# Why you should participate in the NTCIR-18 FairWeb-2 Task

Version 20240326

FairWeb-2 organisers:



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## OUTLINE

- 1. Motivation
- 2. Web Search Subtask
- 3. Conversational Search Subtask
- 4. Summary

### Web search that's "fair"

*"You are serving as a general chair of an IR conference. You want to hire diverse IR researchers as organisers."* 

Diversity dimensions:

- Different career stage (include junior researchers, not just famous researchers)
- Different genders
- Different countries

etc.

Screenshot taken on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2022



#### Screenshot taken on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2022





### Web search that considers group fairness

NAVER query Q ······ -SERP's achieved distribution SERP (Search Engine Result Page) Many relevant pages near the top (traditional adhoc IR) AND the achieved Target distribution distribution should be

similar to the target one

# Handling ordinal groups properly



If divergences for nominal groups (e.g. Jensen-Shannon Divergence) are used…

JSD = 0.3651

JSD = 0.3651

Divergences for ordinal groups can tell the difference NMD = 0.2000 RNOD = 0.5477 Closer to target

NMD = 0.6000

RNOD = 0.6000

### Subtasks

- Web Search (same as FairWeb-1)
- Input: Researcher(R)/Movie(M)/YouTube(Y) topic
- Output: SERP (Search Engine Result Page) where the target corpus is Chuweb21D
- Conversational Search (NEW)
- Input: R/M/Y topic (same topic set as Web Search)
- Output: User and system turns (English text, up to 1,250 words)

### Conversational search that's "fair"



Topic types and attribute sets (same as FairWeb-1 for continuity)

M (movie): RATINGS (ordinal, 4 groups) ORIGIN (nominal, 8 groups)

R (researcher): HINDEX (ordinal, 4 groups) GENDER (nominal, 3 groups)

Y (YouTube): SUBSCS (ordinal, 4 groups)

#ratings on IMDb x < 100  $100 \le x < 10K$   $10K \le x < 1M$  $1M \le x$ 

Countries of origin on IMDb mapped to 8 geographic regions (one movie may cover multiple countries)

e.g. a UK-Japan movie => Asia, Europe

### Example topics from FairWeb-1

"Researchers who have coauthored at least one paper with Stephen E. Robertson, the inventor of BM25."

• M-topic

• R-topic

Movie entities

**Researcher entities** 

"sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb."

• Y-topic

Video entities

"Covers of songs written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, available on YouTube. Only Bacharach/David collaborations (just these two writers) are relevant."

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### Annotators

Organisers Release the topic set

# Submit runs (SERP for each topic)

Participants



### Subtask workflow

Annotators









and IMDbURLs.

FAIRE: FAIRE stands for Annotation Interface for Relevant Entities

### Annotation interface (R topic)



Backend records: < topicID, docID, ResearcherName, GScholarURL, h-index, BioURL, he/she/other>

### Deriving page relevance

If 2 annotators each find 3 nonoverlapping relevant entities

d: page E(d): set of relevant entities extracted from d ( $|E(d)| \le 6$ ) r(e)  $\in \{1,2\}$ : relevance level of e  $\in E(d)$ 

Page relevance level  $g(d) \in \{0,1,2\}$  defined as follows

$$g(d) = \begin{cases} 0 & (E(d) = \emptyset); \\ \max_{e \in E(d)} r(e) & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$$

Max relevance level G=2

Page relevance level = max entity relevance level within page

Deriving page group membership Group 1  $C = \{C_1, \cdots, C_{|C|}\}$ : attribute set Hard group membership F(e, C i): flag that maps e to exactly one group for entities A researcher whose h-index=5 (C=HINDEX):  $F(e, C_1)=1$ ,  $F(e, C_2) = F(e, C_3) = F(e, C_4) = 0$ Ad researcher whose bio says "he" (C=GENDER):  $F(e, C_1)=1$ ,  $F(e, C_2) = F(e, C_3) = 0$ Uniform for nonrelevant page Group membership probabilities of d: C1 C2 C3 C4 e1  $P(d, C_i) = \begin{cases} 1/|C| & (E(d) = \emptyset);\\ \frac{|\sum_{e \in E(d)} F(e, C_i)|}{|\sum_i \sum_{e \in E(d)} F(e, C_i)|} & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$ e2 **e**3

