Data+Service Office <info.office@data-service-alliance.ch>

[Data+Service] Newsletter 01/2019

1 message

Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services <newsletter-editors@data-service-alliance.ch>   23 January 2019 at 11:00
Reply-To: Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services <newsletter-editors@data-service-alliance.ch>
To: info.office@data-service-alliance.ch

Newsletter #1
23.01.2019

Welcome to this month's Newsletter!

Do not miss the upcoming events & Expert Group meetings mentioned below and the new topic leader Datalab ZHAW.

Questions, remarks or contributions for the newsletter? Reach out to the editors.

Wish you all a great start into the new year!

Happy reading!
The Editors

Make sure to scroll all the way down -- don't-miss-it-goodie at the end!

Upcoming Expert Group Meetings

12.02.2019 - **Machine Learning Clinic Expert Group meeting**
16:00 - 18:30, Location: SAP Switzerland office, Regensdorf, Zürich. Find more information here.

07.03.2019 - **Data-Driven Business Models Expert Group meeting**
16:30 - 19:00, Location: HB Zürich. More information coming soon here.

Upcoming Alliance Events

13.02.2019 - **Smart Maintenance Conference by Easyfairs**

Location: Messe Zürich, Hall 3. Find more information [here](#).

Welcome 2019! New goals and new synergies.

by Christoph Heitz, President, Data+Service Alliance

Dear members of the Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services!

These days, we are already entering in the third year of our Alliance. The development of our community in the last two years has been extremely successful, and beyond our wildest expectations. We have a vibrant network with more than 400 registered and engaged specialists from 40 companies and 22 Swiss universities, together with additional individual members and affiliated partners.

We have currently 10 running Expert Groups ranging from technological topics such as Machine Learning and blockchains to business related topics with issues like Data Ethics. The Expert Groups bring together academics and practitioners and help them develop their expertise. Within the Alliance, more than 30 events have been organized in 2018, ranging from small workshops and up to our flagship conference SDS, the Swiss Conference on Data Science. More than 1500 people participated in these events. Our education program has grown to more than 40 courses and are being offered all over Switzerland.

All in all, the Alliance has become the largest community of experts in Switzerland in the field of innovation in data science and data-driven business, and it is a very active community! An example of true collaborative achievement: it is together that we could achieve this enormous number of activities. It is a marked success to which numerous engaged persons of our community have contributed. So I am not only proud of our common achievements, I am also deeply grateful to everybody who have made this possible. To all of you: Thank you so much, and please continue with your initiatives! The strength of our community is created by the active commitment of our members. If we can continue this way, we are truly living up to our motto: Together we move faster!

In the last year, we have strongly improved our innovation support program: members of the Alliance are now supported in various ways if they are pushing forward innovation. In particular companies profit from different new offers: Innovation bootcamps, financial funding for starting new innovation projects, the innovation program "From ideas to projects" with the three steps Explore-Deep Dive-Go. In 2018, we started more than 15 large innovation projects where members of the Alliance team up to generate innovation together.

Especially successful is our new startup grant which offers free membership for startups that are actively engaged in innovation projects. In 2018, we accepted two startups WinJi (Zürich) and NextInsight (Délémont), and several others are in the pipeline. We are very excited about these new innovative startups enriching our community!

A topic that has gained much importance during the last year is social responsibility that we are facing as the builders of the new data-based world. Due to our innovations, the world is being changed dramatically, and we have to take care about the consequences. In particular the issue of Data Ethics has become very prominent in the public debate within the last year. We are proud that we, the Data+Service Alliance, are already recognized as an important player in this field within Switzerland, and we will continue to engage in this debate. This is not only important because it is part of our professional responsibility, but also because the future of data-based value creation will strongly depend on the social acceptance of our technologies and services. Let's continue to create new and exciting data-based services, and let's do this in an ethically responsible way!

Dear members, I am looking forward to this new year 2019. I hope that together we can move many things forward in the coming year, continue to shape the Swiss innovation landscape in data-related technology and business, and make a significant contribution for developing Switzerland into a hub of data-driven value creation.

Thank you all in advance for your initiatives and your commitment! We will do everything to make sure that your activities within the Alliance both foster our community as well as help you move forward in your professional endeavor.

Happy new year, and see you soon!

