

13th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics

**Workshop on Semantic Analysis in Social Media, April 23 2012
Avignon, France**



Invited Speaker: Dr. Julien Velcin, Associate Professor in CS, ERIC Lab - University of Lyon

Title: Mining Online Discussions: An Applications to the Analysis of News Websites

Abstract:

News stories websites represent an important source of data for building a picture of what is going on in the world. Apart from providing the information itself, such websites allow Internet users to post their opinions and comments in the form of discussions.

These discussions bring valuable knowledge in order to understand a person's position regarding certain news. In the first part of the talk, I will briefly present this type of data and explain how they represent a challenge. After this introduction, I will discuss the content-oriented model as well as the recommended system we have developed for analyzing key messages posted in such online discussions. In addition, I will present the approach we have followed for extracting the implicit users' network. To this end, I will focus on a model involving three types of relations, two of which are based on the citations. The resulting user network is seen as an implicit social network and I will explain how it can be used to extract celebrities. Finally, I will introduce the problem of image extraction addressed in a new project, where an image is seen as a representation of various entities populating the Internet (e.g., politicians, companies, brands etc.). In particular, I will show how this kind of project interrelates traditional text/opinion mining with social network analysis.

Biography:

After his MSc graduation in Artificial Intelligence and Pattern Recognition (2002), Julien Velcin defended a PhD in Computer Science at the University of Paris 6 in 2005. He is a researcher in the ERIC Lab, University of Lyon 2 since 2007. His research interests lie mainly in the extraction, evaluation and characterization of categories in unsupervised machine learning, with applications to text mining and web analysis. His work has been published in international journals and conferences such as WIAS, IJCAI, ICCS, ISMIS, ER. He is involved in international program committees such as ECML-PKDD, ASONAM, and EGC. He is a member of the editorial board of the International Journal of Data Analysis Techniques and Strategies (IJDATS). He is an active reviewer for the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) since 2009. He is currently project manager of a national project on the study of images and opinion evolution through the Internet, funded by the French National Research Agency.