Introduction to Web Science

Assignment 10

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This assignment focuses on the concepts of 1) **Copyright and Creative Commons** and 2) **Misinformation**. Some of the tasks may require you to do additional research extending the lecture. Please keep the citation rules in mind.

For all the assignment questions that require you to write a code, make sure to include the code in the answer sheet, along with a separate python file. Where screen shots are required, please add them in the answers directly and not as separate files.

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1. Copyright and Creative Commons (26 points)

1.1. Explain the relation between Copyright and Creative Commons (few sentences is enough). (5 points)

Solution: The copyright and creative common are related to each other's. As copyright is a law which provide protection to the content creator over their creative work. If anyone want to access that content, then they need some sort of permission from the creator. While creative common comes under the copyright law, they provide the permission from the creator to give access of their work to the world for their usage.

1.2. Name disadvantages (i.e. criticism) of Copyright and Creative Commons (1-2 is enough). (5 points)

Solution: There are several disadvantages of copy right and creative common but, we will discuss few of them.

a. Copyright:

   i. It will give limited protection, as it will protect the nature of an idea or content but not the actual idea of the content. Anyone can you that same base idea creates the item or content.

   ii. Copyright works will not last forever. It will last for 70 years after the death of creator. So, anyone can use those idea and recreator.

b. Creative Common:

   i. Once the license given, we cannot revoke it.

   ii. There will be not any control on the reuse of the work except the license terms selected by the creator.

1.3. Name and explain Creative Commons licenses (give at least five examples of licenses). (5 points)

Solution: A Creative Commons (CC) license is one of several public copyright licenses that enable the free distribution of an otherwise copyrighted "Work" [1] (Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Creative_Commons_license). The idea is to choose a license where authors can choose to grant consumers rights and freedom

Example: By (Attribution), SA (Share alike), NC (Non commercial), ND (none derivatives)

1.4. Explain what patent is and how it is different from Copyright. (5 points)

Solution: A patent is a type of intellectual property that gives its owner the legal right to exclude others from making, using, or selling an invention for a limited period in exchange for publishing an enabling disclosure of the invention. [1] (Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patent).

In simple terms a patent is basically just an exclusive right given for an invention, be it a product or a process.

While a patent protects and make sure that no one in the future claims to have invented a certain product or process, a copyright can be used for any type of work, be it art, literature, choreography, music or software. A copyright is not restricted to only processes and products.

1.5. Imagine you would like to create an online language course to teach German that would be completely free and shareable. While you need to invest your own resources into setting up a web platform, you still would like to get some profit from your idea. Given the setting:

- Give an example of how you can still generate profit by sharing your content for free. (3 points)

- Explain whether and how your idea can be protected by any of the Creative Commons licenses. (3 points)

Solution:

1. There are many ways to generate income from a free German language Course. The following are few of the ideas:
   - The course can be put behind Social Advertisement, so that every time a consumer is visiting the page and accessing or viewing the advertisement link, the view or click's income is attributed to the course website.
   - Offering exclusive parts of the course content to a select group of users who are willing to become your members.
   - The course can have a tipping feature where a consumer of the course may or may not want to tip the course creator.

2. The German language course which in our case is public and free can be placed under Creative Commons Licenses. The course creator can decide on a Creative Commons License (CCL) suitable for the course - depending on how you want your course to be shared, reused and/or displayed. It is beneficial because it allows others to highlight your content, allowing you to eventually reach more customers, and it allows you to use others' content (if they are under any form CCL) in order to improve your own website. Licensing varies from public to restrictive and in our case, it can be public as we have chosen public and free sharing of content on our website also.

2. Misinformation (part 1) (28 points)

Manipulation of information can be roughly subdivided into the following types [1]:

- Fabricated content,

- Manipulated content/clickbait/framing,

- Imposter content,

- Misleading content,

- False context of connection,

- Satire and parody.

Below you can see examples (Figures 1-7) of misinformation or disinformation in a form of screenshots from different websites. Your task is to find out which of the above-listed types can be attributed to each of the screenshots. Note, multiple types can be applied to the same screenshot. Provide a brief explanation (1-2 sentences) of what makes you think that a particular type should be attributed to a particular screenshot. (4 points for each screenshot)

Hint: the task requires you to do a small research and maybe even reverse image search to attribute the types to the screenshots.

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[1]House of Commons Select Committee on Culture, Media, and Sport. 2018. Disinformation and 'fake news': Interim Report, https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcumeds/363/36304.htm¿$dT\ extAnchor$002

Figure 1: Example 1

Satire and parody: Presenting humorous but false stories as if they are true.

Figure 2: Example 2

Imposter content:

Impersonation of genius sources for example by using the branding of an established news agency.

Figure 3: Example 3

Imposter content:
Using dentists to show the credibility of the product

Outraged experts charge: CORONAVIRUS IS CHINESE BIOWEAPON!

National Enquirer | May 11, 2020

PLAGUE WAS BORN AT LAB – NOT MEAT MARKET – SAY EXPERTS

THE coronavirus was deliberately engineered as a bioweapon in a Chinese lab!

That's the bombshell claim of a criminal complaint filed by former U.S. Justice Department prosecutor Larry Klayman at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands!

He's also filed a lawsuit against the People's Republic of China, its president, Xi Jinping, and other government officials seeking trillions of dollars in damages, The National ENQUIRER has learned.

It comes as COVID-19 has infected more than 2.6 million people worldwide and claimed the lives of over 183,000 as it brought economies around the world to a near standstill.

