CLEF 2015 Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum
Experimental IR meets Multilinguality, Multimodality and Interaction

8-11 September 2015, Toulouse - France

Call for Labs Participation

CLEF 2015 is the sixteenth edition of the annual CLEF evaluation campaign. CLEF contributes to the development of methods and test collections for the systematic evaluation of information systems, primarily through experimentation on shared tasks. CLEF 2015 consists of an independent conference combined with the Labs which are designed to advance technologies for selected information access tasks. CLEF 2015 offers eight Labs:
1. CLEF eHealth 2. ImageCLEF 3. LifeCLEF 4. Living Labs for IR 5. News Recommendation Evaluation Lab 6. Uncovering Plagarism, Authorship and Social Software Misuse 7. Question Answering 8. Social Book Search.

Important dates
November 3rd 2014:
Lab registration opens
April 30th 2015:
Lab registration closes
May 15th 2015:
End of evaluation cycle
May 30th 2015:
Working Notes paper submission
July 7th 2015:
Camera Ready Working Notes

Participation
Participants must register for tasks via the CLEF website:
http://clef2015-labs-registration.dei.unipd.it/

Publication
Working Notes will be published online, in the CEUR-WS Proceedings http://ceur-ws.org

Paper submission via Easychair:
http://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=clef2015labs

Organization:
General Chairs:
Josiane Mothe
IRIT, Université de Toulouse, France
Jacques Savoy
University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Program Chairs:
Jaap Kamps
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Karen Pinel-Sauvagnat
Université de Toulouse, France
Lab chairs:
Gareth Jones
Dublin City University, Ireland
Eric SanJuan
Université d'Avignon, France
Lab committee:
Nicola Ferro
University of Padova, Italy
Donna Harman
National Institute for Standard and Technology, USA
Maarten de Rijke
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Carol Peters
ISTI, National Council of Research (CNR), Italy
Jacques Savoy
University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
William Webber
William Webber Consulting, Australia
Local organization committee:
The IRIT Information Retrieval and Mining (SIG) team

CLEF eHealth
Usage scenario is to ease patients and nurses ease in understanding and accessing eHealth information. The goals of the lab are to develop processing methods and resources in a multilingual setting to enrich difficult-to-understand eHealth texts, and provide valuable documentation.
The lab contains two tasks:
Task 1 - Information Extraction from Clinical Data
(a) Clinical speech recognition
(b) Named entity recognition from clinical narratives in European languages
NEW: non-English languages, clinical spoken language
Task 2 - User-centered Health Information Retrieval
(a) Monolingual IR (English)
(b) Multilingual IR (Chinese, Czech, French, German, Portuguese, Romanian)
NEW: New: queries, evaluation criteria, CLIR languages
Lab coordination: Lorraine Goeuriot (Université Joseph Fourier, FR - lorraine.goeuriot@imag.fr), Liadh Kelly (Trinity College Dublin, IRL - liadh.kelly@scss.tcd.ie)
Lab website: https://sites.google.com/site/clefehealth2015/

ImageCLEF
In 2015, ImageCLEF will organize four main tasks with a global objective of benchmarking automatic annotation and indexing of images. The tasks tackle different aspects of the annotation problem and are aimed at supporting and promoting cutting-edge research addressing the key challenges in the field:
Task 1 - Image Annotation: A task aimed at the development of systems for automatic multi-concept image annotation, localization and subsequent sentence description generation.
Task 2 - Medical Classification: Addresses the problem of labelling and separation of compound figures from biomedical literature.
Task 3 - Medical Clustering: Addresses the problem of clustering body parts x-rays.
Task 4 - Liver CT Annotation: A study towards automated structured reporting, the task is computer aided automatic annotation of liver CT volumes by filling in a pre-prepared form.
Lab coordination: Mauricio Villegas (Universitat Politècnica de Valencia, SP - mauvilsa@upv.es),
Henning Müller (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland in Sierre, CH - henning.mueller@hevs.ch).
Lab website: http://www.imageclef.org/2015

LifeCLEF
The LifeCLEF lab proposes to evaluate these challenges in the continuity of the image-based plant identification task that was run within ImageCLEF since 2011. It will however radically enlarge the evaluated challenge towards multimodal data by (i) considering birds and fish in addition to plants (ii) considering audio and video contents in addition to images (iii) scaling-up the evaluation data to hundreds of thousands of life media records and thousands of living species. Tasks:
Task 1 - BirdCLEF: an audio record-based bird identification task, based on the Xeno-Canto social network. 500 bird species from Brasil from hundreds recordists around 15k recording.
Task 2 - PlantCLEF: an image-based plant identification task based on the Tela Botanica social network. 500 plant species from France from hundreds of photographers, around 50k images.
Task 3 - FishCLEF: a fish video surveillance task based on the Fish4Knowledge network. 30 fish species from the Taiwan's coral reef from unerwater cameras, 2000 videos, and 2 million images.
Lab coordination: Alexis Joly (INRIA Sophia-Antipolis - ZENITH team, Montpellier, FR - alexis.joly@inria.fr), Henning Müller (University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland in Sierre, CH - henning.mueller@hevs.ch).
Lab website: http://www.imageclef.org/lifeclef/2015

http://clef2015.clef-initiative.eu/

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Living Labs for IR (LL4IR)

The main goal is to provide a benchmarking platform for researchers to evaluate their ranking systems in a live setting with real users in their natural task environments. The lab acts as a proxy between commercial organizations (live environments) and lab participants (experimental systems), facilitates data exchange, and makes comparison between the participating systems.

