

Marian-Andrei RIZOIU

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Employment history

- 01/2019 – **Lecturer**, Faculty of Engineering and IT, University of Technology in Sydney
current: *Research:* information diffusion models, online popularity prediction models, stochastic processes
Supervision: 1 postdoc, 4 PhD students, 3 Masters/Honours students/Research Assistants.
- 2016 – 2019 **Research Fellow, Lecturer**, Eng. and Comp. Science, Australian National University
Research: information diffusion models, online popularity prediction models, stochastic point processes, machine learning and social media analysis.
Teaching: Document Analysis, Advanced Databases and Data Mining (Bachelors/Masters).
Leadership: course convener for the Document Analysis course, co-PI for two research grants,
Supervision: 4 PhD students (2 as main supervisor), 3 Masters/Honours students.
- 2014 – 2016 **Research Scientist**, Optimisation Research Group, National ICT Australia (NICTA)
Research: online privacy, big social data analytics, data mining.
Leadership: engage with Data61's Ribbit
Supervision: 2 PhD students, 1 Masters/Honours student.
- 2013 – 2014 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, ERIC laboratory, Lumière University Lyon, France.
Research: ontology construction from text, knowledge graphs evolution for brand management.
Teaching: Machine Learning, Software Development Methodologies, Data Mining, Object Oriented Programming, Unix Operating Systems, Calculus software (course convener)
Supervision: 4 Honours theses, 9 industrial internships.
Leadership: developed the Machine Learning course.

Education background

- 2009 – 2013 **PhD in Computer Science**, Lumière University Lyon, France.
(June 24th 2013) “Semi-supervised structuring of complex data”, supervision S. Lallich and J. Velcin.
- 2008 – 2009 **Masters Degree in Data Mining and Knowledge Engineering**,
(double diploma) Polytechnic School, Nantes University, France.
- 2004 – 2009 **Engineer Degree in Systems and Computer Engineering**
School of Computer Science, Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Romania.

Grants, Projects and Consulting – AU\$0.6M in secured funding

- 2020: Facebook Research grants, “**Using computational modelling of user behaviour and machine learning to counter the diffusion of hate speech across social media**”, US\$60k, Chief Investigator. Use ethnographic methods to identify and monitor a number of persona associated with hate speech diffusion targeting vulnerable populations.
- 2019 – 2020: National Security College's Green policy grants, “**Tracking Disinformation Campaigns Across Terrains: Implications for Policy**”, AU\$50K, Chief Investigator. Quantify the scale of the problem of disinformation in order to co-design responses with policy partners.
- 2019 – 2020: UTS FEIT Cross-Faculty Scheme, “**SocialSense: Making sense of the opinions and interactions of online users**”, AU\$20K, Chief Investigator. Study the diffusion and polarization of opinions online, mixing an ethnographic approach with computational modelling of behaviour.
- 2019: Data61 Challenge model grants, “**Adaptive skills taxonomy to enable labour market agility**”, AU\$350K, Chief Investigator. Understand the change of demand and supply of skills in a timely and efficient manner in order to provide information to inform employment decisions.
- 2019: Industrial consulting with a merger/acquisition. AU\$10.5k, Chief Investigator.
- 2018: ANU Social Science Cross-College Grants, “**Advanced tools and methods for analysing the role and influence of bots in social media**”, AU\$50K, Chief Investigator The impact of automation in

the form of socialbots on deliberative democracy – how socialbots hijack the public discourse.

- 2018 ANU Social Science Cross-College Grants, **“Identify Hate Speech and Predict Mass Atrocities”**, AU\$30K, Chief Investigator. Can “hate speech” be reliably measured to predict political violence?
- 2015 – 2018 US Air Force Research Office, **“The Anatomy of Social Media Popularity”**, key personnel. Develop theoretical models for predicting the popularity of online content.
- 2012 – 2014 French National Research Agency, **“Images on the Web”**, key personnel. Analyse the image life cycles of politicians and companies through online media; apply natural language processing for ontology construction.

