CLEF 2018: Evaluation Labs, Conference, and Initiative

Nicola Ferro
University of Padua

Abstract

Starting with 2010, a radical renewal and innovation process is taking place in the Cross Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF). CLEF became an independent event constituted by (i) Evaluation Labs, i.e. laboratories to conduct evaluation of information access systems and workshops to discuss and pilot innovative evaluation activities; (ii) a peer-reviewed Conference on a broad range of issues, including investigation continuing the activities of the Evaluation Labs; experiments using multilingual and multimodal data; in particular, but not only, data resulting from CLEF activities; and, research in evaluation methodologies and challenges. This process led to the establishment of the CLEF Initiative with a charter describing its scope and aims and new organizational structure. This talk will thus discuss the achievements and happenings in CLEF 2018, the activities conducted in the Evaluation Labs, the discussions held during the Conference, and the new organization of CLEF.

Biography

Nicola Ferro is associate professor in computer science at the University of Padua, Italy. His research interests include information retrieval, its experimental evaluation, multilingual information access and digital libraries. He is the coordinator of the CLEF evaluation initiative, which involves more than 200 research groups world-wide in large-scale IR evaluation activities. He was the coordinator of the EU Seventh Framework Programme Network of Excellence PROMISE on information retrieval evaluation.