- 7th Workshop on Computational Approaches to Subjectivity, Sentiment and Social Media Analysis (WASSA 2016)

16th June 2016, San Diego, California, U.S.A.

****held in conjunction to NAACL-HLT 2016****

http://optima.jrc.it/wassa2016/

Call for sentiment analysis systems to participate in WASSA HACKATHON

BACKGROUND

Research in automatic Subjectivity and Sentiment Analysis (SSA), as subtasks of Affective Computing and Natural Language Processing (NLP), has flourished in the past years. The growth in interest in these tasks was motivated by the birth and rapid expansion of the Social Web that made it possible for people all over the world to share, comment or consult content on any given topic. In this context, opinions, sentiments and emotions expressed in Social Media texts have been shown to have a high influence on the social and economic behaviour worldwide. SSA systems are highly relevant to many real-world applications (e.g. marketing, eGovernance, business intelligent, social analysis) and also many tasks in NLP – information extraction, question answering, textual entailment, to name just a few.

The importance of this field has been proven by the high number of approaches proposed in research in the past decade, as well as by the interest that it raised from other disciplines (Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Marketing, Crisis Management, Behavioral Studies) and the applications that were created using its technology.

In spite of the growing body of research in the area in the past years, dealing with affective phenomena in text has proven to be a complex, interdisciplinary problem that remains far from being solved. Its challenges include the need to address the issue from different perspectives and at different levels, depending on the characteristics of the textual genre, the language(s) treated and the final application for which the analysis is done. Additionally, SSA from Social Media texts has opened the way to many other types of analyses, linking textual data with images, social network metadata and the specific text markings (e.g. Twitter hashtags) and giving the unprecedented possibility to follow events unfolding through Twitter messages or Facebook posts.

Finally, the possibility to follow trends on opinions, while comparing and contrasting different sources of information (e.g. mainstream media vs. social media) allows for a balanced, unbiased,

SENTIMENT ANALYSIS SYSTEMS HACKATHON

In the light of the fact that different sentiment analysis systems have been proposed and showcased in the past years, we feel there is a growing need to make other researchers and users familiar with these systems and have them employ them for building an end application.

The Hackathon word stands for “Hacking Marathon”, and its purpose is to introduce some technology or software toolkit to the attendees, and let then “play” and develop ideas around it.

We invite submissions for descriptions of sentiment analysis systems that can used during the hackathon. We envisage providing the systems with different types of data, in different languages and from different domains. Subsequently, the sentiment analysis systems participating in the hackathon will process these data for the different applications envisaged by the users.

The following data will be provided for training and "playing around"/evaluation:

- Europe Media Monitor(http://emm.newsbrief.eu/NewsBrief/clusteredition/en/latest_en.html) data with mentions of entities in news (reported speech, quotations) - multilingual

- annotated sentiment data from Twitter (English, German, Spanish, Italian, French)

- annotated sentiment data from Facebook (English, German, Spanish, Italian, French)

- OpeNER news: sentences from news articles annotated with opinion holders, expressions and targets (Dutch, German, English, French)

- OpeNER hotel reviews annotated with opinion holders, expressions and targets (Dutch, English, French, Spanish, Italian, German)

ORGANIZERS

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IMPORTANT DATES

- System description submission/demo paper: March 25, 2016
- Training data available: 31 March 2016
- Hackathon to at NAACL-HLT 2016: 16 June 2016

SUBMISSIONS

The system descriptions can also be submitted as demo papers.
They must not exceed five (5) pages without references.
The paper should make clear what domain, language and genre the system is best for

Papers for WASSA should be submitted using the NAACL-HLT 2016 Style Files, available at: http://naacl.org/naacl-hlt-2016/cfp.html

Demo papers will be published in the NAACL HLT WASSA proceedings, included in the ACL Anthology. The best papers will be chosen for a special issue of an ISI- indexed journal. Previous special issues of WASSA were/are in the process of being published in the Decision Support Systems, Computer Speech and Language and Information Processing and Management journals (Elsevier).

To submit a paper, please access:
https://www.softconf.com/naacl2016/WASSA2016/