

Danaja Maldeniya

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RESEARCH INTERESTS My research interests are primarily in two broad domains; large-scale collaboration dynamics and city science. I'm interested in the mechanisms that drive diffusion of information and behaviors in social production settings as well as the interactions between different social, physical, transport and economic networks within cities.

EDUCATION **PhD in Information Science** 2016 - TBD
University of Michigan
• Advisor: Daniel Romero

BSc. in Computer Science & Engineering (First Class) 2011
University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

EMPLOYMENT **Research Assistant** Sep 2018 -
University of Michigan, School of Information Ann Arbor, MI

Research Assistant Jan 2018 - Apr 2018
University of Michigan, School of Information Ann Arbor, MI

Graduate Student Instructor Sep 2017 Dec 2017
University of Michigan, School of Information Ann Arbor, MI
• SI 301 - Models of Social Information Processing

Research Intern Jun 2017 - Aug 2017
Bell Laboratories, Social Dynamics Team Cambridge, UK

Research Assistant Sep 2016 - May 2017
University of Michigan, School of Information Ann Arbor, MI

Research Fellow Aug 2016 - present
LIRNEasia Colombo, Sri Lanka

Senior Researcher Apr 2015 - Aug 2016
LIRNEasia, Big Data for Development Team Colombo, Sri Lanka

Researcher Apr 2014 - March 2015
LIRNEasia, Big Data for Development Team Colombo, Sri Lanka

Senior Software Engineer Jan 2014 - Apr 2015
CodeGen International Colombo, Sri Lanka

Software Engineer Dec 2011 - Dec 2013
CodeGen International Colombo, Sri Lanka

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS D. Maldeniya, C. Budak, L.P. Robert R, D.M. Romero. "Herding a Deluge of Good Samaritans: How GitHub Projects Respond to Increased Attention". Forthcoming

J.E. Blumenstock, **D. Maldeniya**, and S. Lokanathan. “Understanding the Impact of Urban Infrastructure: New Insights from Population-Scale Data”. The 9th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD), 2017

D. Maldeniya, A. Varghese, T. Stuart, and D.M. Romero. “The Role of Optimal Distinctiveness and Homophily in Online Dating.” Proc. 11th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM), 2017

R. Samarajiva, S. Lokanathan, K. Madhawa, G. Kriendler, **D. Maldeniya**, “Big data to improve urban planning”, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. L, No. 22, 2015.

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

D. Maldeniya, A. Kumarage, S. Lokanathan, G. Kriendler, K. Madhawa, “Where did you come from? Where did you go? Robust policy relevant evidence from mobile network big data”, CPRSouth, 2015.

K. Madhawa, S. Lokanathan, **D. Maldeniya**, R. Samarajiva, “Using mobile network data for land use classification”, CPRSouth, 2015.

K. Madhawa, S. Lokanathan, R. Samarajiva, **D. Maldeniya**, “Understanding communities using mobile network big data”, CPRSouth, 2015.

D. Maldeniya, S. Lokanathan, A. Kumarage, “Origin-Destination matrix estimation for Sri Lanka using mobile network big data”, 13th International Conference on Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries, 2015.

K. Madhawa, S. Lokanathan, **D. Maldeniya**, R. Samarajiva, “Land use classification using call detail records” (Poster Abstract), NetMob, 2015.

N. de Silva, A. Perera, **D. Maldeniya**, “Semi-supervised Algorithm for Concept Ontology Based Word Set Expansion”, International Conference on Advances in ICT for Emerging Regions (ICTER), 2013.

SCHOLARLY
PRESENTATIONS

“Psychological Response of Communities affected by Natural Disasters in Social Media”, UMTweetCon2019

“Psychological Response of Communities affected by Natural Disasters in Social Media”, MIDAS Symposium 2018 (Award for Most Innovative Use of Data)

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Reviewing: EPJ Data Science, ICWSM 2020, WWW 2020, WSDM 2020, ICDM 2020, Nature Scientific Reports, WWW 2018, WSDM 2018

Mentoring: Kaifeng Chen (Masters Student), Stella Choi (Masters Student), Jiaxin Ye (Undergraduate Student), Eric Lian (Undergraduate Student)

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Instructor
University of Michigan, School of Information
• SI 301 - Models of Social Information Processing

Sep 2017 Dec 2017
Ann Arbor, MI