

Special issue on “The Power of Prediction with Social Media”

Special issue call for papers from **Internet Research**, ISSN: 1066-2243
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<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/intr.htm>

Overview

Social media today provide an impressive amount of data about users and their societal interactions, thereby offering computer scientists, social scientists, economists, and statisticians many new opportunities for research exploration. Arguably one of the most interesting lines of work is that of forecasting future events and developments based on social media data, as we have recently seen in the areas of politics, finance, entertainment, market demands, health, etc.

But what can successfully be predicted and why? Since the first algorithms and techniques emerged rather recently, little is known about their overall potential, limitations and general applicability to different domains.

Better understanding the predictive power and limitations of social media is therefore of utmost importance, in order to –for example– avoid false expectations, misinformation or unintended consequences. Today, current methods and techniques are far from being well understood, and it is mostly unclear to what extent or under what conditions the different methods for prediction can be applied to social media. While there exists a respectable and growing amount of literature in this area, current work is fragmented, characterized by a lack of common evaluation approaches. Yet, this research seems to have reached a sufficient level of interest and relevance to justify a dedicated special issue.

This special issue aims to shape a vision of important questions to be addressed in this field and fill the gaps in current research by soliciting presentations of early research on algorithms, techniques, methods and empirical studies aimed at the prediction of future or present events based on user generated content in social media.

Topics

To address this guiding theme the special issue will be articulated around, but not limited to, the following topics:

1. Politics, branding, and public opinion mining (e.g., electoral, market or stock market prediction).
2. Health, mood, and threats (e.g., epidemic outbreaks, social movements).
3. Methodological aspects (e.g., data collection, data sampling, privacy and data de-identification).
4. Success and failure case studies (e.g., reproducibility of previous research or selection of baselines).

Schedule

- **Manuscript due date: June 1, 2012**
- Decisions due: August 1, 2012
- Revised paper due: September 15, 2012
- Notification of acceptance: October 1, 2012
- Submission of final manuscript: October 31, 2012
- Publication date: late 2012 / early 2013 (tentative)

Guest editors

- Daniel Gayo-Avello, University of Oviedo (Spain), dani@uniovi.es
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Feel free to contact the guest editors if you have any question.

Submission

All submitted manuscripts should be original contributions and not be under consideration in any other venue.

Publication of an enhanced version of a previously published conference paper is possible if the review process determines that the revision contains significant enhancements, amplification or clarification of the original material. Any prior appearance of a substantial amount of a submission should be noted in the submission letter and on the title page.

Submissions must adhere to the “**Author Guidelines**” available at:

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Submission instructions

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Submitting an article

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- Click on the 'click here to submit a new manuscript' link which will take you through to the Manuscript Submission page.
- Complete all fields and browse to upload your article. Please include your structured abstract in your article file.
- At the 'please select the type of issue' (step 4) please highlight “**The Power of Prediction with Social Media**” in the dropdown list.
- You must upload a minimum of 2 files: An anonymous article file (you should upload the title page – with all author contact details - as a separate file) because we operate double blind peer review.
- When all required sections are completed, preview your PDF proof.
- Submit your manuscript. Please contact manuscriptcentral@emeraldinsight.com if you require any assistance.
- After you have submitted your paper you will receive an email indicating that your paper has been received together with its unique identity number. This means that the Editor, Publisher, and Reviewers will be able to process your paper in addition to you being able to track your paper at each stage of the publishing process.