### Deriving page group membership

$$C = \{C_1, \dots C_{|C|}\}: \text{ attribute set} \\ ORIGIN(e) \ (\subseteq C): \text{ set of geo regions} \\ \text{for movie } e \in E(d) \ (m = |ORIGIN(e)| \ (\geq 1)) \\ \end{cases}$$

**Soft** group membership wrt ORIGIN for movie entities

### GFR (Group Fairness and Relevance) <u>Sakai+23TOIS</u>



Decay: probability that the users will abandon the SERP at rank k

### ERR (Expected Reciprocal Rank) user model



# Utility: how useful was the top k of the SERP?

 $Utility_{L@k}^{\text{ERR}} = 1/k$ 

$$Utility_{L@k}^{iRBU} = \phi^k \qquad (\Phi = 0.99)$$



### DistrSim: Similarity between achieved distribution@k and target



Similarity: larger=better

 $DistrSim_{L@k}^{m}(D_{L@k}^{m} \parallel D_{*}^{m}) = 1 - Divergence_{L@k}^{m}(D_{L@k}^{m} \parallel D_{*}^{m})$ 

- For attribute sets containing nominal groups:
   Divegence= JSD (Jensen-Shannon Divergence)
- For attribute sets containing ordinal groups:
   Divegence= NMD (Normalised Match Distance) or RNOD (Root Normalised Order-aware Divergence)

### JSD etc. are not suitable for ordinal groups



 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{KLD}(\mathsf{D1}||\mathsf{D1'}) = \\ 0.1 \log(0.1/0.4) + 0.7 \log(0.7/0.4) = 0.3651 \\ \mathsf{KLD}(\mathsf{D}^*||\mathsf{D1'}) = \\ 0.7 \log(0.7/0.4) + 0.1 \log(0.1/0.4) = 0.3651 \\ \mathsf{JSD} = (0.3651 + 0.3651)/2 = 0.3651 \end{array}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{KLD}(\mathsf{D2}||\mathsf{D2'}) = \\ 0.1 \log(0.1/0.4) + 0.7 \log(0.7/0.4) = 0.3651 \\ \mathsf{KLD}(\mathsf{D}^*||\mathsf{D2'}) = \\ 0.7 \log(0.7/0.4) + 0.1 \log(0.1/0.4) = 0.3651 \\ \mathsf{JSD} = (0.3651 + 0.3651)/2 = 0.3651 \end{array}$ 

D1 (not too bad) and D2 (terrible) considered equivalent

#### aka Earth Mover's Distance

### NMD (Normalised Match Distance)



#### For computing RNOD

DW (Distance-Weighted sum of squares)

$$DW_i = \sum_{j=1}^{|C|} \frac{|i-j|}{|i-j|} (P_j - P_j^*)^2$$



### RNOD (Root Normalised Order-aware Divergence)



### Evaluating intersectional group fairness

- R topics
   relevance
   HINDEX (ordinal)
   GENDER (nominal)
- M topics
   relevance
   RATINGS (ordinal)
   ORIGIN (nominal)



How is GFR different from the single-ranking measure used at TREC 2022?

https://fair-trec.github.io/docs/Fair\_Ranking\_2022\_Participant\_Instructions.pdf

Main diffs:

- Decay: TREC uses nDCG decay (relevance-unaware); we use ERR decay (relevance-aware).
- Achieved distribution: TREC computes a single distribution for a SERP; we obtain a distribution at every rank with a relevant doc.
- Divergence: TREC uses JSD; we use JSD for nominal groups but NMD and RNOD for ordinal groups.
- Combining relevance and group fairness: TREC multiplies the two; we average relevance (ERR or iRBU score) and one or two GF scores.

