

GeoHumanities 2019

Proceedings of the 3rd ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on
Geospatial Humanities
(GeoHumanities 2019)

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FOREWORD

The 3rd edition of the ACM SIGSPATIAL International Workshop on Geospatial Humanities (GeoHumanities 2019) was held together with the 27th ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems (ACMGIS 2019). The workshop addressed the use of geographic information systems and other spatial technologies in humanities research, bringing together researchers and practitioners from different sub-fields of computer science and the geographical information sciences, interested in applying spatial methods and technology to the humanities.

Scholars in the humanities have long paid attention to spatial theory and cartographic outputs. Moreover, in recent years, new technologies and methods lead to the emergence of a field that is now commonly known as the Spatial Humanities. Methods from the standard toolset of geographic information systems (e.g., computation of viewsheds and zones of influence, least-cost path analysis, mass-preserving areal weighting and dasymetric mapping, terrain classification according to land coverage or land use, different types of thematic cartography techniques, etc.) have been successfully employed to analyze the geographies of human cultures, both past and present, and to address research questions posed by humanities-based fields. However, many challenges persist in the application of more recent technical developments in the geographical information sciences, which have been showcased in venues such as ACMGIS. The workshop thus concerned with the use of geographic information systems and other spatial technologies in humanities research, placing a strong emphasis on new methodologies that leverage recent technical developments (e.g., the above-mentioned standard tools from geographic information systems, as well as more advanced methods such as text-based geographical analysis or spatial simulation, can all benefit from innovative approaches leveraging machine learning, parallel and/or distributed computation, semantic technologies, etc.).

The call for papers resulted in 8 regular submissions describing high quality research. A program committee of 30 members reviewed the submissions, and a total of 6 papers were accepted for presentation, given the time constraints of the workshop. The workshop program featured 2 technical sessions, followed by a discussion at the end. The 2 sessions focused on (i) general spatial analysis applications, and (ii) text geo-parsing.

We believe GeoHumanities 2019 was a very successful event, through which the participants could analyze, explore, and demonstrate the contributions to knowledge that modern GIS technologies can enable within and beyond the digital humanities..

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