SIGIR 2013 Workshop on Time Aware Information Access (#TAIA2013)

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ABSTRACT

Web content increasingly reflects the current state of the physical and social world, manifested both in traditional news media sources along with user-generated publishing sites such as Twitter, Foursquare, and Facebook. At the same time, web searching increasingly reflects problems grounded in the real world. As a result of this blending of the web with the real world, we observe that the web, both in its composition and use, has incorporated many of the dynamics of the real world. Few of the problems associated with searching dynamic collections are well understood, such as defining time-sensitive relevance, understanding user query behavior over time and understanding why certain web content changes.

We believe that, just as static collections often benefit from modeling topics, dynamic collections will likely benefit from temporal modeling of events and time-sensitive user interests and intents, which were rarely addressed in the literature. There have been preliminary efforts in the research and industrial communities to address algorithms, architectures, evaluation methodologies and metrics.

We aim to bring together practitioners and researchers to discuss their recent breakthroughs and the challenges with addressing time-aware information access, both from the algorithmic and the architectural perspectives.

This workshop is a successor to the successful SIGIR 2012 Workshop on Time Aware Information Access (#TAIA2012).[1] Where the 2012 edition was the first to bring together a broad set of academic and industrial researchers around the topic of time-aware information access, the specific focus of this workshop is on the many time-aware benchmarking activities that are ongoing in 2013.

1. SCOPE

We solicited submissions related to all aspects of time-sensitive information access. TAIA 2013 has a special focus on evaluation and on the collaborative benchmarking activities that are happening this year:

- Temporal summarization (or works in progress for the TREC 2013 task).
- Real-time search (or works in progress for the TREC 2013 task), including, real-time trends in social circles, real time events vs. real time queries, aggregated search answers for real-time searches, and other related issues.
- Dynamic information extraction and updating (or works in progress for TREC 2013 Knowledge Base Acceleration (KBA) and Temporal Summarization tracks).

Research questions include: How can these tasks be approached? Are they measuring the right thing? What do they teach us? What is missing?

In addition, TAIA 2013 solicited contributions on the following issues that complement today's benchmarking activities and that may inform future versions of these activities:

- Publicly available dynamic collections (e.g. Wikipedia edits, Wikipedia page requests, Twitter and news streams).
- Evaluation methodologies for time-sensitive tasks.
- Timeline creations and summarizations
- Temporal natural language processing tasks and techniques
- Time-sensitive ranking, including, effective ranking for time-sensitive queries, optimizing for both freshness and relevance, evaluating the results for time sensitive queries, etc.
- Temporal changes in document contents.
- Understanding Web dynamics, including trends and other temporal analysis on web and social graphs.

[1] `http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/people/milads/taia2012.aspx`

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