Preface

In urban spaces, there is a huge amount of heterogeneous data being generated by a diversity of sources, such as sensors, devices, vehicles, smart buildings, and others. Although they are used to monitor basic services, they can provide significant information about human interactions and populational dynamics. Moreover, people constantly interact with each other through social media services, and much of interpersonal interaction is nowadays mediated by information technology. Citizens consume and share information about their cities - such as problems, events, ideas, suggestions, criticisms, and demands – acting as 'human sensors', forming opinions and participating in the city evolution.

These data explosion has resulted in the emerging topic of "Big Social Data". Broadly speaking, Big Social Data refers to large data volumes that relate to people interactions or describe their behaviors, needs, and patterns. The volume, the production and spreading velocity, and the variety (providing semantic richness) of such data open enormous possibilities for utilizing and analyzing them for the understanding of urban spaces, tackling the major issues that these localities face, and helping in the creation of smarter and sustainable cities.

Urban computing is a process of acquisition, treatment, and analysis of big and heterogeneous data to better understand how city ecosystems work. This understanding can remedy a wide range of issues affecting the everyday lives of citizens and the long-term health and efficiency of cities. The use of Big Social Data in urban computing helps us to understand the nature of urban phenomena and even predict the future of cities, creating solution to reduce costs and optimize resource consumption, improve population mobility, provide higher human life quality, enhance decision making in emergency scenarios, and engage more effectively with citizens for a continuous city planning.

Urban computing is an interdisciplinary field and this workshop aims to connect works about the use and treatment of Big Social Data in multidisciplinary research spanning across computer science - such as engineering, environmental studies, health, urban planning and social sciences - for urban sustainability, transparency, livability, social inclusion, place-making, accessibility, and resilience.

We present the Proceedings of the Poster Track of the Workshop on Big Social Data and Urban Computing (Bidu 2018). We had 16 papers presented in this category. The workshop was held in conjunction with VLDB 2018 in Rio de Janeiro.

We would like to thank the authors of all submitted papers. Their innovation and creativity resulted in an interesting technical program. We are highly indebted to the program committee members, whose reviewing efforts ensured in selecting a competitive set of papers. Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the invited speakers.

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