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### Output: user and system turns (R-topic: researchername + Google Scholar URL)

Example R-topic: "Researchers who have coauthored at least one paper with Stephen E. Robertson, the inventor of BM25."

Must include both user turns (prompts) and system turns

Example output:

U: Please return a list of researchers who have coauthored at least one paper with Stephen E. Robertson. Each researcher name must be accompanied by a Google Scholar URL.

Format: <researcher name>, <Google Schlar URL>

```
S:
```

S:

Karen Sparck Jones, https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=HzDsaGYAAAAJ

Gareth Jones, https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=YJuN\_H8AAAAJ

U: Please name more.

Output may be single-turn or multi-turn

Muti-turn (optional)

Tetsuya Sakai, https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=v

Each user turn must include "U:" as a prefix. Each system turn must include "S:" as a prefix. Each output must begin with a "U:" Up to 1,250 words (= 5 minutes reading time) #words will be counted based on white spaces

### Output: user and system turns (M-topic: movienename + IMDbURL)

### Example M-topic: "sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb." Example output:

U: Please return a list of sci-fi movies that feature time travel. Each movie must e accompanied by an IMDb URL. Format: <movietitle>,<IMDb URL>

#### S:

Here are some sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb: Back to the Future (1985), https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088763/ The Terminator (1984), https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088247/ Groundhog Day (1993), https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/ Interstellar (2014), https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0816692/ The Time Machine (1960), https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0054387/ I hope this helps! Let me know if there's anything else I can help you with.

Each user turn must include "U:" as a prefix. Each system turn must include "S:" as a prefix. Each output must begin with a "U:" Up to 1,250 words (≒ 5 minutes reading time) #words will be counted based on white spaces

# Output: user and system turns (Y-topic: videotitle + youtubeURL)

Example Y-topic: "Covers of songs written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David, available on YouTube. Only Bacharach/David collaborations (just these two writers) are relevant" Example output:

U: Please return a list of covers of Bacharach/David songs. Each cover must be accompanied by a YouTube URL. Format: <youtube title>, <youtube URL>

S: Here are the covers of songs written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David that are available on YouTube:

Walk On By, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AO073fekFJk

I Say a Little Prayer, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtBbyglq37E

Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DmYLrxR0Y8

What the World Needs Now Is Love, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUaxVQPohIU

Alfie, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVMIk3xYaYo

U: Can you name a few more?

S:

Walk On By, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AO073fekFJk

Duplicate entities will not be rewarded

Each user turn must include "U:" as a prefix. Each system turn must include "S:" as a prefix. Each output must begin with a "U:" Up to 1,250 words (≒ 5 minutes reading time) #words will be counted based on white spaces



# Annotation interface (R topic)



Backend records: <<u>topicID</u>, <u>docID</u>, <u>position</u>, ResearcherName, <u>GScholarURL</u>, h-index, BioURL, he/she/other>

### Position (white-space-based)

1U:2 Please3 return4a5 list6 of7 covers8 of9 Bacharach/10 songs.11 Each12 cover13 must14 be15 accompanie16 by17 a18 YouTube19 URL.20 Format:21 <youtube td="" ti<="">22 <youtube td="" u<="">23 S:</youtube></youtube>	User prompt is included the word count (to reflect user effort): Try to make it short	in 24 Here 25 are 26 the 27 covers 28 of 29 songs 30 written 31 by 32 Burt 33 Bacharach 34 and 35 Hal 36 David 37 that 38 are 39 available 40 on 41 YouTube: 42 Walk 43 On 44 By,	First relevant entity
15 accompanie 16 by 17 a 18 YouTube 19 URL. 20 Format: 21 <youtube ti<br="">22 <youtube u<br="">23 S:</youtube></youtube>	tle>, IRL> Position of 1 <sup>st</sup> relevant entity	39 available 40 on 41 YouTube: 42 Walk 43 On 44 By, 45 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0073fekFJk	First releva entity

