Preface

This proceedings contains the accepted papers of the SIGIR 2018 Workshop on eCommerce (ECOM18), a full day workshop that took place on July 12, 2018 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. The workshop was held in conjunction with SIGIR 2018. The purpose of the workshop was to serve as a platform for publication and discussion of Information Retrieval and NLP research and their applications in the domain of eCommerce.

eCommerce Information Retrieval has received little attention in the academic literature, yet it is an essential component of some of the largest web sites (such as eBay, Amazon, Airbnb, Alibaba, Taobao, Target, Facebook, and others). The SIGIR 2018 Workshop on eCommerce (ECOM18) brought together researchers and practitioners of eCommerce IR to discuss topics unique to it, to set a research agenda going forward, and to examine how to build a data set for research. Our primary motivation as organizers of this workshop was to create a community and act as a forum to discuss interesting research challenges in the eCommerce domain.

The workshop drew contributions from both industry as well as academia, in total the workshop received twenty five submissions, and accepted twenty (80%). The submissions were reviewed by an international program committee of high repute experts in the field, formed from representatives of several eCommerce companies and academic institutions. Each submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers. In addition to presentation of a subset of accepted submissions, the workshop had two keynotes by invited speakers from the industry, a poster session where all the accepted submissions were presented, a breakout session, a panel discussion, and a group discussion.

New in 2018 was a data challence. The task, Taxonomy Classification for eCommerce-scale Product Catalogs, was organised and run by Rakuten. A total of twenty eight runs were submitted with thirteen participants submitting papers explaining their approach.

We would like to thank the Program committee members of the workshop for the their participation and reviewing. We would like to thank SIGIR for hosting us.

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