

Call for Papers:

DIMPLE: DIaster Management and Principled Large-scale information Extraction.

This workshop will take place at LREC 2014 Conference. Venue: the Harpa Conference Centre, Reykjavik (Iceland) on Saturday, 31 May 2014 between 9.30 am and 12.30pm.

DIMPLE is a half-day workshop involving experts in civil protection, in information extraction, and in ethics and societal matters, to discuss the role of digital media in disaster management and emergency relief and logistics (DMEL). The use of social media and of formal media, has been instrumental in disaster monitoring and management during hurricanes in the United States of America recently and during the SARS emergency to a lesser extent. Systems that have been reported almost exclusively rely on textual information but there has been increasing use of images/videos in DMEL. There is an increasing debate on the ethical and broader societal impact, of the use of social media in situations as intrusive as disaster and emergency relief. This workshop will have three plenary lectures: on information extraction, on civil protection using social media, and the societal impact of the use of digital media comprising information about people, places and events. The topics include ontology and terminology of disasters and disaster relief; capture and real time analysis of textual and visual information from social media and formal media in a multilingual and multicultural environment; 'Big Data' narratives of disaster management; ethical and societal issues in mass surveillance; civil protection and social media.

The aim of this workshop is to explore the intrinsic connection between civil protection, information gathering and analysis, and societal impact. The mediation of these connections through the agency of language will be the central theme of the workshop. The workshop will explore how this mediation can be situated in the context of broader societal impact especially the impact of the value system of one stakeholder on others.

Surveillance based on information extraction from social and formal media is developing apace. Some systems provide early warning systems for mitigating a disaster and providing relief by capturing and analysing textual and pictorial information in real time. The advent of the Internet has meant that documents in all three modes can be circulated quickly, especially thorough social media, such as Twitter, TwitPic, Flickr, YouTube and Facebook. This viral spread has its own advantages and disadvantages. This surveillance information is used by civil protection forces for disseminating early warning and relief information. The use of such systems and methods has considerable societal impact: there is a concern about the potential risks as well as benefits when collecting information about people, places and events, the manner in which the information is stored, and the ways in which the results of analysis are used in protecting the citizens at large. The difference in the value systems of the stakeholders in a disaster management scenario has to be understood and resolved.

This workshop will bring together experts in, and users of, intelligent information gathering and processing. The topics covered will include the ontology and terminology of disaster management, real-time textual and pictorial extraction of information from social media, and ethics and societal impact of surveillance information systems.

This half-day workshop will take place at the Harpa Conference Centre, Reykjavik (Iceland) on Saturday, 31 May 2014 (9.30am-12.30pm)..

Summary of the Call:

Papers are invited on the use of information extraction from digital media text and image streams with a focus on disaster monitoring, early warning systems, and post-disaster emergency relief. This is an interdisciplinary workshop where experts in textual and visual information extraction will discuss the issues of disaster management with experts in civil protection and with scholars in ethics and value systems. The workshop will provide a welcoming forum for presenting advances in analytical methods. This workshop is intended for academics in information extraction, disaster arrangement and civil protection professionals.

The topics include the following: ethics and societal dimensions of social media in disaster management; ontology and terminology of disaster and relief management; ontology, terminology and NLP methods for text analysis; extraction of information from text and image streams; information aggregation across modalities; ethics of surveillance systems; civil protection and social media; communicating early warning and disaster relief in multilingual environments; information extraction from social media; value pluralism in disaster relief; data provenance, data protection.

Important Dates:

Submission deadline: 10 February 2014

Notification of acceptance: 10 March 2013

Final submission of manuscripts: 21 March 2014

Workshop date: 31 May 2014 (morning session)

Main Conference Dates: May 28-30, 2014.

Submission Guidelines

The language of the workshop is English and submissions should conform to LREC 2014 paper submission instructions. We will accept submission of both long (up to 8 pages) and short papers (up to 4 pages) to be presented as long or short oral presentation at the workshop. The papers of the workshop will be published as online proceedings. We will aim to publish selected papers either in a special journal issue or as an edited collection. All papers will be peer reviewed by three independent referees. Papers must be submitted electronically in PDF format to the START system at <https://www.softconf.com/lrec2014/DIMPLE/>. When submitting a paper from the START page, authors will be asked to provide essential information about resources (in a broad sense, i.e. also technologies, standards, evaluation kits, etc.) that have been used for the work described in the paper or are a new result of your research. Moreover, ELRA encourages all LREC authors to share the language resources described in their papers, to enable the reuse, replications, evaluations of such resources.

Organising Committee

Khurshid Ahmad, Trinity College Dublin, IRELAND.

Gerhard Heyer, University of Leipzig, GERMANY

Linda Hogan, Trinity College, Dublin, IRELAND.

Bodil Madsen, Copenhagen Business School, DENMARK.

Sadhbh McCarthy, Centre for Irish and European Security, Dublin, IRELAND.

Teresa Musacchio, University of Padova, ITALY.

Carl Vogel, Trinity College, Dublin, IRELAND.