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# Advances in Information Retrieval

34th European Conference on IR Research, ECIR 2012  
Barcelona, Spain, April 1-5, 2012  
Proceedings

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# Preface

These proceedings contain the high-quality papers, posters, and demonstrations presented at the 34th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR 2012), held during April 1–5, 2012, in Barcelona, Spain. The conference was jointly organized by Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra and the Barcelona Media Foundation. It was supported by the Information Retrieval Specialist Group at the British Computer Society (BCS-IRSG) and in cooperation with the Special Interest Group in Information Retrieval of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM SIGIR).

ECIR 2012 received a total of 261 submissions across four categories: 163 full-paper submissions, 78 poster submissions, 11 demonstration submissions and 9 industry track submissions. Of these submissions, 66% were from Europe, 17% from Asia, 14% from America and 3% from the rest of the world. All submissions were reviewed, across all categories, by at least three members of a large international Program Committee to whom we express all our gratitude. Of the 167 full papers submitted to the main research and industry tracks, 37 were selected for oral presentation (a 22% acceptance rate). In addition, 28 posters and 7 demonstrations were accepted. The accepted contributions represent the state of the art in information retrieval and cover a diverse range of topics, including many novel applications that were of interest to all the audience.

ECIR 2012 also included two invited talks. The first talk was given by Paolo Boldi (University of Milan), who presented graph algorithms for Web search and social networks. The second talk was on the impact of usage data on Web search and was given by Yoelle Maarek (Yahoo! Labs Haifa). In addition, the conference included five tutorials (expert finding and entity search in the Web, question answering, quantum IR, music IR, and search experience), three workshops (task-based and aggregated search, IR over query sessions and searching for fun) and a student-mentoring program. We wish to thank Alvaro Barreiro, David Losada and Mounia Lalmas, respectively, for these tasks. We also want to thank the Organizing Committee, represented by Roi Blanco, Aristides Giannis and Mari-Carmen Marcos, especially the latter who was in charge of the local arrangements. Finally, special thanks to our sponsors, Google (platinum), Microsoft Research (gold) and Yahoo! Labs (gold).

January 2012

Ricardo Baeza-Yates  
Arjen de Vries  
Hugo Zaragoza  
B. Barla Cambazoglu  
Vanessa Murdock  
Ronny Lempel  
Fabrizio Silvestri

# Organization

The conference was jointly organized by Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra and the Barcelona Media Foundation. It was supported by the Information Retrieval Specialist Group at the British Computer Society (BCS-IRSG) and in cooperation with the Special Interest Group in Information Retrieval of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM SIGIR).

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