
OCDData Hackathon @ CSCW 2014: Online Communities Data Hackathon

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Abstract

Online Communities data is prevalent in CSCW research, but the approaches to collecting, managing, analyzing and visualizing large scale social data varies on a lab by lab basis. The OCDData hackathon is aimed at creating a community opportunity to share approaches to online communities research at the level of data. Integrating data, tools and theories to address interesting research questions remains a challenge for the community.

Author Keywords

Online Communities, hackathon, big data, big social data.

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g., HCI): Miscellaneous. See:

Introduction

Civic engagement and social movements; personal health and wellness, technology development and support; education and learning; science, conservation, and innovation; fandom and popular culture. These are just a few of aspects of life, work and society where online communities matter. Researchers studying online communities leverage diverse data types, a wide variety of tools, and numerous theoretical perspectives.

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However integrating data, tools, and theories to address interesting questions remains a significant challenge.

The OCData Hackathon is an opportunity for you to work with online communities data, tools, and theories prior to CSCW 2014. While the goal is for groups to quickly produce something functional, we also want to create a low-pressure environment conducive to data play and exploratory learning. Toward this end, the OCData Hackathon will encourage and support projects with a range of goals, including:

- Visualizations
- New datasets and techniques focused on specific questions
- Designing and constructing new measures for specific theoretical constructs
- Testing, creating, or adding to new tools
- Strategies and technologies for instrumenting online communities

In contexts such as, but not limited to,

- Citizen Science
- Twitter & (Crisis Response, Major Events, Politics, etc.)
- Open Source Software Development
- “Local” online communities (for neighborhoods, towns, etc.)

- Wikipedia
- Blogs
- Fandom and pop culture communities
- Cross-media data integration

Application Process

To apply to the OCData Hackathon @ CSCW 2014, submit a short description (~1 page) that describes:

- A project that you would like to work on (and have others work on)
- Any data, tools, skills, or perspectives that you can bring/provide
- Any other data, tools, and/or skills that you think would be needed to make significant progress on the project

Applications can come from individuals or groups. We are looking for students, faculty, and industry researchers. Data scientists, programmers, social scientists, designers and whatever else you consider yourself – all that matters is that you have interest in “getting your hands dirty” with online communities data, tools, and ideas.

For more information and to apply see:
<http://ocdata.umd.edu>