The first edition of the lab features three tasks, each corresponding to a single use-case:

Task 1 – Local Domain Search using a University Search Engine.

Task 2 – Product Search on a Medium-sized Online Retailer.

Task 3 – Web Search using a Commercial Search Engine.

Lab coordination: Krisztian Balog (University of Stavanger, N - krisztian.balog@uis.no), Liadh Kelly (Dublin City University, IRL - liadh.kelly@scss.tcd.ie), Anne Schuth (University of Amsterdam, NL - anne.schuth@uva.nl).

Lab website: http://living-labs.net/clef-lab/

News Recommendation Evaluation Lab (NEWSREEL)

In the second iteration of the lab, we provide two tasks that address the challenge of real-time news recommendation. Participants could: a) develop news recommendation algorithms and b) have them tested by millions of users over the period of a few weeks in a living lab. Tasks:

Task 1 – Benchmark News Recommendations in a Living Lab: benchmarking news recommendation algorithms in a living lab environment: participants will be given the opportunity to develop news recommendation algorithms and have them tested by potentially millions of users over the period of one year.

Task 2 – Benchmarking News Recommendations in a Simulated Environment: simulates a real-time recommendation task using a novel recommender systems reference framework. Participants of this task have to predict users' clicks on recommended news articles in simulated real time.

Lab coordination: Frank Hopfgartner (University of Glasgow, UK - frank.hopfgartner@gmail.com), Torben Brodt (plista GmbH, Berlin, DE - tb@plista.com).

Lab website: http://www.clef-newsreel.org/

Uncovering Plagiarism, Authorship and Social Software Misuse (PAN)

This is the 12th evaluation lab on uncovering plagiarism, authorship, and social software misuse. PAN offers three tasks with new evaluation resources consisting of large-scale corpora, performance measures, and web services that allow for meaningful evaluations. The main goal is to provide for sustainable and reproducible evaluations, to get a clear view of the capabilities of state-of-the-art-algorithms. The tasks are:

Task 1 - Plagiarism Detection: Given a document, is it an original?

Task 2 - Author Identification: Given a document, who wrote it?

Task 3 - Author Profiling: Given a document, what's its author's traits (age / gender / personality)?

Lab coordination: pan@webis.de Martin Potthast, Benno Stein (Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, DE), Paolo Rosso (Universitat Politècnica de València, SP), Efstathios Stamatatos (University of the Aegean, GR).

Lab website: http://pan.webis.de

Question answering (QA)

In the current general scenario for the CLEF QA Track, the starting point is always a Natural Language question. However, answering some questions may need to query Linked Data (especially if aggregations or logical inferences are required); whereas some questions may need textual inferences and querying free-text. Answering some queries may need both. The tasks are :

Task 1 – QALD: Question Answering over Linked Data;

Task 2 – Entrance Exams: Questions from reading tests;

Task 3 – BioASQ: Large-Scale Biomedical Semantic Indexing;

Task 4 – BioASQ : Biomedical Question answering.

Lab coordination: Anselmo Peñas (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, SP - anselmo@lsi.uned.es), Georgios Paliouras (NCSR Demokritos, GR - paliourg@iit.demokritos.gr), Christina Unger (CITEC Universitat Bielefeld, DE - cunger@cit-ec.uni-bielefeld.de).

Lab website: http://nlp.uned.es/clef-qa/

Social Book Search (SBS)

Social Book Search used to be part of INEX (Since 2007). Real-world information needs are generally complex, yet almost all research focuses instead on either relatively simple search based on queries or recommendation based on profiles. The goal of the Social Book Search Lab is to investigate techniques to support users in complex book search tasks that involve more than just a query and results list. Tasks:

Task 1 - Suggestion Track: a system-oriented task to suggest books based on rich search requests combining several topical and contextual relevance signals, as well as user profiles and real-world relevance judgements.

Task 2 - Interactive Track: a user-oriented interactive task investigating systems that support users in each of multiple stages of a complex search tasks.

Lab coordination: Jaap Kamps, Marijn Koolen, Hugo Huurdeman (University of Amsterdam, NL - kamps, marijn.koolen, h.c.huurdeman@uva.nl), Toine Bogers, Mette Skov (Aalborg University Copenhagen, DK - toine, skov@hum.aau.dk), Mark Hall (Edge Hill University Ormskirk, UK - hallmark@edgehill.ac.uk).

Lab website: http://social-book-search.humanities.uva.nl/