In the U.S., more than 50,000 people have died of the dreaded disease and it's infected more than 1 million Americans.

The blockbuster lawsuit calls for an inquiry into "the likely creation and release, accidental or otherwise, of a variation of coronavirus known as COVID-19 ... as a biological weapon."

The lawsuit adds China planned to use "such weapons against its perceived enemies, including but not limited to the people of the United States.

"The Chinese government has denied claims the virus came from a lab — sticking to the official narrative that it was transferred to humans from a bat sold as food at a "wet" market in the city of Wuhan.

Yuan Zhiming, the director of the Wuhan National Biosafety Laboratory, told China Global Television Network: "There is absolutely no way that the virus originated from our institute."

Figure 4: Example 4

Misleading content:

Misleading use of information presenting Former US Justice Department comment as a fact.

Figure 5: Example 5

Fabricated content:
Fake news. A false claim by the onion.

Figure 6: Example 6

Manipulated content:
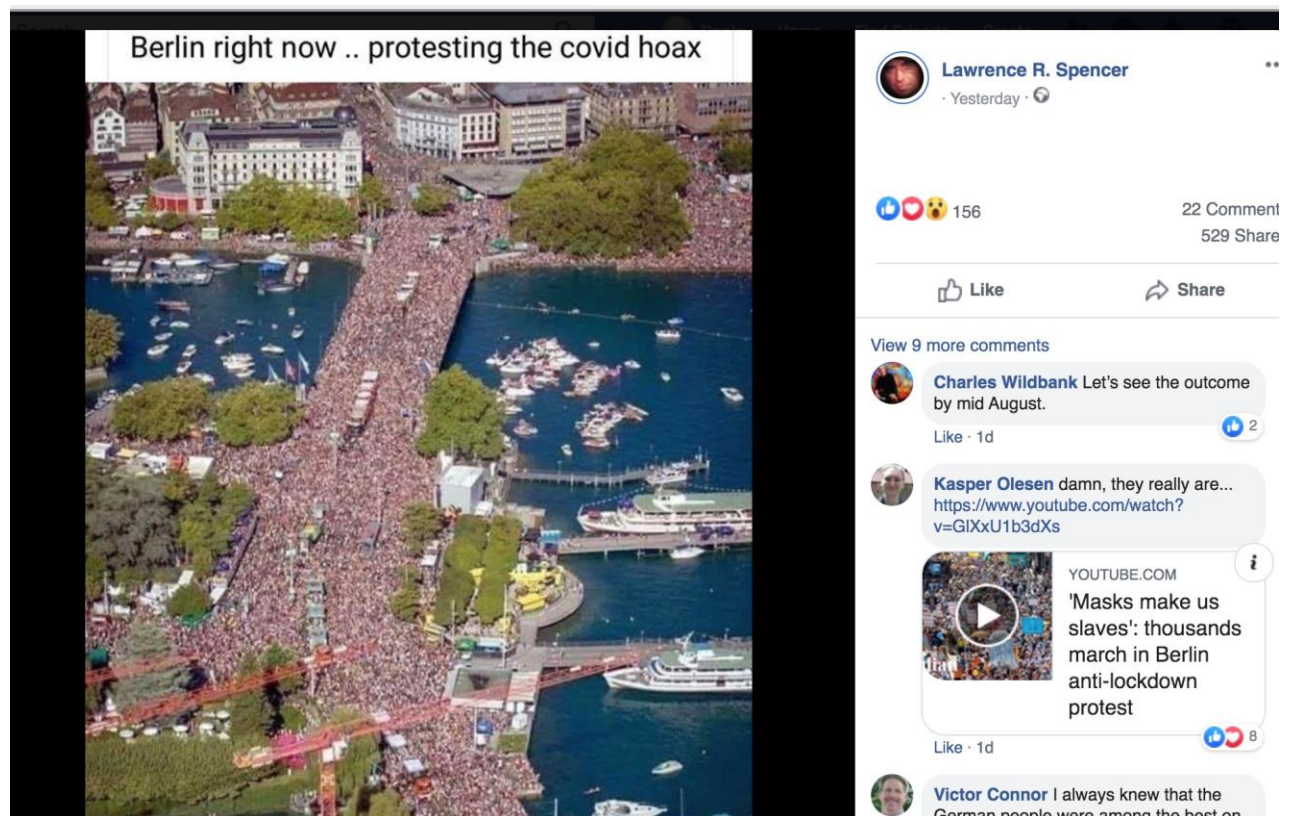Tries to use the headline as more sensational for clickbait

Figure 7: Example 7

Satire and parody:

Presenting humorous but false stores as if they are true. Although not categorized as fake news, it is just to fool readers.

Important Notes

SUBMISSION

- Solutions have to be submitted to the SVN repository. Use the directory name groupname/assignment10/ in your group's repository.

- The name of the group and the names of all participating students must be listed on each submission.

- Solution format: all solutions as *one* PDF document. Programming code has to be submitted as Python code to the SVN repository. Upload *all* .py files of your program! Use UTF-8 as the file encoding. *Other encodings will not be taken into account!*

- Check that your code compiles without errors.

- Make sure your code is formatted to be easy to read.

  - Make sure you code has consistentindentation.

  - Make sure you comment and document your code adequately in English.

  - Choose consistent and intuitive names for your identifiers.

- Do *not* use any accents, spaces or special characters in your filenames.

Acknowledgment

This pdfLaTeX template was adapted by Jun Sun based on the LuaLaTeX version by Lukas Schmelzeisen.

L^AT_EX

Use pdflatex assignment_X.tex to build your PDF.