

CALL FOR NTCIR-13 ADDITIONAL PILOT TASK PROPOSALS

NTCIR (NII Testbeds and Community for Information access Research) is a sesquiannual series of evaluation conferences that mainly focuses on Asian language information access.

For NTCIR-13, nine tasks have been already accepted and their activity started. The nine tasks include five core tasks (LifeLog-2, MedWeb, OpenLiveQ, QALab-3, and STC-2) and four pilot tasks (AKG, ECA, NAILS, and WWW). Since there are still many emerging problems in information access research, we now call for additional pilot tasks.

Please note that financial support (i.e., seed funding) will not be provided to the accepted additional pilot task. Otherwise, the task will be treated in the same way as the other pilot tasks in NTCIR-13, and in its proceedings. Please feel free to contact the program co-chairs for any details of the task organization at ntc13-pcc@nii.ac.jp.

Please submit your task proposal as a pdf file to “NTCIR-13 Additional Task Proposal” track (default) to <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ntcir12> by **October 31, 2016 (UTC-12)**.

The additional pilot task proposals will be reviewed by the NTCIR-13 programme committee, following the schedule below:

NTCIR-13 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Oct 31, 2016	Task Proposals due
Dec 7, 2016	Acceptance Notification
Dec 15, 2016	Task registration due*
Jan 2017	Dataset release*
Jan-Mar 2017	Dry run*
Mar-July 2017	Formal run*
Sep 1, 2017	Evaluation result release
Sep 1, 2017	Task overview paper release (draft)
Oct 1, 2017	Submission due of participant papers (draft)
Nov 1, 2017	Submission due of camera-ready papers
Dec 5-8, 2017	NTCIR-13 Conference & EVIA 2017 in NII, Tokyo

(Those with * can be changed by each task)

DIFFERENCE FROM THE PAST NTCIR TASK PROPOSAL

- Organizers at NTCIR-12 may keep the task name (e.g. TASKNAME-2) as long as the task includes improvement based on the previous rounds.
- Please describe the data with as much detail as possible so that we can help your data release after the proposal is accepted. In the past NTCIR, it took much time to create memorandums, which sometimes slowed down the task organization.
- The proposal should not exceed five pages (four pages for the main part and appendix and one page for the data) in A4 single-column format.

- We encourage applicants to
- Emphasize real-world applications of the proposed task by using real-world data, real tasks, and addressing real-world problems.
- Address a challenge in information access technology evaluation such as a large amount of assessments required for evaluation, privacy-preserving use of proprietary data, and live test with real users.

TASK PROPOSAL FORMAT

The proposal should not exceed five pages in A4 single-column format. The first four pages should contain the main part and appendix, and the last page should contain only description about the data used in the task. Please describe the data with as much detail as possible so that we can help your data release after the proposal is accepted. In the past NTCIR, it took much time to create memorandums, which sometimes slowed down the task organization.

Main part: Task name and short name; Abstract; Motivation; Methodology; Expected results

Appendix: Names and contact information of the organizers; Prospective participants; Budget planning; Schedule; Data to be used and/or constructed

REVIEW CRITERIA

- Importance of the task to the information access community and to the society
- Timeliness of the task
- Organizers' commitment in ensuring a successful task
- Financial sustainability (self-sustainable tasks are encouraged)
- Soundness of the evaluation methodology
- Language scope

NTCIR GENERAL CHAIRS

Charles L. A. Clarke (University of Waterloo, Canada)

Noriko Kando (NII, Japan)

Tetsuya Sakai (Waseda University, Japan)

NTCIR-13 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Ian Soboroff (NIST, United States)

Yiqun Liu (Co-chair, Tsinghua University, China)

Makoto P. Kato (Co-chair, Kyoto University, Japan)