

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at EVIA 2019: the 9th International Workshop on Evaluating Information Access, co-located with the 14th NTCIR Conference on the Evaluation of Information Access Technologies (NTCIR-14) held in Tokyo, Japan, on June 10, 2019.

Information Access technologies provide the interface between human information needs and digital information resources. The reliable evaluation of these technologies has been recognised for decades as central to the advancement of the field. As information retrieval technologies become more pervasive, the forms of retrieval more diverse, and retrieval tools richer, the importance of effective, efficient, and innovative evaluation grows as well.

The goal of the workshop was to investigate how to improve information access evaluation, by bringing in new perspectives which have not been explored or fully addressed yet. Therefore, the workshop solicited the submission of contributions covering new approaches for: test collection formation; evaluation metrics; statistical issues in information retrieval evaluation; user studies and the evaluation of human-computer interaction in information retrieval (HCIR); evaluation methods for multilingual, multimedia, or mobile information access; novel information access tasks and their evaluation; evaluation and assessment using implicit user feedback, crowdsourcing, living labs, or inferential methods; evaluation issues in industrial and enterprise retrieval systems; and, reproducibility issues in information retrieval evaluation.

E VIA 2019 featured a keynote talk by Mark Sanderson, RMIT University, Australia, entitled “How to turn the noise down in test collection measurement”. The talk dealt with determining the source of noise when measuring the effectiveness of an IR system using a test collection, showing how topic variation is not the problem but substantial sources of noise exist in the document collections that we search and in the query variations we use.

E VIA 2019 also hosted a special session dedicated to the book in preparation for celebrating the 20 years of NTCIR, describing the overall project and gathering feedback from the audience.

The workshop received 6 submissions out of which 4 were accepted for publication and presentation. We would like to express our special thanks to the Program Committee members, the authors and all the attendees.

June, 2019

Nicola Ferro, Ian Soboroff, and Min Zhang
Workshop co-Chairs

Program Committee

Nicholas Belkin, Rutgers University, USA

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