# Special Track on: INFORMATION ACCESS AND RETRIEVAL

For the past twenty-nine years the ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC) has been a primary and international forum for applied computer scientists, computer engineers and application developers to gather, interact and present their work. The ACM Special Interest Group on Applied Computing (SIGAPP) is the sole sponsor of SAC. The conference proceedings are published by ACM and are also available online through ACM's Digital Library.

## Important Dates

**September 12, 2014**: Submission of regular papers and SRC research abstracts
**November 17, 2014:** Notification of paper and SRC acceptance/rejection
**December 08, 2014:** Camera-ready copies of accepted papers/SRC
**December 15, 2014**: Author registration due date

**April 14, 2015:** SRC Poster Presentations
**April 15, 2015:** SRC Oral Presentations

## Track Chairs

Gabriella Pasi (Università di Milano Bicocca) and Gloria Bordogna (CNR IREA )

## Special Track on Information Access and Retrieval (IAR - SAC 2015)

Information Retrieval (IR) can be considered as the first historical research area aimed at defining systems for automatically accessing huge amounts of unstructured information. In the past 30 years, IR has grown well beyond its primary goals of indexing and searching textual documents in static bibliographic collections, and has moved away from the perception of being the narrow area of interest of librarians and information experts. With the diffusion of the Internet the term "big data" has become of common use to indicate huge amount of both unstructured and structured data on the Web and techniques to deal with them.

Information access technologies of big data, are currently being used in many different application contexts. A widespread diversification and specialization of information retrieval technologies have been developed such as Recommender Systems and Information Filtering systems, Question Answering Systems, Geographic and spatial data infrastructures, social information systems and services.

These new technologies reflect the evolution of the research on information access and retrieval that has moved from considering the problems posed by the management of textual information such as the modelling, design, implementation and evaluation of systems that provide a fast and effective access to large amount of textual documents, to deal with the problems posed by systems managing a large amount of distributed

multimedia information, heterogeneous with respect to many aspects such as formats, types, genres, authorships and quality.

The main issues of the research in this field is providing effective means both to express information needs, to identify user intents and interests, to analyse the retrieved results by estimating the relevance of documents to user information needs and intentions, to identify the trusted information sources. These are complex tasks which depend on several factors among which the subjective and multi-dimensional nature of relevance, both user's and documents' context, and the documents' nature as well.

The definition of new models as well as the application of models and techniques in standard experimental contexts to new application areas are very challenging tasks that deserve a great attention by the researchers. Nowadays, research in information access includes web page indexing, classification, structuring and spatio-temporal analysis, users and context-modelling, personalization of information access and visualization, flexible query languages, topic and event detection and tracking, management of multi-lingual information, content indexing of audio-visual information, collaborative searching and retrieval in social contexts, quality-based ranking, geographic information indexing, representation, retrieval, sharing and ranking.

## Topics

This special track is concerned with the theory, implementation and evaluation of information access technologies to novel application areas and novel contexts. This is the 13th edition of this track in the context of SAC.

We invite submission of original research contributions, and experimentations in emerging fields such as Context-based and personalized IR, crowed-sourced and Volunteered Geographic Information access, analysis and retrieval, Collaborative search and retrieval, User Interfaces for information access, presentation, and exploration of web results, retrieval in social applications, quality assessment in Information retrieval.

The topics of interest include:

- Big data clustering and categorization,
- Content indexing of multimedia information,
- Semantic, conceptual, ontology-based indexing and retrieval,
- Users' modelling and personalization in IR and filtering,
- Context-based IR and filtering,
- Quality-based ranking,
- Flexible query languages,
- Topic and event detection and tracking,
- Cross language retrieval,
- Collaborative information searching and filtering,
- (Mobile) Search engines and location-based services,
- Models of information access and retrieval,
- Applications of advanced information access and retrieval systems,
- Web Recommendation systems

Geographic Information indexing and retrieval

## Guidelines for Submission:

Original full papers and Student Research (SRC) Abstracts from the above mentioned or other
related areas will be considered. Submissions fall into the following categories: Original and unpublished work Reports of innovative computing applications in the arts, sciences, engineering, and business areas Reports of successful technology transfer to new problem domains Reports of industrial experience and demos of new innovative systems

Peer groups with expertise in the track focus area will blindly review submissions to that track. Each submitted paper will be reviewed by at least three referees. Accepted papers will be published in the annual conference proceedings. Submission guidelines can be found on SAC 2015 Website http://www.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac2015/

Papers and SRC Abstracts should be submitted per track using the provided automated submission system via the website. Submission of the same paper and SRC Abstract to multiple tracks is not allowed.
Submissions must follow the template reported at the conference web site.
Further information on SRC Abstracts are provided in the Call for SRC Abstracts at:

http://www.acm.org/conferences/sac/sac2015/SAC2015-CFSRC.pdf

Each full paper can have a length of 6 pages according to the template, with a maximum of 2 extra pages in the camera ready format. There will be a charge for extra pages.
Submissions should be printable on a standard printer on common paper formats, such as US letter and A4.
The author(s) name(s) and address(es) **must NOT appear** in the body of the paper, and self reference should be in the third person. This is to facilitate blind review.

**Notice that** Full Papers that **report the author names will not be sent to the reviews and will be rejected.**

**Paper registration is required, allowing the inclusion of the paper/poster in the conference proceedings**. **An author or a proxy attending SAC MUST present the paper:** This is a requirement for the paper/poster to be included in the ACM/IEEE digital library. No-show of scheduled papers and posters will result in excluding them from the ACM/IEEE digital library."

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