Robustly Optimized BERT Pretraining Approach

Yinhan Liu, Myle Ott, Naman Goyal, Jingfei Du, Mandar Joshi, Danqi Chen, Omer Levy, Mike Lewis, Luke Zettlemoyer, **Veselin Stoyanov**

BART: Denoising sequence-to-sequence pre-training for natural language generation, translation, and comprehension

Mike Lewis, Yinhan Liu, Naman Goyal, Marjan Ghazvininejad, Abdelrahman Mohamed, Omer Levy, **Veselin Stoyanov**, Luke Zettlemoyer

Unsupervised Cross-lingual Representation Learning at Scale

Alexis Conneau, Kartikay Khandelwal, Naman Goyal, Vishrav Chaudhary, Guillaume Wenzek, Francisco Guzmán, Edouard Grave, Myle Ott, Luke Zettlemoyer, **Veselin Stoyanov**

XNLI: Evaluating Cross-lingual Sentence Representations

Alexis Conneau, Guillaume Lample, Ruty Rinott, Adina Williams, Samuel R Bowman, Holger Schwenk, **Veselin Stoyanov**

Supervised Contrastive Learning for Pre-trained Language Model Fine-tuning

Beliz Gunel, Jingfei Du, Alexis Conneau, **Veselin Stoyanov**

Emerging Cross-lingual Structure in Pretrained Language Models

Alexis Conneau, Shijie Wu, Haoran Li, Luke Zettlemoyer, **Veselin Stoyanov**

Pretrained Encyclopedia: Weakly supervised knowledge-pretrained language model

Wenhan Xiong, Jingfei Du, William Wang, **Veselin Stoyanov**

Preserving integrity in online social networks

Alon Halevy, Cristian Canton-Ferrer, Hao Ma, Umut Ozertem, Patrick Pantel, Marzieh Saeidi, Fabrizio Silvestri, **Veselin Stoyanov**

Empirical risk minimization of graphical model parameters given approximate inference, decoding, and model structure

Veselin Stoyanov, Alexander Ropson, Jason Eisner