



PROMISE

Participative Research labOratory for Multimedia
and Multilingual Information Systems Evaluation

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First PROMISE Summer School

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Abstract

This document describes the activities carried out for fulfilling deliverable 7.7, the first PROMISE summer school. The activity related to the deliverable, originally planned by August 2012, has been anticipated by 7 months to January 2012 and it has been organized as a winter school instead of a summer school. The topic of the winter school was *From Information Retrieval to Information Visualization* and it was organized in the small ski resort of Zinal in Switzerland. The winter school has been a success under several aspects: quality of the scientific program, participation, and overall satisfaction of the participants.



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Executive Summary

The PROMISE Consortium has decided to anticipate by 7 months – to January 2012 respect to August 2012, as originally planned – the first PROMISE “summer” school that has been organized as a winter school instead of a summer school. The focus of the winter school has been *From Information Retrieval to Information Visualization* and it has been organized in the small ski resort of Zinal in Switzerland. The winter school has been a success under several aspects: quality of the scientific program, participation, and overall satisfaction of the participants.

The school has been well attended by participants who came from the domain of Information Retrieval or the one of Information Visualization and offered them the possibility of starting to acquire cross-disciplinary competencies. Interestingly enough, the school turned out to be a brainstorming and discussion opportunity also for the lecturers, since they had the occasion of meeting colleagues from a quite different field with their own perspectives on a ground of shared topics and challenges, such as how to envision models and design systems around user needs, how to consider the user interaction and context, how to conduct evaluation, and so on.

The lectures have been 17 and they have covered all the relevant topics. The lecturers came from academia and industry. 62 participants from 25 countries and all continents but Australia and the four organizers followed the courses and helped to create many lively discussions and an open atmosphere with many questions. Also most of the lecturers stayed for the entire week and enriched the discussions as well.

Being in a remote place has the inconvenience to complicate organization but has the advantage that people stay together beyond the courses, so in the free time during the day and the evenings. This included many lively discussions accompanied sometimes by a beer. On the other hand, over 20 participants had to be rejected due to a lack of hotel room and several of the participants had to share rooms to optimize the number of participants.

The following institutions cooperated in supporting the winter school: the Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale (CUSO), the Khresmoi¹ (contract n. 257528) and CULTURA² (contract n. 269973) projects, as part of the 7th Framework Program of the European Commission, the ELIAS³ research networking programme of the European Science Foundation, and the HES-SO (Haute Ecole Spécialisé de Suisse Occidental) supported the organization of the winter school financially.

All participants had the possibility to present their own work during the first day of the winter school at the evening welcome reception that took two hours and started many discussions among the participants. Around 25 posters were presented. An evaluation and selection of the posters was performed and a symbolic best poster award was attributed to the three best posters. The posters were then kept on the walls for the entire week and many lively discussions were going on during the coffee breaks in front of the posters.

An analysis of the evaluation forms after the winter school highlighted that most students very much enjoyed (more than 90% of the participants) the winter school and the atmosphere among

¹<http://www.khresmoi.eu/>

²<http://www.cultura-strep.eu/>

³<http://www.elias-network.eu/>

participants and with the lecturers. Most presentations were liked (about 90% of the participants) but sometimes the introductory presentations were regarded as too simply for a majority of PhD students. The students were generally interested in the different topics offered by the school (about 90% of the participants).

The proceedings of the lectures of the winter school are currently under preparation and will be published in the Springer Tutorials series.

As far as planning for the next school to be organized by the PROMISE project, the topic selected is "Evaluation as a bridge between Information Retrieval and DataBases" and it will be tentatively organized as another winter school to be held in Bressanone, Italy, in early February 2013, thus anticipating its original scheduling of August 2013.

1 Introduction

In the context of the European Union (EU) funded research project PROMISE, a winter school was organized in the small ski resort of Zinal, Valais, Switzerland from the 23 to the 27 of January, 2012⁴. The winter school was originally planned as a summer school to be held in August 2012 but it was found more effective to anticipate it by 7 months in order to be proactive in disseminating the outcomes and viewpoint of PROMISE on the experimental evaluation.

The title of the winter school was *From Information Retrieval to Information Visualization* and the goal was to bring together these two research domains that are currently quite separated but have an important potential to help each other in advancing the fields.

Indeed, the school was attended by participants who came from one domain or the other and offered them the possibility of starting to acquire cross-disciplinary competencies. Interestingly enough, the school turned out to be a brainstorming and discussion opportunity also for the lecturers, since they had the occasion of meeting colleagues from a quite different field with their own perspectives on a ground of shared topics and challenges, such as how to envision models and design systems around user needs, how to consider the user interaction and context, how to conduct evaluation, an so on.

