Sixth International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing



# Proceedings of the Workshop on Language Processing and Crisis Information

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Asian Federation of Natural Language Processing (AFNLP)



Toyohashi University of Technology

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ISBN978-4-9907348-6-2

## Introduction

The past few years have seen a number of horrible, high-profile crises, including the Earthquake and Massive Tsunami in Eastern Japan, and Hurricane Sandy, which caused billions of dollars of damage across the Caribbean and east coast of the United States. Given the importance and urgency of response to these disasters, there has been a heightening interest in crisis informatics, or the use of information technology to improve the speed and effectiveness of disaster response.

One particular area where information technology holds particular promise is in the processing of language. For example, in times of crisis, valuable information about the current state of events in disaster-affected areas is broadcast by various individuals or organizations, in disparate locations, and in varying forms, the majority of which involve some sort of natural language. In situations such as these, it is extremely important to be able to aggregate and filter every bit of available information, and deliver it as quickly and accurately as possible to those who could benefit by its provision.

In this workshop, we hope to provide a venue to propose new techniques for processing language related to times of crisis. In particular, we place a focus on the role that language and language processing technology can play in crisis response, analysis of social dynamics in times of crisis, and increasing preparedness for crises that may occur in the future.

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### **Workshop Program**

#### Monday October 14, 2013

(11:00) Session 1

An Evidence Based Earthquake Detector using Twitter Bella Robinson, Robert Power and Mark Cameron

Computer-assisted Structuring of Emergency Management Information: A Project Note

Yotaro Watanabe, Kentaro Inui, Shingo Suzuki, Hiroko Koumoto, Mitsuhiro Higashida, Yuji Maeda and Katsumi Iwatsuki

#### (13:30) Session 2

Rescue Activity for the Great East Japan Earthquake Based on a Website that Extracts Rescue Requests from the Net Shin Aida, Yasutaka Shindo and Masao Utiyama

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#### BahaBa: A Route Generator System for Mobile Devices

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