

**WiSE Wednesday Lecture Series Presents:****Social Media Data and Giant Natural Disasters****Mehdi Jamali, PhD. Student**

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ABSTRACT:

Through this presentation, the multi-step methodology to use a social media data in post-disaster recovery studies will be discussed. Recognizing the Twitter users who experienced the disaster (Hurricane Sandy 2012), predicting their most probable place of living, evaluating their discussed topics after disaster and comparing those topics with non-disaster experienced people are some of the major parts of this methodology. Since, nowadays, big data and particularly Twitter data analysis is the topic of several studies in various fields such as economics, businesses and even political sciences, the possibility to consider this multi-step methodology as a new machine learning algorithm will be discussed.

BIOGRAPHY:

Mr. Mehdi Jamali obtained his MS degree in structural engineering from Amir-Kabir University of Tehran. He attended Texas Tech University (TTU) in Spring 2015 as a PhD student and participated in Dr. Nejat's research team. Currently he is working on National Science Foundation (NSF) infrastructure supported project with main focus on post-disaster recovery of giant natural disasters. Meanwhile, he has developed his research to various techniques of social sciences such as statistical analysis, GIS and qualitative methods. Currently, Mehdi becomes very interested to learn advanced big data analysis techniques and he has high levels of proficiency in many programming languages like Python, R, SQL and MATALB.