

# Extract geographic information from natural language texts (GeoExT)

Xuke Hu

Institute of Data Science, German Aerospace Center (DLR)



# Geospatial information in texts



# Typical applications



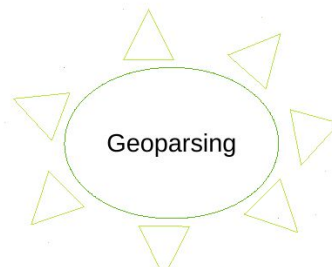
Geographic  
Information retrieval



Disaster management



Crime management



Disease surveillance



Tourism management



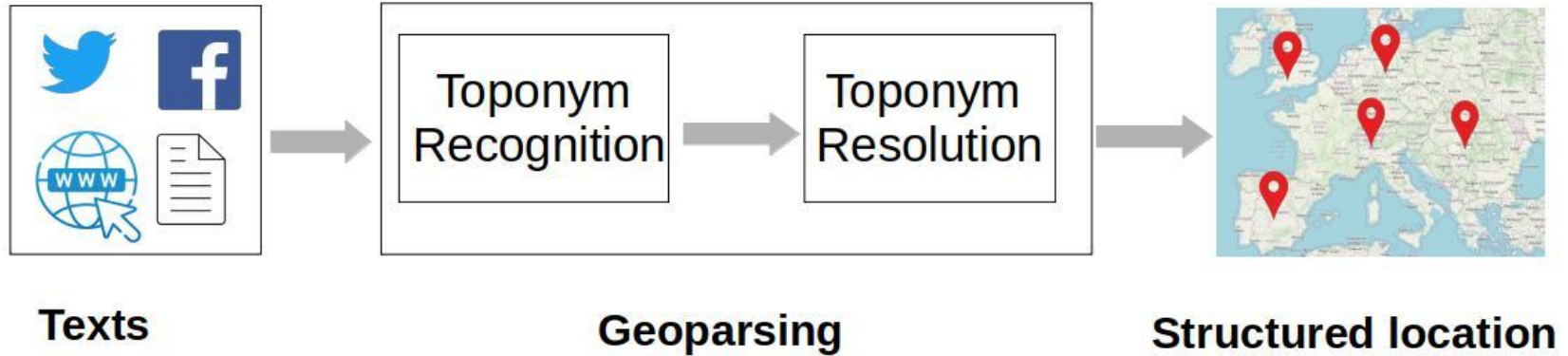
Spatial humanities



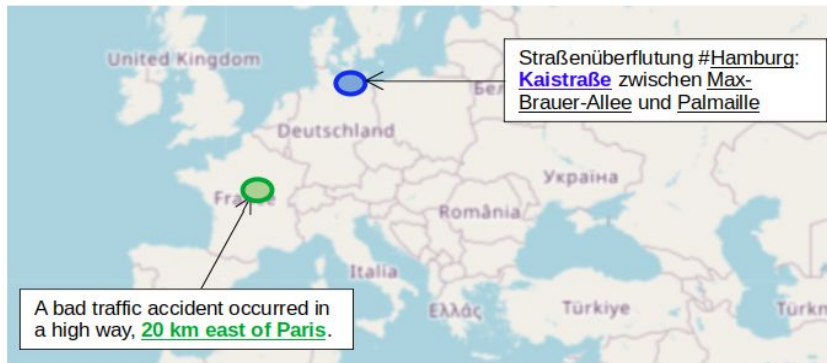
Traffic management

Typical application domains of Geoparsing

# Geoparsing



# Summary of our work <https://github.com/uhuohuy>



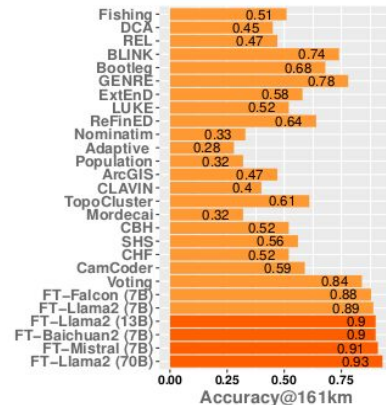
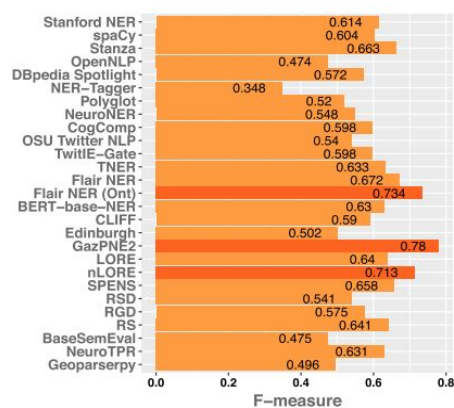
## Toponym recognition