Christoph Heitz

Topic Leader: ZHAW Datalab (main contact: Thilo Stadelmann)

Topic: Deep learning & analytics

The ZHAW Data Science Laboratory, Datalab, has been founded in 2013 as one of the first dedicated research institutions for Data Science in Europe with a distinct interdisciplinary approach. Today, it hosts more than 80 researchers from six institutes and three departments with such diverse backgrounds such as data protection law, analytics, computer science and entrepreneurship. It features particularly strong research initiatives on deep learning, text analytics and big data science, and brings these and other expertises into play at several Data+Service Expert Groups or through involvement in other network events and conferences such as SwissText or SDS.

Examples of our work include:

- The Bio-SODA project: this SNSF-funded project aims at enabling biologists and medical staff to perform sophisticated semantic queries across large, decentralized and heterogeneous databases via an intuitive interface.

- A book on Applied Data Science: together with colleagues from all over the world, we recently finished a volume that brings together many examples and lessons learned in how to approach data science in the data-driven business (available ca. mid 2019).

- Study program MAS Data Science: this course, usually fully booked many months in advance, gives a thorough technical introduction into the nuts & bolts of data science, machine learning and statistics.

Key persons include:

| Thilo Stadelmann Deep Learning | Kurt Stockinger Information Systems | Mark Cieliebak Text Analytics | Andreas Ruckstuhl Statistical Modeling | Thoralf Mildenberger Statistical Data Anlaysis | Ruedi Füchslin Complex Systems Science | Robert Vorburger Medical Data Analysis | Stefan Hegy IT Law |

Being very strong in applied research, we started a PhD program in Data Science together with SUPSI and the Universities of Zurich and Neuchatel, and are actively collaborating with numerous companies and research institutions. You can get in touch via datalab@zhaw.ch.

Continuous Integration & Delivery (CI/CD) Unconference

by Adrian Gshwend, Zazuko

Tuesday, February 5th, Berner Fachhochschule

We are happy to announce an unconference about the topic of Continuous Integration & Delivery (CI/CD). The event is organized by Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services members Zazuko and Berner Fachhochschule. It will take place on Tuesday afternoon, February 5th 2019. We will start at 13:30 and stop latest at 18:00

What is an unconference?

An Unconference is an event where there is no fix schedule defined upfront, the event will be completely participant-driven. The final agenda is created collaboratively by the attendees at the beginning of the unconference. Anyone who wants to initiate a discussion on a topic can claim a time and a space. Some unconference sessions are led by the participant who suggested its topic; other unconference sessions (for example Open Space meetings) are basically open discussions of the session topic. Source: Wikipedia. See also this video.

Zazuko will take care of the moderation of the event and Berner Fachhochschule will provide the meeting space in Bern.

Address

Berner Fachhochschule BFH, Wirtschaft, Brückenstrasse 73, 3005 Bern

OSM, Swisstopo, Google

Follow the white rabbit.

Topics

Any topics around Continuous Integration are welcome. Including but not only limited to:

- Use Cases: CI for code, UI testing, data, ...
- Containerization: Automation via Docker, Kubernetes, Rancher etc.
- Tools: Travis CI, GitLab, Jenkins, etc.
- Organisational Impact: Implications of CI/CD adoption within organizations (i.e. changing roles & responsibilities)

Registration

We ask for a 20 CHF participation fee, which you will get back in the form of drinks & snacks. It helps us to prepare the day properly. We have room for around 40 people.

Please register here. In case none of the payment options is working for you please send us an email and we will register you manually. You will be able to pay cash on arrival.

Adrian Gschwend

adrian.gschwend@zazuko.com

SDS2019 - updates

SDS2019 is approaching fast and there are some key pointers that we want to highlight again. Do not miss...

- The pre-conference event "**GeoSpatial Data Day 2019**", organised in collaboration with GeoSummit, is to be held on the **13th of June at Bern Fachhochschule**. Find details here.

- For SDS2019, the CFP deadlines are soon approaching. We encourage you and your colleagues to submit a proposal/research paper at either the business track or the scientific track whichever suits better for your findings. Please submit by **1st of February 2019** here.

- Registration is open. Data+Service members please make use of your 30% discount codes (sent via another email) or Industrial members pay via your Flex Budget (inform us if you want this way to register).

- We are extremely happy to announce one of our keynote speakers - **Ken Hughes**. Ken Hughes is acknowledged as being one of the world's leading authorities on consumer and shopper behaviour, blending his understanding of consumer & cyber psychology, digital anthropology, and retail futurology to explore the needs of the new consumer and predict changes to come. In his keynote speech, he will talk about how artificial intelligence influences the decisions of consumers and what happens if we hand over our purchase decision making to the machine.