Honours, awards, prizes and service

- PC member** WWW’19, AAAI’19, ICWSM’19, WWW’20, AAAI’20.
- Reviewing** Journal of Machine Learning Research, Journal IEEE Transactions on Multimedia, Computational Intelligence, Transactions on Information Systems, Journal Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data; conferences WWW, ICWSM, NIPS, AAAI.
- Research visits** March 2019: One month research visit in Saint Etienne at the French CNRS laboratory Hubert Curien, collaborating with Prof. Christine Largeron on information diffusion in online communities.
- Conference organisation** **10/2012:** *Discovery Science 2012* and *Algorithm Learning Technology 2012*, Lyon.
09/2011: *Web Intelligence 2011* and *Intelligent Agent Technology 2011*, Lyon.
- Awards, material and travel grants** **Awards:** ERASMUS International student exchange award (2009), Best student paper award ICTAI, Athens, Greece (2012).
Travel Grants: Rhône-Alpes local government (2013), ECR Travel Awards (2015, 2018).
Material Grant: NVIDIA GPU Grant Program (2015).

Interests & Skills

- Research**
- Stochastic behavioural modelling; online information diffusion; online popularity modelling.
 - Computational social science; explaining and predicting societal phenomena (the influence of online social bots on the democratic process or the adoption of disruptive technologies);
 - User privacy and social media analysis.
- Technical skills**
- big data mining and analysis, machine learning, natural language processing, online social media analysis, statistical analysis, industrial project collaboration

Recent invited talks

- 05/2019 **#DebateNight: Role of Twitter Socialbots During US Presidential Debate.** Invited talk at the Computer Society of the IEEE ACT Section, Canberra, Australia.
- 06/2018 **Hawkes Intensity Processes for modelling online popularity and virality.** Invited talk at Facebook Core Research, Palo Alto, California, USA.
- 06/2018 **User engagement with online video and the unpredictability of online popularity.** Invited talk at Netflix Research, San Jose, California, USA.
- 05/2018 **Scalable influence estimation from online information diffusions.** Research visit at the Max Planck Institute for Software Systems, Kaiserslautern, Germany.
- 02/2018 **#DebateNight: The Role and Influence of Socialbots on Twitter During the 1st U.S. Presidential Debate.** Invited seminar, University of Sydney, Australia.
- 06/2017 **Hawkes Intensity Processes for Social Media Popularity.** University of Sydney, Australia.
- 03/2016 **Evolution of Privacy Loss in Wikipedia.** Invited talk, March session of the Monthly Wikimedia Research Showcase, San Francisco, USA.

Teaching, supervision & academic software

- Teaching & supervision**
- 600+ hours of teaching experience at all levels in **Software Engineering**, **Data Science** and **Machine Learning**¹, course coordinator (convenor).

- 45+ supervised students: 4 PhD students, 2 RA/postdoc, 1 visiting postgrad students, 5 Honours students, 4 summer scholar students, more than 30 coursework masters students;
 - **research group:** 1 postdoc, 2 PhD students (main supervisor), 2 masters/Honours, 1 RA
- Open-source software development**
- **HIPie** describes and predicts the online popularity of Youtube videos (2017) [Kong et al, WWW'18].
Public live version: www.hipie.ml Demo video: <https://youtu.be/x5xIf4vUScI>
Source code: <https://github.com/computationalmedia/hipie>
 - **CommentWatcher** analyses online discussion forums and their social networks of users (2014).
Website: <http://rizoiu.eu/commentwatcher> Demo video: http://rizoiu.eu/commentwatcher/Video_demonstration.html

Selected recent publications

Publications summary: 36 peer reviewed publications, 353 citations, H-index 9 (source: *Google Scholar* 12/2019)².

