



Science Meeting – Scientific Report

The scientific report (WORD or PDF file - maximum of seven A4 pages) should be submitted online within two months of the event. It will be published on the ESF website.

Proposal Title: CLEF Lab Organizers Meeting at ECIR 2014

Application Reference N°: 5457

1) Summary (up to one page)

The CLEF Initiative (Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum, <http://www.clef-initiative.eu/>) is the European forum for multilingual and multimodal information access evaluation, comprising about 200 research groups.

CLEF 2014 (<http://clef2014.clef-initiative.eu/>) organizes 8 evaluation labs which range from text to images passing through semi-structured data and covers different tasks such as question answering, reputation management, plagiarism detection, recommendation, eHealth, and more.

The goal of the meeting was to coordinate activities among CLEF 2014 labs and to co-locate it with ECIR 2014, the European Conference on Information Retrieval.

The meeting Web site is online at:

<http://www.clef-initiative.eu/clef2014-lab-organizers-at-ecir-2014>

2) Description of the scientific content of and discussions at the event (up to four pages)

The goal of the CLEF 2014 Lab Organizers Meeting was multiple:

- to favour the overall coordination and cross-fertilization of the CLEF 2014 Labs while the 2014 edition of CLEF is still running;

- to foster cooperation and synergies among the different labs in order to strengthen the CLEF multidisciplinary research community;
- to trigger the planning for labs proposals and activities to be carried out in CLEF 2015;
- to discuss open issues and strategic directions for CLEF in the coming years.

Liadh Kelly, Dublin City University, Ireland presented the ongoing activities of the CLEF eHealth Lab (<http://clefehealth2014.dcu.ie/>).

Francisco Rangel, Autoritas Consulting S.A and Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain presented the ongoing activities of the PAN Lab (<http://pan.webis.de/>).

Jorge Carrillo de Albornoz, UNED, Madrid, Spain illustrated the ongoing activities of the RepLab Lab (<http://nlp.uned.es/replab2014/>).

Frank Hopfgartner, DAI-Labor, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany illustrated the ongoing activities of the Newsreel Lab (<http://www.clef-newsreel.org/>)

Shlomo Geva, Queensland University of Technology, Australia presented the ongoing activities of the INEX Lab (<https://inex.mmci.uni-saarland.de/>).

Gareth Jones, Dublin City University, Ireland presented the ongoing activities of the MediaEval Initiative (<http://www.multimediaeval.org/>).

3) **Assessment of the results and impact of the event on the future directions of the field (up to two pages)**

The afternoon discussion allowed the participants to highlight and plan for synergies among the different labs:

- There is a possible shared effort between the Question Answering (QA) lab and INEX, since they have commonalities in some sub-tasks and collections
- There is a potential for exploring QA applied to eHealth and thus joining the efforts between the QA lab and the eHealth one
- There is a relation between reputation and plagiarism detection and so a first attempt of joint effort between RepLab and PAN has been tried out. However, the nature of Twitter data and their volatility hamper this kind of attempts.
- It has been pointed out has the Newsreel lab provide an example and instantiation of the LivingLabs paradigm, since it provides online access to real recommendation data with very quick response times (about 10 ms)
- It has been pointed out as RepLab represents a very positive example of interaction with a company working on reputation management, sticking the lab to a real use case.

The discussion then went examining possible enhancements for CLEF:

- Develop a mentorship program during CLEF to train students in carrying out experimental evaluation
- Introduce low-barriers tasks for newcomers, as the Ad-Hoc tasks have always been

- Investigate whether there is a lack of common tools and resources in the community which may hamper the participation of new comers and beginners
- Explore possibilities for a CLEF presence during ECIR, in particular by means of
 - Tutorials on Evaluation
 - Doctoral Consortium
- Ensure more commitment by Lab chairs during the whole lifetime of a Lab since its inception
 - post optimisation meeting after Lab acceptance
 - full proposals shared among labs
 - next year lab activities presented during final session at CLEF, with slides ahead
 - ECIR coordination meeting

4) Annexes 4a) and 4b): Programme of the meeting and full list of speakers and participants

Annex 4a) Agenda of the Meeting

11.00: Opening
 11.05-12.15: Quick lab overview
 12.15-13.45: Lunch
 13.45-15.15: Sharing resources, expertise, lessons
 15.15-15.45: Coffee Break
 15.45-16.45: Sha(r)ping the future of IA evaluation
 16.45-17:00: Wrap-up

Annex 4b) Full list of speakers and participants

Paul Clough, University of Sheffield, UK
 Nicola Ferro, University of Padua, Italy
 Shlomo Geva, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
 Frank Hopfgartner, DAI-Labor, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
 Gareth Jones, Dublin City University, Ireland
 Jaap Kamps, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 Liadh Kelly, Dublin City University, Ireland
 Edgar Meij, Yahoo Labs, Barcelona, Spain
 Francisco Rangel, Autoritas Consulting S.A and Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain
 Mark Sanderson, RMIT University, Australia

Annex 4c) Meeting Web site

The meeting Web site is available online at:
<http://www.clef-initiative.eu/clef2014-lab-organizers-at-ecir-2014>

Below, you can find a screenshot of the meeting Web site.



CLEF 2014 Lab Organizers Meeting

Monday, 14 April 2014

co-located with the 36th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR 2014)

Scope

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Agenda

Draft agenda:

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- 15.15-15.45: Coffee Break
- 15.45-16.45: Sha(ri)p(ing) the future of IA evaluation
- 16.45-17:00: Wrap-up

Attendees

- Paul Clough, University of Sheffield, UK
- Nicola Ferro, University of Padua, Italy
- Shlomo Geva, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
- Frank Hopfgartner, DAI-Labor, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
- Gareth Jones, Dublin City University, Ireland
- Jaap Kamps, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Liadh Kelly, Dublin City University, Ireland
- Edgar Meij, Yahoo Labs, Barcelona, Spain
- Francisco Rangel, Autoritas Consulting S.A and Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain
- Maarten de Rijke, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Mark Sanderson, RMIT University, Australia
- Christina Unger, Bleibfeld University, Germany

Venue

The meeting will be held at Hotel Casa 400, situated near the Amstel river in the vibrant Amsterdam East area. See the [ECIR 2014 Venue](#) page for more information.

Room to be announced.

Support

The meeting is organized with the support and under the patronage of:

