

Project Title

Disaster Impact Assessment using Visual-Language Models

Project Description:

This project focuses on the analysis of disaster-related social media imagery using Vision-Language Models (VLMs). The main objective is to automatically retrieve images linked in disaster-related tweets, process them using a disaster-trained VLM, and generate detailed scene-level captions describing visible impacts such as infrastructure damage, environmental conditions, etc. The resulting captions will form a structured dataset that enables systematic analysis of visual disaster impacts across multiple events.

Interns will be responsible for:

- (1) developing scripts to download and organize images from tweet metadata,
- (2) implementing preprocessing and data management pipelines,
- (3) running batch inference with the VLM to generate captions,
- (4) conducting quality assessment and basic statistical analysis of the outputs,
- (5) supporting selected case studies to analyze patterns and assess disaster impacts.

The project provides hands-on experience in multimodal AI, large-scale data engineering, and AI-driven disaster impact assessment.

Project Type: Research

Internship Batch:

- **Batch 1:** May 10 to July 9, suitable for Education City students, i.e., CMUQ, TAMUQ and HBKU students

Duties/Activities: Dataset creation pipeline, Data cleaning, Benchmarking new dataset.

Required Skills: Python programming knowledge, machine learning, scripting, familiar with data pipelines,

Preferred Intern Academic Level: 3rd/4th Undergrad, Master students

Learning Opportunities: Large-scale real-world data creation, Data orchestration pipeline, Understanding vision-language foundation models and their capabilities.

Expected Team Size: Team of 2 or 3

Mentors

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