Full publication list at <http://www.rizoiu.eu/#publications>

- [1] Kern, M. L., McCarthy, P. X., Chakrabarty, D., & **Rizoiu, M.-A.** (2019). *Social media-predicted personality traits and values can help match people to their ideal jobs*. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (**PNAS**), 201917942. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **H5: 227**, **I.F.: 9.674**)
- [2] Kong, Q., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. (2020). *Modeling Information Cascades with Self-exciting Processes via Generalized Epidemic Models*. In ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (**WSDM'20**). Houston, Texas. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **a.r.: 15%**, **h5: 51**)
- [3] Wu, S., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. *Estimating Attention Flow in Online Video Networks*. In ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (**CSCW'19**), pp. 1-21. 2019.
- [4] Kim, D., Graham, T., Wan, Z., & **Rizoiu, M.-A.** Analysing user identity via time-sensitive semantic edit distance (t-SED): A case study of Russian trolls on Twitter. **Journal of Computational Social Science**. pp.1-21, 2019.
- [5] Zhang, R., Walder, C., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. *Efficient Non-parametric Bayesian Hawkes Processes*. In: International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI'19**), Macao, China, 2019. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **a.r.: 17%**, **h5: 61**)
- [6] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Mishra, S., Kong, Q., Carman, M., & Xie, L. *SIR-Hawkes: Linking Epidemic Models and Hawkes Processes to Model Diffusions in Finite Populations*. In: Proceedings of International Conference on World Wide Web (**WWW '18**), Lyon, France, pp. 1–9, 2018. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **a.r.: 14%**, **h5: 77**)
- [7] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Graham, T., Zhang, R., Zhang, Y., Ackland, R. J., & Xie, L. *#DebateNight: The Role and Influence of Socialbots on Twitter During the 1st U.S. Presidential Debate*. In International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (**ICWSM'18**), pp. 1–10, 2018. (**a.r.: 16%**, **h5: 52**)
- [8] Wu, S., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. (2017). *Measuring Video Engagement: An Empirical Study on YouTube*. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Web and Social Media (**ICWSM '18**), pp. 1–9, 2018. (**a.r.: 16%**, **h5: 52**)
- [9] Mishra, S., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. *Modeling Popularity in Asynchronous Social Media Streams with Recurrent Neural Networks*. In International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (**ICWSM'18**), pp. 1–10, 2018. (**a.r.: 16%**, **h5: 52**)
- [10] Kong, Q., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Wu, S., & Xie, L. (2018). *Will This Video Go Viral? Explaining and Predicting the Popularity of Youtube Videos*. In: Proceedings of International Conference on World Wide Web Companion (**WWW '18**), Lyon, France, pp. 1–4, 2018. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **h5: 77**)
- [11] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Lee, Y., Mishra, S., & Xie, L. *A Tutorial on Hawkes Processes for Events in Social Media*. In “Research Frontiers of Multimedia”, S.-F. Chang (Ed.), (2017), pp. 1–26, ACM Books.
- [12] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L. *Online Popularity under Promotion: Viral Potential, Forecasting, and the Economics of Time*. In: Proceedings of International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (**ICWSM '17**), Montreal, Canada, pp. 1–10, 2017. (**a.r.: 14%**, **h5: 59**)
- [13] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Xie, L., Sanner, S., Cebrian, M., Yu, H., & Van Hentenryck, P., *Expecting to be HIP: Hawkes Intensity Processes for Social Media Popularity*. In: Proceedings of International Conference on World Wide Web (**WWW '17**), Perth, Australia, pp. 735-744, 2017. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **a.r.: 17%**, **h5: 74**)
- [14] Mishra, S., **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, & Xie, L., *Feature Driven and Point Process Approaches for Popularity Prediction*. In: Proceedings of International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (**CIKM '16**), Indianapolis, USA, p. 1069–1078, 2016. (**CoRE Rank: A**, **a.r.: 17%**, **h5: 42**)
- [15] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Xie, L., Caetano, T., & Cebrian, M., *Evolution of Privacy Loss in Wikipedia*. In: Proc. International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (**WSDM '16**), San Francisco, USA, pp. 215-224, February 2016. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **a.r.: 18%**, **h5: 58**)
- [16] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, Velcin, J., Bonnevey, S., & Lallich, S. *ClusPath: A Temporal-driven Clustering to Infer Typical Evolution Paths*. Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery (**DAMI**), 30(5), pp. 1324-1349, (2016). (**ERA Rank: A**, **h5: 33**)
- [17] **Rizoiu, M.-A.**, *Semi-Supervised Structuring of Complex Data*. In: Doctoral Consortium of the 23rd International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI '13**). Beijing, China. AAAI Press. 2013. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **h5: 55**)
- [18] Musat, C., Velcin J., Trausan-Matu, S., & **Rizoiu M.-A.** *Improving Topic Evaluation Using Conceptual Knowledge*. In: 22nd International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI '11**). Barcelona, Spain. pp. 1866-1871, AAAI Press. July, 2011. (**CoRE Rank: A***, **h5: 55**)

1 See full teaching & supervision experience at http://www.rizoiu.eu/documents/RIZOIU_teaching-statement.pdf

2 Metrics key. **ERA/CoRE:** Australian Publication Ranking; **a.r.:** acceptance rate for conferences; **h5:** the h5 metric of the venue (source Google Scholar).