



CIS research seminar series presents:

Are You Altruistic? Your Mobile Phone Could Tell!

By:

Dr. Ghassan bin Farouq Bati

*Computer Engineering
Department, UQU*



Men Campus: College Theatre



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+966540946629

Women Campus: Jafalli 2



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cis_research@uqu.edu.sa

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Abstract

Altruism i.e. an act that one does at their own expense attempting to enhance others well-being is a fundamental human behavior with implications for personal and societal welfare. As a result, understanding altruism is an important building block in designing well-functioning socio-technical systems and attaining the Internet of People vision. Traditional methods for understanding individual's altruistic propensities have been surveys and lab experiments. In this presentation, we propose a new methodology to model altruism based on phoneotypes (mobile phones observations of a combination of people's traits) that ultimately aim to replace traditional methods like surveys with a low-cost, quick, and automated method. The data in this work were gathered from a 10-week field study involving 55 participants. We find that: 1- many phone-based features are potentially related to participant's altruistic propensities; 2- phone-based features and demographics when combined created a prediction model with promising results capable of predicting altruism in a better way than a demography-based model. This study provides an exciting opportunity to advance our knowledge in identifying altruism in numerous settings socially and commercially.

Biography

Dr. Ghassan bin Farouq Bati holds a BSc degree in computer engineering from Umm Al-Qura University (UQU), Holy Makkah, Saudi Arabia, 2007, an MSc degree in computer engineering from George Washington University (GWU), Washington, DC, USA, 2012, a graduate certificate in computer architecture and high-performance computing from GWU, Washington, DC, USA, 2014, and a PhD degree in computer engineering from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA, 2019. He works as a teaching assistant for the computer engineering department at UQU. His research interests are Reality Mining, Machine Learning, Computer Engineering Education, and High-performance Computing. He is a student member of the IEEE, the IEEE Computer Society, and the ACM.