The 13th NTCIR (NTCIR-13)
Testbeds and Community for Information access Research

Call for Participation to the Kickoff Event

**August 24th (Wed), 2016**
13:00~(English session) 14:45~(Japanese session)
at National Institute of Informatics (NII) 20th floor: 2009/2010 (Tokyo, Japan)

Let’s participate in a collaborative activity for enhancing Information Access technologies!
Development of Information Access technologies based on techniques of Information Retrieval, Natural Language Processing, and Database Management becomes increasingly more important for many applications, (e.g., providing effective access to Web resources and text archives, and analyzing big data obtained from various kinds of sensors). It is indispensable for developing such technologies to experimentally evaluate them by using test collections constructed under collaborations of many researchers. Over the 15 years, NTCIR has been formulating the infrastructure for the evaluation, and contributing to development of the Information Access technologies. A total of 70 "evaluation tasks" have been organized, attracting over 880 participant research groups worldwide so far. Furthermore, over 3,700 research groups have signed up to use the NTCIR test collections in their research. Consequently, NTCIR has been the major forum for researchers to intensively discuss the evaluation methodology of emerging information access technologies.

As the details have been finalized for NTCIR-13, we would like to hold an event to introduce the NTCIR-13 and exciting new evaluation tasks. Are you young researchers in Information Access area, faculty members, researchers in industry, or simply interested in Informatics? Anyone is welcome for the event! Join us to share the advance of the state of the art Information Access research and development!

**Program**

13:00 ~ (English session) 14:45~ (Japanese session) *Both consist of the same contents
- Overview of NTCIR
- What’s new in NTCIR-13
- Task Introduction (7 min x 9 tasks)
- Why participate?
- How to participate
- Important Dates
- Q & A

**NTCIR-13 Task**

**CORE Tasks**
- **Lifelog-2**: Personal Lifelog Organisation & Retrieval Task
- **MedWeb**: Medical Natural Language Processing for Web Document
- **OpenLiveQ**: Open Live Test for Question Retrieval
- **QALab-3**: QA Lab for Entrance Exam
- **STC-2**: Short Text Conversation

**PILOT Tasks**
- **AKG**: Actionable Knowledge Graph
- **ECA**: Emotion Cause Analysis
- **NAILS**: Neurally Augmented Image Labelling Strategies
- **WWW**: We Want Web

NTCIR-13 Program Co-Chairs: Makoto P. Kato, Yiqun Liu
NTCIR-13 General Co-Chairs: Charles L. A. Clarke, Noriko Kando, Tetsuya Sakai

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