UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

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School of Information Sciences



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Research interests

Understand human and social
dynamics from big data

 Develop computational approaches for mining and visualizing large-scale, timevarying, heterogeneous, multi-relational, and semistructured data

Current projects



interface

How will a society be informed? How do people share opinions?



Study social media bias via daily frequency of news/blog coverage on the U.S. Congress

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Social media bias



Distinct characteristics of how News and Blogs cover the US congress.

Human mobility



Habitats: characterize the regular spatiotemporal flows of human mobility using country-wide mobile phone call logs



Detecting changes in CDRs associated with economic disruption (layoff events)

Tools for observing

Real reaction Real event Real time

Real-time debate tweet meter

Winning index: Debate 1



Updated at: Wed Oct 03 2012 22:59:50 GMT-0400 (EDT)

Winning index: Debate 2



Updated at: Thu Oct 11 2012 22:59:50 GMT-0400 (EDT)

http://www.vispolitics.com/



when, where and how the ideas are dispersed



6.8 Magnitude Earthquake in Japan, March 2012

Detecting ripples of fears and comfort during Boston bombings



Teaching philosophy

- Cultivate students' critical thinking and practical skills in data analytics
- Course in Fall 2013: Data Mining (graduate course)
 - Critique the methods and results from a data mining practice
 - Design and implement data mining applications to solve real-world problems

Sample student projects

- Civic science
- User behavior analysis
- Economics
- Recommendation and sentiments
- Others

Sample student projects

- Discovering the demographic, political, and physiographic structure of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
- From media reporting to international relations
- Sequence Mining and Feature Engineering in Predicting Student Learning Experience Patterns
- What Factors Affect the Performance of Online Q&A
- Communities? A Case Study in Stack Exchange
- How online reviews influence the movie box-office revenue
- Explore the spatial-temporal pattern for trending venues
- Identify keywords and tags from millions of text questions
- Personalize Expedia Hotel Search

Recent publications

- Lin, Y.-R., Margolin, D., Keegan, B., Baronchelli, A. and Lazer, D. (2013). #Bigbirds Never Die: Understanding Social Dynamics of Emergent Hashtag, Proceedings of the 7th International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM 2013)
- Lin, Y.-R., Margolin, D., Keegan, B. and Lazer, D. (2013). Voices of Victory: A Computational Focus Group Framework for Tracking Opinion Shift in Real Time, Proceeding of the 22th International Conference on World Wide Web (WWW 2013)
- Bagrow, J.P. and Lin, Y.-R. (2012) Mesoscopic Structure and Social Aspects of Human Mobility. PLoS ONE 7(5): e37676.
- Cao, N., Lin, Y.-R., Sun, X., Lazer, D., Liu, S. and Qu, H. (2012), Whisper: Tracing the Spatiotemporal Process of Information Diffusion in Real Time, IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (also Proceedings of InfoVis 2012)
- Lin, Y.-R., Sundaram, H., Choudhury, M. D. and Kelliher, A. (2012). Discovery Multi-relational Structure in Social Media Streams. ACM Transactions on Multimedia Computing, Communications and Applications (TOMCCAP), Vol 8, Issue I, Article 4

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Thanks!