CLEF 2019 Industry Day

by Martin Braschler, ZHAW

CLEF, the Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum, is the premier European venue for evaluation of information access systems. CLEF fills a unique role in bringing together leading research by academic institutions and the innovations of system developers from industry through experimentation on shared tasks. All interested parties work on common data, directly comparing their approaches and assessing the technology transfer potential of the very newest developments in the fields of information retrieval, machine learning and related fields. The format has been exceptionally successful since its inception in

2000. Since 2010, the CLEF association is responsible for the organization of the year-long CLEF campaigns. These culminate every year in September in the yearly CLEF conference.

In 2019, the CLEF conference will be held for the first time in Switzerland and in collaboration with the Data+Service Alliance. For the first time, CLEF will be supplemented with an Industry Day that will both present the very best and most pertinent work of the academic CLEF participants in a concise manner as well as allow the interaction between the CLEF community and a wider industrial audience through demo sessions, panels and keynotes. Sponsorship opportunities for both the CLEF conference as well as the Industry Day are available to Data+Service Alliance members. As a co-organised event of the Alliance, use of the flex budget is possible. We also encourage Alliance's members to participate in demo sessions and panels.

For all these opportunities, please contact Prof. Dr. Martin Braschler, co-General Chair CLEF 2019, bram@zhaw.ch or Dr. Gundula Heinatz, Industry Chair CLEF 2019 and Managing Director Data+Service, gundula.heinatz@data-service-alliance.ch.

CLEF 2019 will take place in Lugano from 9-12 September 2019.

Call for papers: see http://clef2019.clef-initiative.eu/index.php?page=Pages/cfp.html

4th Swiss Text Conference, 18-19 June 2019

by Mark Cieliebak

Dear Colleagues, Partners and Friends

We invite you to submit a presentation or workshop to the 4th Swiss Text Analytics Conference (SwissText 2019: https://www.swisstext.org), which takes place **June 18-19, 2019 in Winterthur.**

SwissText is an annual conference that brings together text analytics experts from industry and academia. It is funded by the Swiss Innovation Agency and the Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services and supported by more than 10 universities and scientific associations.

Three keynote speakers confirmed their participation:

- Mona Diab is a professor at George Washington University and Principle Applied Scientist at Amazon.
- Lisa Gibbs is Director of News Partnerships at Associated Press (AP), and responsible for automated content generation.
- Hinrich Schütze is Chair of Computational Linguistics at Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich.

Call for presentations until 3.3.2019 https://www.swisstext.org/call-for-presentations/

Call for workshops until 28.1.2019 https://www.swisstext.org/call-for-workshops/
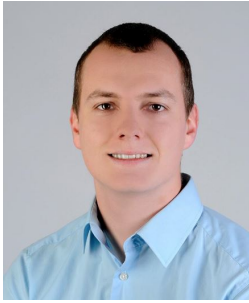
Kind Regards,

Mark Cieliebak (ciel@zhaw.ch)

(Conference Chair)

Welcome new member Kistler InstrumenteAG

We are happy to welcome Kistler Instrumente who have joined the Alliance as a Silver Industrial member.

Kistler, represented by Mr. Philipp Schenkel, is the global leader in dynamic measurement technology for measuring pressure, force, torque and acceleration. Cutting-edge technologies provide the basis for Kistler's modular solutions. Customers in industry and science benefit from Kistler's experience as a development partner, enabling them to optimize their products and processes so as to secure a sustainable competitive edge. To ensure the customer needs are met Kistler provides complete solutions to the customer, where services are an important part of it. Our team within Kistler is developing and improving new services for the future to use the data our measurement systems gather already. The alliance should be the facilitator for Kistler to create new links to partners as well as customers to foster common projects.

Data Science Read of the Month

Das Beste zum Schluss

A Top Roboticist Says A.I. Will Not Conquer Humanity

Cars will drive themselves, robots will clean your toilet—but exponential progress is unlikely

https://medium.com/s/2069/a-top-roboticist-says-a-i-will-not-conquer-humanity-133f2611d035

Our mailing address is:
Swiss Alliance for Data Intensive Services
Balliz 62
Balliz 62
Thun 3600
Switzerland

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list. Unsubscribing is discouraged as you
might not receive all relevant information from the Swiss Alliance for Data-Intensive Services.