Introduction

The so-called conversational bot, or chatbot, is a computer program that interacts with its users by responding to the user’s questions and needs via an interface. Chatbots are a topic of interest in the field of computer science for decades, brought into focus by none other than Alan Turing 1. Due to the development of the last couple of years in which smart mobile devices have been taking a more and more important part in the everyday life of society, chatbots have received a great deal of new attention. The possibilities provided by chatbots were rediscovered and combined with the state of the art instant messaging methods.

This is where the topic of this bachelor thesis steps in. The aim of this project is to develop a chatbot that can be used in an instant messaging platform to provide tourist recommendations customized to the user’s preferences. The project focuses on the implementation of a conversational interface and the personalization of recommendations whereas an already existing geographic information system is applied to provide for the tourist data.

Bibliography

[1] http://venturebeat.com/2016/08/15/a-short-history-of-chatbots-and-artificial-intelligence/