NTCIR-15 Kick-off Event

September 30, 2019
15:00 – 17:00
• Overview of NTCIR
• Overview of NTCIR-15
• Task Introduction (7 tasks)
• Why participate?
• How to participate
• Important Dates
• Q & A
Overview of NTCIR
Overview of NTCIR-15
Organization at NTCIR-15

- General Co-chairs
- Task Organizers
- Program Committee
- Participants
General Co-chairs

Charles L. A. Clarke  
Facebook, USA

Noriko Kando  
National Institute of Informatics, Japan
Program Committee (PC)

- Noriko Kando (Co-chair, NII, Japan)
- Yiqun Liu (Co-chair, Tsinghua University, China)

Leif Azzopardi, University of Strathclyde
Ben Carterette, University of Delaware
Tat-Seng Chua, National University of Singapore
Hsin-Hsi Chen, National Taiwan University
Maarten de Rijke, University of Amsterdam
Nicola Ferro, University of Padova
Gareth Jones, Dublin City University
Makoto P. Kato, University of Tsukuba
Douglas Oard, University of Maryland
Tetsuya Sakai, Waseda University
Mark Sanderson, RMIT University
Ian Soboroff, NIST
Note that each task can have its own schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 2019</td>
<td>Kick-off event in Tokyo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 2019</td>
<td>Task Registration Due</td>
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<td>Jan 2020</td>
<td>Dataset Release</td>
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<td>Jan-May 2020</td>
<td>Dry Run</td>
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<td>May-Jul 2020</td>
<td>Formal Run</td>
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<td>Aug 20, 2020</td>
<td>Evaluation Result Release</td>
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<td>Dec, 2020</td>
<td>NTCIR-15 Conference</td>
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1. Modern retrieval tasks

2. Dialogue analysis

3. Finer-grained text understanding
Data Search

Web document retrieval
WWW

Data retrieval
Data Search

Microtask retrieval
MART

Heterogeneous data

Dialog analysis for conversation
DialEval

Dialog analysis for discussion
QA Lab-PoliInfo-2

Text understanding

Numeral understanding
FinNum-2

Multi-lingual entity categorization
SHINRA2020-ML

Dialog data

Analyze
NTCIR-15 Tasks

• CORE TASKS

1. DialEval-1: Dialogue Evaluation
2. FinNum-2: Numeral Attachment in Financial Tweets
3. QA Lab-PoliInfo-2: Question Answering Lab for Political Information
4. SHINRA2020-ML: SHINRA 2020 Multi-lingual
5. WWW-3: We Want Web with CENTRE

• PILOT TASKS

6. Data Search: Data Search
7. MART: Micro Activity Retrieval Task
How to participate
How to participate

1. Read the task description and CFP carefully

2. Contact a TO if you have questions

3. Decide a task to participate

4. Register as a participant at NTCIR website

5. Fill in User Agreement Forms

6. Keep an eye on a task’s ML, website, etc. to follow the activity

Don’t hesitate to send a feedback to TO
1. Submit your runs

2. Submit a paper to NTCIR-15 Conference
   – Demonstrate your systems and methods

3. Attend the NTCIR-15 conference and give a presentation
   – Every group will give a poster presentation
   – Some will give an oral presentation, too
Why participate? (Students)

• **Easy start-up**
  – Much of experimental setup is provided
  – Performance measures are (often) defined

• **Increase your visibility**
  – Demonstration of your idea and achievement for academics and industries

• **Publications**
  – Comparison with other participants can produce stronger arguments
  – Inspired by the international community for future work

• **Diverse tasks**
  – A variety of Information access tasks to tackle
Why participate? (Industry)

- Establish your brand
  - To your end-users and competitors
  - Recruit smart people

- Fair benchmarking
  - Comparison with your own products can be less reproducible
  - Critical self-assessments

- Faster development
  - Brushing up your product or eliminating bugs in a limited period of time

- Early access to resultant resources
  - Secondary resources developed by the task are yours, too
Wrap-up

• The fifteenth cycle of NTCIR has started – Will conclude in December 2020

• Seven exciting tasks are running – Organized by leading researchers worldwide

• Lots of opportunities for innovative work – Exchange great ideas with the community

What we need is your participation!
Thank you for your attention!

For further enquiries, contact the NTCIR office
ntc-secretariat@nii.ac.jp

http://research.nii.ac.jp/ntcir/ntcir-15/