

Computer Science Seminar Series

National Capital Region

Mining Big Social Data for Disaster Informatics

Speaker: Dr. Hemant Purohit
George Mason University
Friday, December 1, 2017
1:00PM- 2:00PM, NVC T3

Abstract

Social Media or Web 2.0 has completely revolutionized how we communicate and share information in our daily life. The opportunity to understand and exploit such unprecedented level of human interaction data can help public service organizations improve their processes and decision making, such as for disaster management in resilient smart cities. However, the large-scale volume of the big social data, velocity of data generation, sparsity of relevant behavioral patterns, the variety of languages, and diverse demographics on social media present challenges to effectively mine the data for any sense-making and data-driven augmentation of capabilities of organizational actors. In this talk, I will present experiences and exemplars in modeling public behaviors while tackling aforementioned data challenges and discuss methods to perform such behavioral computing by leveraging knowledge from the Web resources (e.g., Linked Open Data), particularly for the problems of intent mining and real-time summarization during disasters.

Biography



Hemant Purohit is currently an assistant professor at George Mason University. His research interest is to design intelligent systems for improving human capabilities at a workplace, particularly public services and nonprofits, by using methods of social computing, natural language understanding, and machine learning. Purohit received his Ph.D. with Dr. Amit Sheth at Wright State University while working at the Ohio Center of Excellence in Knowledge-enabled Computing. He has received ITU Young Innovator 2014 award

from United Nations, for winning a global challenge on Open Source Technologies for Disaster Management. He is a member of the DHS S&T subcommittee on Social Media Working Group for Emergency Services & Disaster Management. He has presented several talks on computing for social good as well as published at and reviewed for prestigious conferences and journals.

More: <http://ist.gmu.edu/~hpurohit>