
Preface

This proceedings volume contains the refereed papers of the workshop “Integrating IR technologies for Professional Search” (IRPS), which was held in Moscow, Russia, in March 24, 2013. The workshop was organized as a step towards addressing issues and challenges for designing next generation professional search systems. The idea of the workshop was mainly formulated during the participation of the organizers in the COST Action IC1002 “Multilingual and Multifaceted Interactive Information Access” (MUMIA). IC1002 coordinates collaboration between researchers and professionals working on three key disciplines for the future of search: machine translation (MT), information retrieval (IR) and multifaceted interactive information access (MIIA).

The IRPS workshop aimed to stimulate exploratory research; to bring together various facets of IR research and to promote the discussion between researchers towards the development of a generalised framework facilitating the integration of IR technologies and search tools into next generation professional search systems. Many facets of IR technology (e.g. exploratory search, aggregated search, federated search, task-based search, IR over query sessions, cognitive IR approaches, HCIR) aim at least partially, to address the demands of modern search systems for professionals. To facilitate integration of the results of all of these IR technologies a generalised framework is probably needed. This will allow to address not only how to aggregate or merge content from multiple sources or specialised search services, but will also focus on the needs of professional workers using search systems, and how they need to interact with multiple search tools and UIs and use different IR technologies to cope with the complexity of retrieving, finding, understanding and analysing information in their workplace. This envisioned framework should be supported from new or the extension of existing protocols and may influence the design of next generation professional search systems.

A total of 21 papers were submitted representing the work of researchers from many different countries. The selection of contributions for IRPS was based on a blind reviewing process. Each paper was reviewed by three members of the programme committee. The final selection of 13 accepted papers was made by the workshop organizers based on recommendations from our reviewer to which we are most grateful. We also would like to thank the organizers of the Workshop on Group Membership and Search (Ingmar Weber, Djoerd Hiemstra, Pavel Serdyukov) for the arrangements they made for our two distinguished invited speakers, Daria Sorokina and Nick Belkin.

We would like to thank Pavel Serdyukov (Yandex, Russia) and Pavel Braslavski (Kontur Labs, ex-Yandex, Russia) from the ECIR 2013 general chairs as well the workshop chair: Evgeniy Gabrilovich (Google, USA). Finally, we acknowledge, and are inspired by the many authors who submitted papers, and who decided to participate in this emerging research community.

Welcome to IRPS in Moscow, we hope to enjoy the workshop, its contents and also its venue and social events.

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