NTCIR-16 Kick-off Event

March 29, 2021
15:00 – 16:30

http://research.nii.ac.jp/ntcir/ntcir-16/
• Overview of NTCIR
• Overview of NTCIR-16
• Task Introduction (10 tasks)
• Why participate?
• How to participate
• Important Dates
• Q & A
Overview of NTCIR
Overview of NTCIR-16
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• **Takehiro Yamamoto** (Co-chair, University of Hyogo, Japan)
• **Zhicheng Dou** (Co-chair, Renmin University of China, China)
• Ben Carterette, University of Delaware
• Hsin-Hsi Chen, National Taiwan University
• Nicola Ferro, University of Padova
• Gareth Jones, Dublin City University
• Noriko Kando, NII
• Makoto P. Kato, University of Tsukuba
• Yiqun Liu, Tsinghua University
• Jian-Yun Nie, University of Montreal
• Douglas Oard, University of Maryland
• Tetsuya Sakai, Waseda University
• Mark Sanderson, RMIT University
• Ian Soboroff, NIST
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 29, 2021</td>
<td>NTCIR-16 Kickoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr-Jul, 2021</td>
<td>Task Registration Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul, 2021</td>
<td>Dataset Release</td>
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<td>Jul-Sep, 2021</td>
<td>Dry Run</td>
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<td>Sep-Dec, 2021</td>
<td>Formal Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 1, 2022</td>
<td>Evaluation Result Release to the participants</td>
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<td>Feb 1, 2022</td>
<td>Task overview paper release (draft)</td>
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<td>Mar 1, 2022</td>
<td>Submission due of participant papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1, 2022</td>
<td>Camera-ready participant paper due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun, 2022</td>
<td>NTCIR-16 Conference</td>
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Note that each task can have its own schedule.
We have **10** exciting tasks at this round

– Probably the largest NTCIR in terms of the number of running tasks?

1. **Modern IR** tasks from data to human

2. **Deep NLP** tasks in specialized domains
NTCIR-16 Tasks

CORE TASKS

1. **WWW-4**: We Want Web 4 with CENTRE
2. **DialEval-2**: Dialogue Evaluation 2
3. **FinNum-3**: Investor’s and Manager’s Fine-grained Claim Detection
4. **Lifelog-4**: Lifelog Access and Retrieval
5. **QA Lab-PolInfo-3**: Question Answering Lab for Political Information
6. **Data Search 2**: Data Search 2

PILOT TASKS

7. **RCIR**: Reading Comprehension for Information Retrieval
8. **Real-MedNLP**: Real document-based Medical Natural Language Processing
9. **SS**: Session Search
10. **ULTRE**: Unbiased Learning to Ranking Evaluation Task
Modern IR tasks from data to human

Data
- Data Search-2

Document
- WWW-4
- SS
- ULTRE

Human
- Lifelog-4
- RCIR
- DialEval-2

Real-MedNLP
- QA Lab-PoliInfo-3

Real-MedNLP
- Real-MedNLP

Medical

Finance

Politics

Deep NLP tasks in Specialized Domains
Task Introduction from Task Organizers
NTCIR-16 Tasks

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7. **RCIR**: Reading Comprehension for Information Retrieval
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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-16 Conference
   – Demonstrate your systems and methods

3. Attend the NTCIR-16 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 16th cycle of NTCIR has started
  – Will conclude in June 2022

• 10 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

Q & A?