Preface

This volume contains the working notes of the evaluation tracks organized as part of the Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE). Continuing the tradition of FIRE, the shared tasks promote evaluation-driven research in information retrieval and natural language processing across diverse languages, domains, and real-world settings.

Call for tracks: Since its inception in 2008, FIRE had a strong focus on shared tasks similar to those offered at Evaluation forums like TREC, CLEF, and NTCIR. The shared tasks focus on solving specific problems in the area information access and, more importantly help in generating evaluation datasets for the research community. It is not required for the tasks to focus on a specific language, and they can broadly cover any problem in the fields related (but not limited) to IR, NLP, multi-modal information access, and ML. However, the organizers especially encourage proposals for tracks related to South Asian, African, and Middle Eastern languages. In the past, FIRE has hosted tracks from Arabic, Persian, German, Russian, and Urdu languages besides several Indian languages. We aim to continue these efforts and include more language groups from these regions.

A major focus of this edition is misinformation analysis and social media understanding. Prompt RecOvery For Misinformation Detection (PROMID) addresses multilingual and prompt-based misinformation detection, while Hate Speech and Offensive Content Identification in Memes in Bengali, Hindi, Gujarati and Bodo (HASOC) focuses on identifying harmful and offensive content in online media. Complementary challenges related to multilingual and code-mixed data are explored in Code-Mixed Information Retrieval from Social Media Data (CMIR), Cross-Lingual Mathematical Information Retrieval (CLMIR), Spoken Query Cross-Lingual Information Retrieval for the Indic Languages (SqCLIR), Word-Level Identification of Languages in Dravidian Languages (WILD), and Offensive Language Identification in Dravidian Languages (DravidianCodeMix), reflecting the linguistic diversity of user-generated content.

Several tracks address domain-specific and applied information access. Opinion Extraction and Question Answering from CryptoCurrency-Related Tweets and Reddit posts (CryptOQA) investigates question answering in the cryptocurrency domain, Information Retrieval in Software Engineering (IRSE) focuses on retrieval from software artifacts, and Research Highlight Generation from Scientific Papers (SciHigh) addresses challenges in scientific document processing. The Varanasi Tourism in Question Answer System (VATIKA) explores domain-focused question answering, while Multilingual Story Illustration: Bridging Cultures through AI Artistry (MUSIA) focuses on multimodal and creative AI applications.

Review process and Management: All tracks have separate program committees consisting of co-ordinators and reviewers. The coordinators manage the track logistics, including releasing the task description, providing the training data, evaluating the results, and addressing participants' queries. They assign reviewers to ensure that each submitted paper receives at least two reviews.

The overview papers accompanying each track describe the task definitions, datasets, and evaluation methodologies. We thank the track organizers, reviewers, and participating teams for their valuable contributions, which have made this edition of FIRE a successful and collaborative effort.

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Thomas Mandl
Sukomal Pal
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Code-Mixed Information Retrieval from Social Media Data (CMIR)

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Offensive Language Identification in Dravidian Languages (Dravidian Code Mix)

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Spoken Query Cross-Lingual Information Retrieval for the Indic Languages (SqCLIR)

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Research Highlight Generation from Scientific Papers (SciHigh)

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Word-Level Identification of Languages in Dravidian Languages (WILD)

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Varanasi Tourism in Question Answer System (VATIKA)

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