NTCIR

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

Visit NTCIR-13 website for registration: http://research.nii.ac.jp/ntcir/ntcir-13/

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.

The thirteenth NTCIR, NTCIR-13, now calls for task participation of anyone interested in research on information access technologies and their evaluation, such as retrieval from a large amount of document collections, question answering and natural language processing. We welcome students, young researchers, professors who supervise students, researchers working for a company, and anyone who is interested in informatics.

NTCIR-13 Tasks

Lifelog-2	Information access and enrichment task for rich multimedia lifelog data of real-world life experience of individuals http://ntcir-lifelog.computing.dcu.ie/
MedWeb	Labeling and extracting disease names of Twitter message texts and disease journal texts http://mednlp.jp/medweb/NTCIR-13/
OpenLiveQ	Question retrieval task in which participants can evaluate their systems in a production environment of Yahoo Japan Corporation's community question-answering service http://www.openliveq.net/
QALab-3	Question analysis, information retrieval, information extraction and automatic summarization using Japanese university entrance exams of "World History" http://research.nii.ac.jp/qalab/
STC-2	Given a microblog post, retrieve or generate a coherent and useful response http://ntcirstc.noahlab.com.hk/STC2/stc-cn.htm http://ntcirstc.noahlab.com.hk/STC2/stc-jp.htm
AKG	Mining potential actions of users, and predicting the properties of search queries http://ntcirakg.github.io/index.html
ECA	Explore the cause of emotion from text http://hlt.hitsz.edu.cn/ECA.html
NAILS	Evaluating the potential of using neural signals to label image content http://ntcir-nails.computing.dcu.ie/
WWW	Ad hoc web search is back - we will monitor progress over at least three rounds of NTCIR http://www.thuir.cn/ntcirwww

NTCIR-13 General Schedule

Dec 15, 2016:	Task registration due*	**Sep 1, 2017:**	Evaluation results return
Jan 2017:	Dataset release*	**Oct 1, 2017:**	Participant paper due
Jan-Mar 2017:	Dry run*	**Nov 1, 2017:**	Camera-ready paper due
Mar-Jul, 2017:	Formal run*	**Dec 5-8, 2017:**	NTCIR-13 Conf. & EVIA 2017

Events with * vary across tasks. For the latest and detailed schedule, please visit each task website.
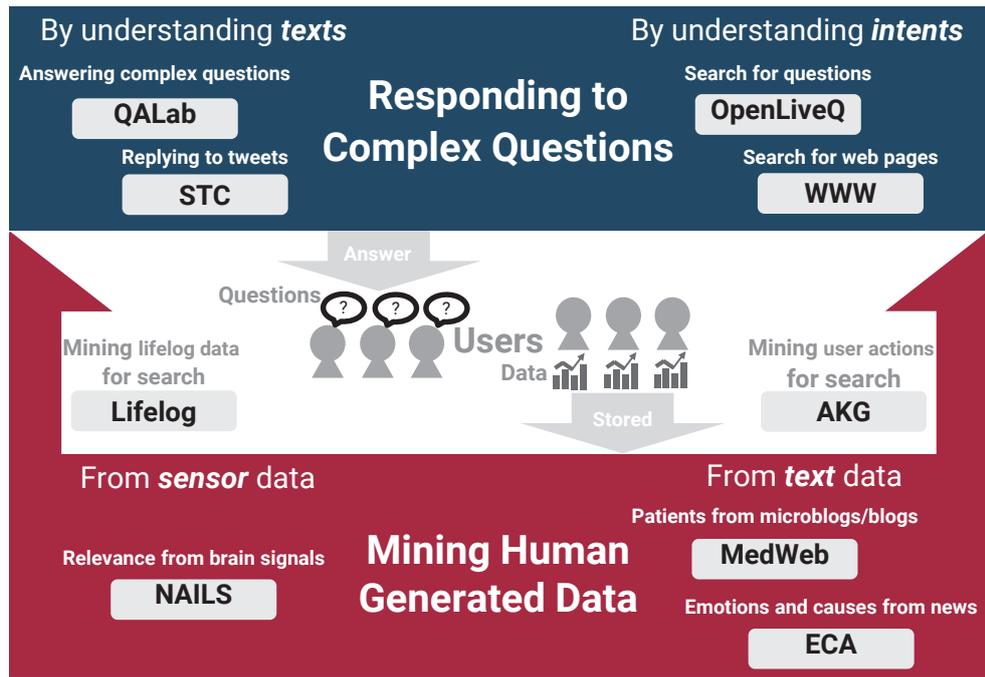
NTCIR-13 Program Committee Co-Chairs: Makoto P. Kato, Yiqun Liu
NTCIR-13 General Co-Chairs: Charles L. A. Clarke, Noriko Kando, Tetsuya Sakai

Contact (secretariat) : ntc-secretariat@nii.ac.jp

NTCIR

Aims of NTCIR-13

NTCIR-13 mainly focuses on three topics on IA technology:

1. Answering complex questions and queries through deep understanding of text and user intents

2. Mining knowledge from a large amount of human generated data

3. Application of knowledge extracted from big data to intelligent IA technologies

By understanding *texts*

Answering complex questions
QALab

Replying to tweets
STC

Responding to Complex Questions

By understanding *intents*

Search for questions
OpenLiveQ

Search for web pages
WWW

Answer

Questions ??? **Users** Data

Mining lifelog data for search
Lifelog

Stored

Mining user actions for search
AKG

From *sensor* data

Relevance from brain signals
NAILS

Mining Human Generated Data

From *text* data

Patients from microblogs/blogs
MedWeb

Emotions and causes from news
ECA

The 12th NTCIR Conference & EVIA 2016

http://research.nii.ac.jp/ntcir/ntcir-13/

- **9** Evaluation tasks
- **47** Task organizers
- **91** Research groups
- **21** Countries/Regions
- **236** Participants

Contact (secretariat) : ntc-secretariat@nii.ac.jp