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Organizing a Community on GIS Related Technologies Utilizing Social Media

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This paper introduces the way to organize our community, which discuss GIS related technologies that are organized using Twitter and other social media. The members of the community have different background including computer technology, spatial information science, archaeology etc, and belong to different types of organization such as a university, a company and a public agency. People on the community not only discuss online, but held a meeting to study emerging GIS technologies. This paper introduces technologies and tools that enable organization of such types of community.

The community began in November 2009, when Free and Open Source Software for Geography (FOSS4G) Tokyo Conference was held, and have . Attendees of the conference were exchanging their opinion on Twitter during the conference by sharing a hash-tag, and started following each other. After the conference, people who are interested in the topic related to GIS have joining to the Twitter network, and exchanging opinion and information.

Due to Twitter that connects people to have the same interest, we could organize such community. I am searching for the best way to apply its power and community to my research activity.

Keywords: GIS, Social Media, Organizing Community, Twitter