

Message from the Organizing Chair


This volume is the formal record of more than a year of activities of the third NII Test Collection for Information Retrieval (NTCIR) Workshop. Based on two preceding successes of NTCIR-I in 1998-1999 and NTCIR-II in 2000, this third Workshop could have marked another milestone in the history of NII research activities.

Since the foundation of the National Institute of Informatics (NII) in 2000, it has steadily broadened in the number of research staff and the scope of research activities. Among research activities promoted by NII, the NTCIR project is regarded as one of the most important collaborative projects for the research community.

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the participants of the Workshop from 9 countries. The number of participating groups and countries has increased and this shows that our Workshop has established its standing as the forum of researchers of cutting edge information access technologies. This time, we are very pleased to have succeeded in compiling cross-lingual test collections in cooperation with our Taiwanese and Korean colleagues. This international collaboration is one of the proofs of the effectiveness of our project.

Secondly, I would like to thank MEXT and other organizations which have financially helped us and have given permission for the use of databases for the Workshop. These are the sources of our success. The resultant test collections compiled through the Workshops will be effectively utilized by many research groups inside and outside Japan for many research applications.

For us, the Workshop organizers, the feedback we could get through the Workshop will greatly help us develop the next NTCIR activities. On behalf of the organizing staff, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all of the people who attended and worked for the NTCIR workshop.



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