

Reports from Other Evaluation Campaigns: CLEF 2011: Evaluation Labs, Conference, and Initiative

Nicola Ferro

Department of Information Engineering, University of Padua, Italy

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 2011, the activities conducted in the Evaluation Labs, the discussions held during the Conference, and the new organization of CLEF.

Bio

Nicola Ferro is assistant professor in Computer Science at the Department of Information Engineering and at the Faculty of Statistical Sciences of the University of Padua, Italy. His main research interests are digital libraries and archives, their architectures, interoperability, and evaluation, as well as multilingual information access and its evaluation. He is chair of the Steering Committee of CLEF (Cross Language Evaluation Forum) initiative and he coordinates the PROMISE FP7 network of excellence on experimental evaluation of multilingual and multimodal information access system. He has been program co-chair of the CLEF 2010 Conference on Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation and served on the program committee of several conferences (among them SIGIR, ECIR, CIKM, ECDL, JCDL, WSDL). He has published more than 70 papers on digital library architectures, interoperability, and services; multilingual information access and its experimental evaluation; the management of the scientific data produced during evaluation campaigns. He is member of ACM and IEEE.