“Detection of fake news and conspiracy theory spreaders”

Paolo Rosso, PhD

Full Professor and Head of the Natural Language Engineering (NLE) Lab at Universitat Politècnica de València

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Abstract: The rise of social media has offered a fast and easy way for the propagation of fake news and conspiracy theories. Despite the research attention that has received, fake news detection remains an open problem and users keep sharing texts that contain false statements. In this talk, Prof. Rosso will describe how to go beyond textual information to detect fake news, taking into account also affective and visual information because providing important insights on how fake news spreaders aim at triggering certain emotions in the readers. He will also describe how psycholinguistic patterns and users' personality traits may play an important role in discriminating fake news spreaders from fact checkers. Finally, he will comment on some studies on the propagation of conspiracy theories.