

# Automatically Captioning Video Segments using Machine Learning

**SPEAKER Prof Alan SMEATON**

Professor of Computing  
Founding Director of Insight  
Insight Centre for Data Analytics  
Dublin City University  
Ireland

**DATE** 14 May 2018 (Monday)

**TIME** 11:00 am - 12:00 noon

**VENUE** CS Seminar Room, Y6405  
6th Floor, Yellow Zone  
Yeung Kin Man Academic Building  
City University of Hong Kong  
83 Tat Chee Avenue  
Kowloon Tong

## ABSTRACT

For two years, the annual TRECVID activity has supported a task on automatically captioning (short) videos. Most participants have taken approaches based on training using publicly available collections of annotated videos and in this talk we shall review some of these, including our own approaches. We shall also look at how evaluation of the quality of video captions can be computed objectively. Our work has used crowdsourced ratings of the quality of video captions and we show how an evaluation measure based on this, is scalable, cost-effective, reproducible, and fair. Worked examples of the video captioning and the evaluation shall be used throughout the talk.

## BIOGRAPHY

Alan Smeaton is Professor of Computing at Dublin City University where he has previously been Head of School and Executive Dean of Faculty, and is also a Founding Director of the Insight Centre for Data Analytics at DCU. He is a member of the Board of the Irish Research Council with a Ministerial government appointment from 2012 to 2018. He is also a member of the COST Scientific Committee which oversees the disbursement of COST's budget of €300m during the lifetime of Horizon 2020. Alan is an elected member of the Royal Irish Academy, the highest academic distinction that can be awarded in Ireland. Within the Academy he is chair of the Engineering and Computer Sciences Committee. In 2016 he was awarded the Academy's Gold Medal for Engineering Sciences, an award given once every 3 years for his "world-leading research reputation in the field of multimedia information retrieval". In 2017 he was elevated to Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and was also elected as chair of ACM SIGMM.

**All are welcome!**



In case of questions, please contact Prof NGO Chong Wah at Tel: 3442 4390, E-mail: [cscwngo@cityu.edu.hk](mailto:cscwngo@cityu.edu.hk), or visit the CS Departmental Seminar Web at <http://www.cs.cityu.edu.hk/news/seminars/seminars.html>.