- GazPNE: CNN+LSTM+Gazetteers
- GazPNE2: BERT+BERTTweet+GazPNE

## Toponym resolution

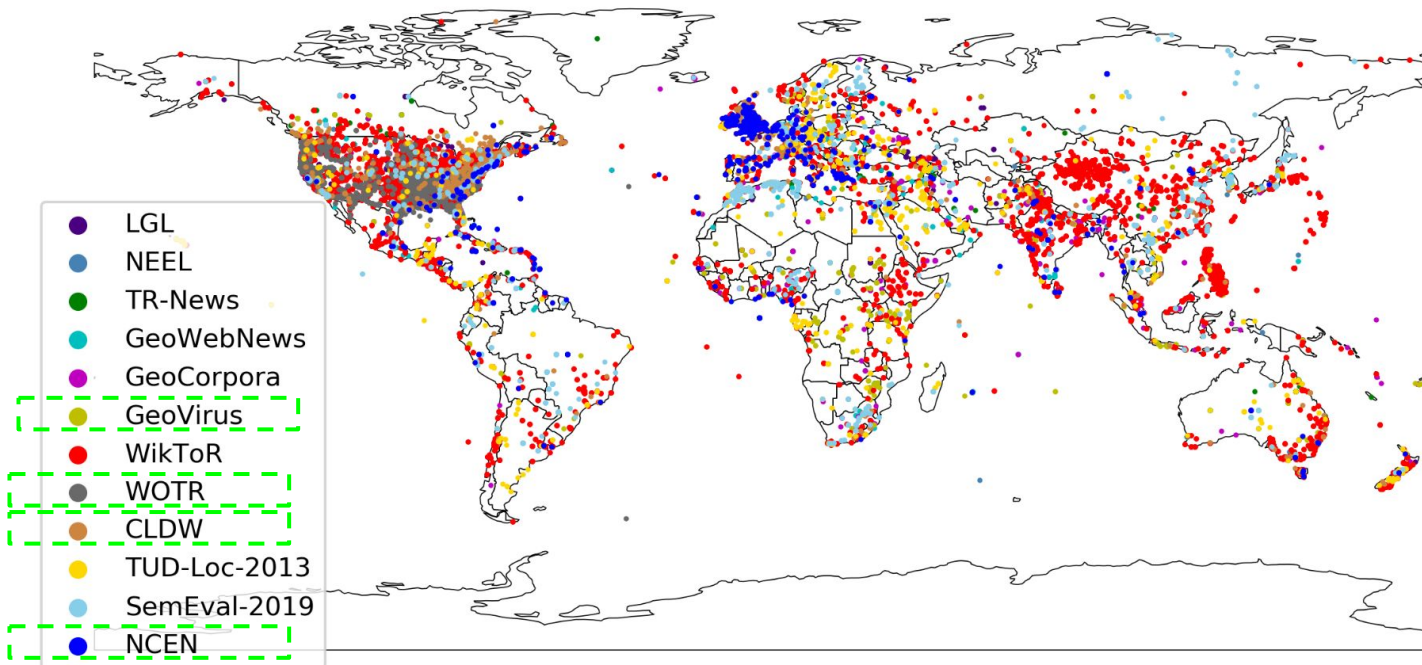
- Voting
- LLM + geographic knowledge

Task	Compared methos	Test dataset	Accuracy
Recognition	27	26	Improve 7%
Resolution	20	12	Improve 17%



# Toponym Resolution Datasets

- Tweets (2)
- History (4)
- News (3)
- Web Page (1)
- Scientific (1)
- Wikipedia (1)



Spatial distribution of toponyms in the 12 datasets (98,300)

# Publications



- 1 Hu, X., Kersten, J., Klan, F., et al. (2024). Toponym resolution leveraging lightweight and open-source large language models and geo-knowledge. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 1-28.
- 2 Hu, X., Elßner, T., Zheng, S., Serere, H. N., Kersten, J., Klan, F., & Qiu, Q. (2024). DLRGeoTweet: A comprehensive social media geocoding corpus featuring fine-grained places. *Information Processing & Management*, 61(4), 103742.
- 3 Hu, X., Zhou, Z., Li, H., Hu, Y., Gu, F., Kersten, J., & Klan, F. (2023). Location reference recognition from texts: A survey and comparison. *ACM Computing Surveys*, 56(5), 1-37.
- 4 Hu, X., Sun, Y., Kersten, J., Zhou, Z., Klan, F., & Fan, H. (2023). How can voting mechanisms improve the robustness and generalizability of toponym disambiguation?. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 117, 103191.
- 5 Hu, X., Zhou, Z., Sun, Y., Kersten, J., Klan, F., Fan, H., & Wiegmann, M. (2022). GazPNE2: A general place name extractor for microblogs fusing gazetteers and pretrained transformer models. *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, 9(17), 16259-16271.
- 6 Hu, X., Al-Olimat, H. S., Kersten, J., Wiegmann, M., Klan, F., Sun, Y., & Fan, H. (2022). GazPNE: annotation-free deep learning for place name extraction from microblogs leveraging gazetteer and synthetic data by rules. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 36(2), 310-337.

# Brainstorm: How can GeoExT benefit UrbanMetaMapping



- Extract overlooked geographic details from archival texts to complement damage maps
- Link textual records to damage maps for deeper analysis
- Cross-check
- ...



# Third Workshop on Geographic Information Extraction from Texts <https://geo-ext.github.io/GeoExT2025/>



- **Conference:** 47th European Conference on Information Retrieval
- **Chairs:** Xuke Hu, Ross Purves, Ludovic Moncla, Jens Kersten, Anna Kruspe
- **Location:** Lucca, Italy
- **Submission deadline:** February 2nd, 2025
- **Workshop day:** April 10th, 2025



First GeoExT workshop in Dublin



Second GeoExT workshop in Glasgow