Social media platforms have become powerful tools to collect the preferences of the users and get to know them more. In order to build profiles about what the users like or dislike, a system does not only have to rely on explicitly given preferences (e.g., ratings) or on implicitly collected data (e.g., from the browsing sessions). In the middle, there lie opinions and preferences expressed through likes, textual comments, click/view logs, following preferences, digital conversations, and posted content. Moreover, the social network itself can provide information on who influences whom.

In order to improve the web experience of the users, classic personalization technologies (e.g., recommender systems) and search engines usually rely on static schemes. Users are allowed to express ratings in a fixed range of values for a given catalogue of products, or to express a query that usually returns the same set of webpages/products for all the users.

Being able to mine usage and collaboration patterns in social media and to analyze the content generated by the users opens new frontiers in the generation of personalization services and in the improvement of search engines. Moreover, recent technological advances, such as deep learning, are able to provide a context to the analyzed data (e.g., Google's word2vec provides a vector representation of the words in a corpus, considering the context in which a word has been used).

This special issue solicits novel papers that exploit social media on a broad range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Recommender systems;
- Search and tagging;
- Query expansion;
- User modeling and profiling;
- Advertising and ad targeting;
- Content classification, categorization, and clustering;
- Using social network features/community detection algorithms for personalization and search purposes;
- Event/topic detection over heterogeneous social sources.
Special Issue Guest Editors

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Giovanni Stilo (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy)

Important Dates

- Manuscript submission due: October 30, 2017
- First round decision made: December 30, 2017
- Revised manuscript due: February 28, 2018
- Final decision made: April 30, 2018
- Final paper due: May 31, 2018

Paper Submission

Papers submitted to this special issue for possible publication must be original and must not be under consideration for publication in any other journal or conference. Previously published or accepted conference papers must contain at least 30% new material to be considered for the special issue.

All papers are to be submitted by referring to http://www.springer.com/10791 (submit online). At the beginning of the submission process in Editorial Manager, under “Article Type”, please select the appropriate special issue.

All manuscripts must be prepared according to the journal publication guidelines which can also be found on the website provided above. Papers will be evaluated following the journal’s standard review process.

For inquiries on the above please contact Ludovico Boratto, ludovico.boratto@acm.org.

Website for additional details: http://somepeas.di.uniroma1.it/somepeas-si2018.html