

Call for Papers for a Special Section on
**Computational Modeling and Understanding
of Emotions in Conflictual Social Interactions**

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CFP to ecsi.toit@gmail.com

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Submission

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Computational Modeling and
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The expression of social, cultural and political opinions in social media often features a strong affective component, especially when it occurs in highly-polarized contexts (e.g., in discussions on political elections, migrants, civil rights, and so on). In particular, hate speech is recognized as an extreme, yet typical, expression of opinion, and it is increasingly intertwined with the spread of defamatory, false stories. Current approaches for monitoring and circumscribing the spread of these phenomena mostly rely on simple affective models that do not account for emotions as complex cognitive, social and cultural constructs behind linguistic behavior.

In particular, moral emotions possess a potential for advancing sentiment analysis in social media, especially since they provide insights on the motivations behind hate speech. Understanding these affective dynamics is important also for modelling human behavior in social settings that involve other people and artificial agents, as well as for designing socially-aware artificial systems.

How can we include finer grained accounts of emotions in computational models of interpersonal and social interactions, with the goal of monitoring and dealing with conflicts in social media and agent interactions? How can we leverage the recent advances in machine learning and reasoning techniques to design more effective computational models of interpersonal and social conflict? We invite contributions that address the foregoing questions by presenting enhanced computational models and processing methods.

INDICATIVE TOPICS OF INTEREST

Computational models of emotions

- Moral emotions (e.g. contempt, anger and disgust) in conflictual social interactions
- Affective dynamics in human-human and human-agent conflictual interactions
- Interplay of emotions in conflictual interactions
- Dimensional and categorical emotion models in conflict representation

Automatic processing of affect in polarized debates on social media

- Stance and hate speech detection
- Affect in online virality and fake news detection
- Opinions and arguments on highly controversial topics
- Linguistic and multimodal corpora for affect analysis in conflictual interactions
- Figurative and rhetorical devices in social contrasts

Applications

- Conflict detection and hate speech monitoring in political debates
- Conflict-aware and conflict-oriented conversational agents
- Integration of social cues in human-agent interaction strategies
- Conflict-aware agents in pedagogical and coaching applications