

Crowd-sourcing annotation of complex NLU tasks: A case study of argumentative content annotation Supplementary Materials

Anonymous EMNLP-IJCNLP submission

1 Annotation Guidelines

Following are the guidelines used in the annotation task described in the paper.

1.1 Overview

In the following task you are given a speech that contests a controversial topic. You are asked to listen to the speech and/or read the transcription, then decide whether a list of potentially related claims were mentioned by the speaker explicitly, implicitly, or not at all.

1.2 Steps

- **Listen** to the speech and/or read the transcription of the speech. Note: some speeches are transcribed automatically and may contain errors.
- **Review** the list of possibly relevant claims. Note: few of the claims might not be full sentences. Please do your best to “complete” them to claims in a common-sense manner. If the claim doesn’t make any sense, select “Not mentioned”.
- **Decide** based on the speech only whether the speaker agrees with each claim, and choose the appropriate answer:
 - Agree - Explicitly
 - Agree - Implicitly
 - Not Mentioned

1.3 Rules & Tips

You should ask yourself whether the statement “*The speaker argued that <claim>*” is valid or not. Note, this statement can be valid even if the speaker was stating the claim

1.4 Examples

1.4.1 Agree - Explicitly

Definition: The claim was mentioned by the speaker, but perhaps phrased differently.

- If the speaker said: *organic food is simply healthier* then she explicitly agrees with the claim **organic food products are better in health**.
- If in a speech about the topic “We should ban boxing” the speaker said: *we think regulation is simply better in this instance than a ban* then she explicitly agrees with the claim **We should not ban boxing altogether, just regulate it**.

1.4.2 Agree - Implicitly

Definition: The claim was not mentioned by the speaker but it is clearly implied from the speech, and we know for sure that the speaker agrees with the claim.

The claim will usually be implied in one of the following ways:

- The claim is a generalization of a claim mentioned by the speaker.
If the speaker said: *we allow people to make these decisions even if they might be physically bad for them* then she implicitly agrees with the claim **People should have the right to choose what to do with their bodies**.
- The claim summarizes an argument made by the speaker.

If the speaker said: *It’s essential that something is done to ensure that people don’t have dental problems later in life. Water fluoridation is so cheap it’s almost free. There are no proven side effects, the FDA and comparable*

groups in Europe have done lots and lots of tests and found that water fluoridation is actually a net health good, that there's no real risk to it then she implicitly agrees with the claim **water fluoridation is safe and effective**.

- The claim can be deduced from an argument made by the speaker.

If the speaker said *without the needle exchange program people are still going to do heroin or other kinds of drugs anyway with dirty or less safe needles. This does lead to things like HIV getting transmitted, it leads to other diseases as well, being more likely to get transmitted* then she implicitly agrees that **needle exchange programs could reduce the spread of disease**.

The text itself must contain some indication of the implied claim. Don't choose this option if you need to make an extra logical step to conclude that the speaker agrees with the claim. For example, if the speaker said *International aid has problems, but is still valuable*, then you should not conclude that she agrees with the claim **We should fix international aid, and not get rid of it** since she did not argue that the problems should be fixed.

1.4.3 Not Mentioned

Definition: The claim is not part of the speech.

For example, if the speaker said *and, yes, feminism has its flaws in the status quo ... but it can be reformed, and the tenets of equality that feminism stands for ... those tenets certainly should not be abandoned, and feminism has done a fantastic job, both historically and in the modern day, of championing those tenets*. then it can not be inferred that she agrees with the claim **We should try to fix the issues with feminism because people support it**. Although she suggests to fix the issues with feminism, she does not claim that people support it.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Your answers will be reviewed after the job is complete. We trust you to perform the task thoroughly, while carefully following the guidelines. Once your answers are determined as acceptable per our review, you might receive a bonus. Note that the bonus is given to contributors who complete at least 5 pages per job, and a higher bonus may be given to contributors who complete at least 50 pages.

150
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