



From CLEF to TrebleCLEF

Promoting Technology Transfer for Multilingual Information Retrieval

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Cross Language Evaluation Forum



Objectives of CLEF

Promote research and stimulate development of multilingual IR systems for European languages, through

- Creation of evaluation infrastructure and organisation of regular evaluation campaigns for system testing
- Building of an MLIA/CLIR research community
- Construction of publicly available test-suites

Major Goal

Encourage development of truly multilingual, multimodal systems

**CLEF 2000 – 2007 sponsored by
IST 5FP & 6FP mainly within DELOS**





CLEF Achievements



- Stimulation of research activity in new, previously unexplored areas
- Study and implementation of evaluation methodologies for diverse types of cross-language IR systems
- Creation of a large set of empirical data about multilingual information access from the user perspective
- Quantitative and qualitative evidence with respect to best practice in cross-language system development
- Creation of reusable test collections for system benchmarking
- Building of a strong, multidisciplinary research community

BUT





BUT



**Notable lack of takeup
by
Application Communities**



i2010 Digital Library Initiative



TrebleCLEF is a Coordination Action, funded under the 7FP from 2008 to 2009, which aims at:

- continuing to promote the development of advanced multilingual multimedia information access systems
- disseminating knowhow, tools, and resources to enable DL creators to make content and knowledge accessible, usable and exploitable over time, over media and over language boundaries



i2010 Digital Library Initiative

TrebleCLEF will promote R&D and industrial take-up of multilingual, multimodal information access functionality in the following ways:

- by continuing to support the annual CLEF system evaluation campaigns, with particular focus on:
 - user modeling, e.g. the requirements of different classes of users when querying multilingual information sources
 - language-specific experimentation, e.g. looking at differences across languages in order to derive best practices for each language
 - results presentation, e.g. how can results be presented in the most useful and comprehensible way to the user.

- by constituting a scientific forum for the MLIA community of researchers enabling them to meet and discuss results, emerging trends, new directions
- providing a scientific digital library to manage accessible the scientific data and experiments produced during the course of an evaluation campaign, providing tools to:
 - analyze, compare, and cite the data and experiments
 - curate, preserve, annotate, enrich them (promoting their re-use)

Objectives III

- by acting as a virtual centre of competence providing a central reference point for anyone interested in studying or implementing MLIA functionality:
 - making publicly available sets of guidelines on best practices in MLIA (e.g. what stemmer to use, what stop list, what translation resources, how best to evaluate, etc., depending on the application requirements);
 - making tools and resources used in the evaluation campaigns freely available to a wider public whenever possible; otherwise providing links to where they can be acquired;
 - organising workshops, and/or tutorials and training sessions.



- **Evaluation**
 - test collections and laboratory evaluation
 - user evaluation
 - log analysis
- **Best Practices & Guidelines**
 - system-oriented aspects of MLIA applications
 - collaborative user studies
 - user-oriented aspects of MLIA interfaces
- **Dissemination and Training**
 - tutorials
 - workshops
 - summer school

Research results will be transferred to the application community through preparation of best-practice guidelines for MLIA system implementation and evaluation and via:

- **TrebleCLEF** portal
- training events
 - tutorials, summer school, workshops
- MLIA Technology Day
- presentations and publications



TrebleCLEF

1st TrebleCLEF event



TrebleCLEF

Workshop on Novel Methodologies for Evaluation in IR

ECIR 2008, 30 March 2008, Glasgow, UK

Sponsored by **TrebleCLEF**

Information retrieval is an empirical science; the field cannot move forward unless there are means of evaluating the innovations devised by researchers.

Workshop topics will include but are not limited to:

- test collection building for diverse needs
- new metrics and methodologies
- evaluation of multilingual IR and/or multimedia IR systems
- novel evaluation of related areas, such as QA or summarization
- evaluation of commercial systems
- novel forms of user-centered evaluation



TrebleCLEF: Evaluation, Best Practice & Collaboration for Multilingual Information Access

Coordination Action: 215231

Kickoff: 1 January 2008 **Duration:** 24 months

Consortium

- ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy
- University of Padua, Italy
- University of Sheffield, United Kingdom
- Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia, Spain
- Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
- Centre for the Evaluation of Language Communication Technologies, Italy
- Evaluations & Language resources Distribution Agency, France

For further information see:

<http://www.trebleclef.eu/>

or contact:

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