
TREC IS USER PROFILE

TYPHOON/HURRICANE

User Description

The user is a public safety officer in the central command and control centre for managing a typhoon or hurricane event. The user has two main responsibilities:

1. To identify actionable information that the other officers can use to direct their response efforts. This might be information such as tracking the typhoon/hurricane as it traverses, identify areas at risk, collect information on damage and respond people in affected areas needing aid.
2. To answer questions that the public might have about the event or what to do. This might be questions about what they should do, or where they should go. The officer may also need to interject in conversations, to correct inaccurate advice.

Existing Knowledge

It is assumed that the officer already has some existing information about the event, and hence what is considered relevant to them is different than what is relevant to the event. For example, the tweet:

- @rfulls_grace @chaster_babe @chanehj @chasterlee23 Typhoon Bopha heads towards Philippines <http://t.co/lzul6u9C>

is relevant to the event, but it can be assumed that the user already knows about the event, and hence this information is not relevant to them (it will not help them with their responsibilities).

To this end, we assume that the officer already knows the following information, and hence tweets containing only this information will not be relevant:

- The officer already knows that a typhoon/hurricane is forming
- The officer already knows the general region (county-level) but not the exact current location

Examples of actionable information

- Reports of people in need of aid
- People evacuating
- Requests for information/guidance
- Available services
- People not evacuating
- Evacuation orders

Information Type Matching

These are broad information type matches identified when labelling the training data

- Forecast of landfall: Weather
- Discussion of affected areas without backing: Discussion
- Maps and tracks: Multimedia share
- Size: Factoid
- Links to information sources: Advice
- Unavailable sources that require registration: Irrelevant
- Current location: Factoid
- Third party reports of pre-emptive evacuation: Third party observation