Computational fact-checking: state of the art, challenges, and perspectives

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Summary

The tremendous value of Big Data has been noticed of late also by the media, and the term "data journalism" has been coined to refer to journalistic work inspired by digital data sources. A particularly popular and active area of data journalism is concerned with fact-checking. The term was born in the journalist community and referred to the process of verifying and ensuring the accuracy of published media content; more recently, its meaning has shifted to the analysis of politics, economy, science, and news content shared in any form, but first and foremost on the Web. A very lively area of digital content management research has taken up these problems and works to propose foundations (models), algorithms, and implement them through concrete tools. In my talk, I will show why I believe the data and knowledge management communities should get involved, cast computational fact-checking as a content management problem, present some of the research results attained in this area, and point out areas where more work is needed. This talk is mostly based on research carried within the ANR ContentCheck project (http://contentcheck.inria.fr)