

EuroHCIR2013 - the 3rd European Workshop on Human-Computer Interaction and Information Retrieval

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ABSTRACT

A proposal summary for the EuroHCIR workshop at SIGIR2013.

Categories and Subject Descriptors

H.3.3 [Information Search and Retrieval]: Search process.

H.5.2 [User Interfaces]: Interaction styles

Keywords

Human-computer interaction, information retrieval, HCIR.

1. THEME & PURPOSE

The purpose of EuroHCIR is to push the agenda of understanding the role that HCI has with IR systems, beyond Interactive IR. Alongside the popular American HCIR series, EuroHCIR aims to stimulate this focus in the large European community. While the previous two workshops have taken place at more HCI focused conferences (BCS-HCI and IiX2012), the particular purpose of running EuroHCIR2013 at SIGIR2013 is to better engage with the core IR community, on extended search scenarios like holiday planning, entertainment, and casual browsing. Engaging with the IR community is extremely timely, amongst the context of the recent NII Shonan meeting on whole-session IR evaluation (organised by Dumais, Belkin, Sanderson, and Kando), and the similarly focused forthcoming Dagstuhl in 2013.

HCIR, or Human-Computer Information Retrieval, is a phrase coined by Marchionini in 2005 [1] and is representative of the growing interest in uniting both those who are interested in how information systems are built (IR community) and those who are interested in how humans search for information (HCI and Information Seeking). The two fields have both developed innovative techniques to support search, but their insights often do not bridge disciplinary borders.

Five increasingly popular workshops and an NSF funded event brought focus to this multi-disciplinary issue in the USA; HCIR became a 2-day symposium in 2012. In Europe, we have had 2 increasingly successful workshops. EuroHCIR2013 builds on the worldwide momentum and focuses on the developing HCIR community in Europe.

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2. MOTIVATION & APPROPRIATENESS

Our particular motivation for holding the 3rd EuroHCIR at SIGIR is to more purposefully engage the core IR community. The previous two workshops have engaged the human-focused communities well, and led to many design and human-evaluation papers, but fewer IR measure and systems papers. One notable exception was Smucker & Clarke's introduction to Time-Based Gain measure [2], which is the sort of paper that we'd like to encourage in 2013. Further, EuroHCIR naturally lures researchers from the HCI and IIR communities, and so hosting EuroHCIR at SIGIR helps bring those people to the IR community. The reverse has so far been less successful. Consequently, we propose that the combination of EuroHCIR at SIGIR is a crucial step towards creating a space to encourage more IR and HCI integration.

2.1 Workshop Goals

The EuroHCIR workshops have three main goals:

1. Present and discuss novel HCIR designs, systems, and findings.
2. Identify and unite European researchers and industry professionals working in this area.
3. Facilitate and encourage collaboration and joint academic and industry ventures.

EuroHCIR2013 at SIGIR2013 has a specific 4th goal:

4. Engage directly with the IR community

2.2 Topics

The following topics are common to the HCIR events but have been re-prioritised to engage the IR community:

- IR systems for extended sessions (e.g. holiday planning, entertainment, and casual browsing)
- Simulation of extended IR sessions and tasks
- Modelling and evaluation of HCIR / IR
- Novel interaction techniques for IR
- Exploratory search and information discovery
- Application of HCI techniques to IR in specific domains

3. REFERENCES

- [1] G. Marchionini. Toward human-computer information retrieval. *ASIST Bulletin*, 32(5):20, 2006.
- [2] M. Smucker and C. Clarke. The fault, dear researchers, is not in cranfield, but in our metrics, that they are unrealistic. In *EuroHCIR2012*, pages 11–12, 2012.