Call for Participation

The 9th NTCIR Workshop Meeting

and

The 4th International Workshop on Evaluating Information Access

December 6-9, 2011
National Center of Sciences, Tokyo, Japan
NTCIR Organizing Committee
National Institute of Informatics (NII)
http://research.nii.ac.jp/ntcir/ntcir-9/

NTCIR is a series of evaluation workshops for Information Access Technologies like Information Retrieval (IR), Question Answering (QA), Summarization, Text Mining, Machine Translation, etc. and providing research infrastructure for evaluation and testing, and forum of researchers. It has placed emphasis on processing of East Asian languages, but attracted international participation.

NTCIR-9 has hosted the following four core tasks and three pilot tasks under a new organization structure. Most tasks are new in NTCIR-9 and we had one of the largest number of participated teams in the history of NTCIR!

[Core Tasks]
- GeoTime: Geo Temporal Retrieval
- INTENT: mining and satisfying different user intents for a query, + 1CLICK subtask: satisfying a user’s need by the first output
- RITE: Recognizing Inference in Text
- SpokenDoc: Retrieval for Spoken Documents

[Pilot Tasks]
- CrossLink: Cross-Lingual Link Discovery
- VisEx: Interactive Visual Exploratory

NTCIR-9 Meeting and EVIA 2011 are open events and anyone who is interested in the research in information access technologies are welcome. For the previous Meeting, approximately 200 attendees from 18 different countries contributed to discussion. Please come and join the discussion!

Schedule:
DAY2-4 (7-9th December 2011)  NTCIR-9 Meeting

Keynote: Natural Language understanding, Semantic-based Information Retrieval and Knowledge Management by Dr. Junichi Tsujii, Tsujii, Microsoft Research Asia
Invited Talk: Principles for Robust Evaluation Infrastructure by Mark Sanderson, RMIT and William Webber, University of Maryland

Reports from other evaluation campaigns

Inquiry NTCIR Project  Project Leader / Program Chair: Noriko Kando  kando@nii.ac.jp
NTCIR Office: ntc-secretariat@nii.ac.jp
Anyone who is interested in the researches and development in information access technologies and their evaluation are welcome to join NTCIR-9 Meeting and EVIA regardless of participation of the evaluation task(s) set by the NTCIR-9 organizers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Early Registration (Until October 31)</th>
<th>Online Registration (From November 1 to November 25)</th>
<th>On-site</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full registration (non-students)</td>
<td>JPY 30,000</td>
<td>JPY 32,000</td>
<td>JPY 35,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student (with proceedings)</td>
<td>JPY 8,000</td>
<td>JPY 10,000</td>
<td>JPY 10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student (without proceedings)</td>
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- Payment for Early and Online Registration is by Credit Card or in Cash.
- On-site registration is available. But please notice that the payment shall be in cash only.
- All the registration categories include access to all the sessions in the meeting (both EVIA and NTCIR-9 Meeting), access to online proceedings and coffee (December 6-9).
- Full registration includes one CD-ROM of the proceedings (both EVIA 2011 and NTCIR-9 Meeting) and the evaluation results, a banquet and three lunches (December 7-9).
- Student (with proceedings) registration includes one CD-ROM of the proceedings (both EVIA 2010 and NTCIR-9 Meeting) and the evaluation results, a banquet and three lunches (December 7-9).
- "Student Banquet" and "Student lunch" ticket are available for students (without proceedings).
- Pre-registration is required for these tickets.
- Online proceedings will be available for free from December 6, 2011.

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Banquet</td>
<td>JPY 4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accompanying person Banquet</td>
<td>JPY 5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Lunch (per day)</td>
<td>JPY1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying person Lunch (per day)</td>
<td>JPY1,500</td>
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**Cancellation Policy Student ID**

In case of cancellation, written notification should be sent to the Registration Office (ntcir9_reg@ics-inc.co.jp) by November 4. Refunds will be made according to the following guidelines.

- Until November 4, 2011: 100% refund of registration fees
- From November 5, 2011: No refund

**Student ID**

Student registration (either with or without proceedings) requires a valid student ID. Please bring your student ID with you to the conference venue. Without student ID, you may be requested to re-register as "full registration".