### GFRC: GFR for Conversations [Sakai23EVIA]



GFRC: R instantiation  $R(C) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{I} \sum_{n_{ij} \in S_i} pw(n_{ij})g(n_{ij})$ Average reading speed (English): 250 words/minute Given 5 minutes, up to L=1,250 words can be read (Nuggets after 1,250 words are worthless) Entities early in the conversation are rewarded more When every word is a relevant рw nugget (unattainable)  $\left( \right)$ WC (including all user-system turns) L+1  $\left(1 - \frac{l-1}{L}\right) = \frac{L+1}{2}$  $pw(n) = \max(0, 1 - \frac{WC(n)}{r})$  $R(C) = \frac{2}{L+1} \sum_{i=1}^{I} \sum_{m=1}^{I} \max(0, 1 - \frac{WC(n_{ij})}{L})$ 

### GFRC: GFR for Conversations





GFRC: examples from Sakai23EVIA

### 1<sup>st</sup> system turn

### Nuggets in blue Annotations in red

Google

Bing

Here are some sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb:

Back to the Future (1985): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088763/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,0,1) #1.3M

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States

The Terminator (1984): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088247/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #898K

#ORIGIN: (0,1/2,0,0,0,1/2,0,0) #United Kingdom,United States
Groundhog Day (1993): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #661K

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States

Interstellar (2014): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0816692/

#L1

#RATINGS: (0,0,0,1) #2M

#ORIGIN: (0,2/3,0,0,0,1/3,0,0) #United States,United Kingdom,Canada

The Time Machine (1960): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0054387/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #43K

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States

I hope this helps! Let me know if there's anything else I can help you with.









wc=51

Sure, here are some sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb, with their IMDB links and posters:

Back to the Future (1985): A nerdy teenager accidentally travels back in time to 1955 and meets his future parents, jeopardizing his own existence.

Back to the Future (1985) movie posterOpens in a new window

www.imdb.com

Back to the Future (1985) movie poster

Pulp Fiction (1994): A series of interconnected stories in Los Angeles's underworld. One of the stories involves a mob hit that goes wrong and the hitman's attempt to fix it by traveling back in time.

Pulp Fiction (1994) movie posterOpens in a new window

www.originalfilmart.com

Pulp Fiction (1994) movie poster

### A 452-word response that does not follow the specified format

### 1<sup>st</sup> system turn

### Nuggets in blue Annotations in red



#### Nuggota in blue 1<sup>st</sup> system turn Group 1: x < 100 $100 \le x < 10 K$ Group 2: Here are some sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb: Su Bing ogle an Back to the Future (1985): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088763/ $10K \leq x < 1M$ Group 3: wc=35Ba #L2 me Group 4: $1M \leq x$ #RATINGS: (0,0,0,1) #1.3M 898K ratings on IMDb $\Rightarrow$ Group 3 The Terminator (1984): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088247/ WC=30#L2 Pul **#RATINGS:** (0 The Terminator (198 , https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088247/ #ORIGIN: (0. #L2 Groundhog D #\_2 #RATINGS: (0 #RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #898K #ORIGIN: (0,1 #ORIGIN: (0,1/2,0,0,0,1/2,0,0) #United Kingdom,United States Interstellar #L1 A 452-word response that does not follow #RATINGS: (0,0,0,1) #2M the specified format #ORIGIN: (0,2/3,0,0,0,1/3,0,0) #United States,United Kingdom,Canada The Time Machine (1960): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0054387/ wc=51 #L2 #RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #43K #ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States I hope this helps! Let me know if there's anything else I can help you with.

