Special Issue Call for Papers

Human-Centered Web Science

Exploiting the Human-in-the-Loop in Large Scale Web Applications

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Traditionally, representing the behavior of human users and processing this representation has been the bailiwick of usability and human computer interaction research. Today, however, the users' individual and collective behavior is a source of emergent semantics playing a fundamental role in the correct operation of large scale Web-based and service-oriented systems. For instance, the time-honored problem of mapping huge amounts of heterogenous and distributed data items to concepts from a shared conceptualization can be tackled by taking into account the user behavior when accessing the information as a crucial complement to the similarity between the data items themselves.

Human-centered approaches are being experimented with in many domains. To name but a few, community-based data integration, large scale privacy/identity management, collaborative information classification, and location-aware systems and services increasingly rely on formal representations of user purpose and interactions.

This special issue will focus on techniques for exploiting the representation of human behavior as a fundamental resource in the operation of large scale Web-based and service-oriented systems.

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Applications of the Human Centered approach to large scale systems:
   - Large-scale information platforms (e.g., personal knowledge management systems, semantic desktops, knowledge portals)
   - Emergent Semantics in peer-to-peer, grid, and multimedia systems
   - Mediation, negotiation, and conflict resolution

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2. Human-in-the-loop in Semantic Web data and services:
   - Languages, tools, methodologies, and rules Integration, analysis, and visualization
   - Human behavior in service discovery and classification
   - The human role in semantic interoperability of workflows and processes Human-driven mash-ups
   - Personalization and user modeling
   - Semantic matching of user needs and web resources

3. Human-driven evolution of information and ontologies:
   - Formal representation of the human impact on information evolution
   - Ontology alignment (mapping, matching, merging, mediation, and reconciliation)
   - Ontology learning and metadata generation
   - Use of human feedback for searching and ranking ontologies

4. Social Semantic Web:
   - Social networks and processes on the Semantic Web
   - Semantic Web technology for collaboration and cooperation
   - Representing and reasoning about trust, privacy, security, and intellectual property rights
   - Tools and processes for sense-making, analysis, and decision-making

5. User Interfaces:
   - Interacting with Web data and services
   - Web content creation and annotation
   - Interfaces for mashing-up Web data and processes

REVIEWING and ACCEPTANCE

All manuscripts must be submitted in English. Submitted manuscripts that do not conform to the World Wide Web Journal will be returned to authors for correction.

Manuscripts submitted for publication will be reviewed by three peer reviewers, according to the usual policies of the WWW Journal.