### 1<sup>st</sup> system turn

Bing

	Group 3: Antarctica
Here are some sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb:	Group 4: Asia
Back to the Future (1985): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088763/	Ba Group 5: Caribboan
#L2	
#ORIGIN: (0.1.0.0.0.0.0) #United States	Group 6: Europe
The Terminator (1984): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0088247/	Group 7: Middle East
#L2	Group 8: Oceania
#RATINGS: (0 #ORIGIN: (0,1 The Terminator (1984): h	Countries of origin on IMDB: 47/
Groundhog Di #L2	$IS + UK \Rightarrow$ Groups 2 and 6
#RATINGS: (0 #RATINGS: (0.0.1.0) # 098K	
$\#ORIGINI: (0,1) \\ \#ORIGINI: (0,1/2,0,0,0,1/2) \\ \#ORIGINI: (0,1/2,0,0,0,0,1/2) \\ \#ORIGINI: (0,1/2,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0$	0 0) #United Kingdom United State
	,0,0) #Onited Kingdoni,Onited State
#L1	A 452-word response that does not follow
#ORIGIN: (0.2/3.0.0.1/3.0.0) #United States.United Kingdom.Canada	the specified format
The Time Machine (1960): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0054387/	
#L2 WC=51	
#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #43K	
#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0) #United States	
I hope this helps! Let me know if there's anything else I can help you with.	

Group 1: Africa

Group 2: America

### 2<sup>nd</sup> system turn

#### U2: Can you name a few more?

Bing

#### Sure! Here are some more sci-fi movies that feature time travel, listed in IMDb: 12 Monkeys (1995): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0114746/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #634K

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States

The Butterfly Effect (2004): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0289879/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #508K

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States,Canada

Looper (2012): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1276104/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #592K

#ORIGIN: (0,1/2,0,1/2,0,0,0,0) #United States,China

Edge of Tomorrow (2014): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1631867/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #711K

#ORIGIN: (0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0) #United States,Canada

Predestination (2014): https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2397535/

#L2

#RATINGS: (0,0,1,0) #294K

#ORIGIN: (0,1/2,0,0,0,0,0,1/2)#Australia,United States

I hope this helps! Let me know if there's anything else I can help you with.

#### U2: Adhere to the output format I specified: "Format: movie title, iMDB URL"



$$pw(n) = \max(0, 1 - \frac{WC(n) - 1}{L})$$

### R scores

Bing		Google	No relevant entities in 1 <sup>st</sup> turn				
	pw(n)	g(n)	pw(n)*g(n)		pw(n)	g(n)	pw(n)*g(n)
Back to the Future	0.9728	1	0.9728	Back to the Future	0.5960	1	0.5960
The Terminator	0.9696	1	0.9696	Interstellar	0.5528	0.5	0.2764
Groundhog Day	0.9664	1	0.9664			R	0.0014
Interstellar	0.9640	0.5	0.4820				
The Time Machine	0.9600	1	0.9600	Not really time travel			
12 Monkeys	0.9280	1	0.9280	•			
The Butterfly Effect	0.9240	1	0.9240				
Looper	0.9216	1	0.9216				
Edge of Tomorrow	0.9176	1	0.9176	Only about 9.8% of Bing'		ng's R	
Predestination	0.9152	1	0.9152	score			
		R	0.0143				

# GF scores - RATINGS (Bing vs Google)



Google returns famous movies only

# GF scores - ORIGIN (Bing vs Google)

![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

Google returns only American and European movies so the GF score is low. Bing does better (also returns Asian and Oceanian movies).

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### Timeline (tentative)

Nov 1, 2024: test topics released; task registrations due Dec 15, 2024: run submissions due Dec 2024-Jan 2025: Entity annotation + evaluation Feb 1, 2025: Evaluation results + draft overview released June 10-13, 2025: NTCIR-18@NII, Tokyo

We know you care about both fairness and IR. That's why we know you will participate in this task!

### Links

- <u>NTCIR-17 FairWeb-1 page (with official results, relevant papers, etc.)</u>
- NTCIR-18 FairWeb-2 page (with relevant papers, etc.)
- Lots of videos and slides on divergences for quantification tasks, i.e., for comparing two probability mass functions (from ACL 2021)