17 high quality lecturers from academia and industry were invited to speak on a large variety of topics from introduction talks to hot topics such as crowd sourcing and social media. 62 participants from 25 countries and all continents but Australia and the four organizers followed the courses and helped to create many lively discussions and an open atmosphere with many questions. Also most of the speakers stayed for the entire week and enriched the discussions as well.

Being in a remote place has the inconvenience to complicate organization but has the advantage that people stay together beyond the courses, so in the free time during the day and the evenings. This included many lively discussions accompanied sometimes by a beer. On the other hand, over 20 participants had to be rejected due to a lack of hotel room and several of the participants had to share rooms to optimize the number of participants.

The document is organized as follows: Section 2 describes in detail the scientific program of the school and the lectures given; Section 3 reports on the poster session, demonstrating the current research activities of the students attending the school, and the best poster award. Section 4 reports on the user satisfaction survey that has been conducted. Section 5 describes the activities carried out for the scientific dissemination and advertising of the school while Section 6 summarizes the different organizations, projects, and institutions that have collaborated to the school. Finally, Section 7 draws some conclusions and gives an outlook for the next school which will be organized by PROMISE. Appendix A describes the organizing committee of the school, while Appendix B lists the participants who have attended the school, and Appendix C details the program of the school.

2 Lectures

A total of 17 lecturers presented each time 90 minutes on a specific topic. The goal was to have every day aspects of information retrieval (IR) and information visualization (IV), so as to mix the

⁴<http://www.promise-noe.eu/events/winter-school-2012/>

topics and interests of the participants as much as possible.

Introduction to Information Retrieval – Keith van Rijsbergen, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

The introduction to information retrieval explained the main concepts and history of more than 50 years of the research domain of information retrieval, taking into consideration both modeling and experimentation. After detailing the main concepts and providing reference to many interesting papers, Prof. van Rijsbergen moved to more advanced topics, such as the impact of the notion of relevance on its probabilistic modeling and the application of geometry and quantum probability notions to develop an IR model.

Introduction to Information Visualization – Alan Dix, Lancaster University, UK

Similar to the introduction to information retrieval, a basic lecture in information visualization was given by Prof. Dix in a very lively fashion. He discussed the notion of visualization and its relation with direct sensory experience, the benefits of exploiting visualization to represent data and information. He provided several examples of both static and interactive visualizations that have been developed over the time.

HCI Principles – Maria Francesca Costabile, University of Bari, Italy

In this lecture, Prof. Costabile covered the definition of Human-Computer interaction (HCI) and its multidisciplinary nature. She also talked about the notion of usability, by also providing several examples of it. Then, she illustrated how to exploit HCI principles to design and develop usable systems with particular reference to the notion of user experience. Finally, she introduced how to apply HCI principles to the evaluation of systems.

HCI View of Information Retrieval Evaluation – Tiziana Catarci, Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

Prof. Catarci tried to combine the domains of information retrieval, human-computer interaction, and usability to come up with an HCI viewpoint on IR evaluation where user interface techniques, interaction measures, usability models and usability evaluation can actually help in carrying out evaluation of IR systems. To this end, she presented several IR evaluation metrics and measures of information needs with the goal of sketching a framework for usability evaluation in IR.

User-oriented Information Retrieval – Elaine Toms, University of Sheffield, UK

This lecture went into the details of the different models of information that describe the information use environment and position information retrieval within the real world context. In particular, Prof. Toms covered the issue of describing the problem space entailed by information retrieval in context and discussed the notion of “search task” as one step in the processing of performing a larger “work task” that is part of “work system” that may be impacted by situation.

Evaluating User-oriented IR, Kalervo Järvelin, University of Tampere, Finland

Prof. Järvelin explained the basic concepts of evaluation, ranging from batch laboratory evaluation to user-centered evaluation, linking this concept to the previous lectures on user-oriented IR and HCI view on IR evaluation. He introduced the notion of simulation, as a kind of bridge between laboratory evaluation and user-centered evaluation. Finally, he presented the evaluation of operational systems and discussed how evaluation both needs a theory of the system being evaluated and helps to construct a theory such system.

Multilingual Information Retrieval – Jacques Savoy, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Prof. Savoy presented the many aspects and challenges of multilingual information retrieval and also the differences of meaning in the same languages. He discussed the problems related to indexing multilingual documents – e.g. encoding, word decompounding, stemming – the translation problem and different alternatives for it, and matching queries and documents in a multilingual scenario. Many practical examples made it clear how difficult the multilingual and multicultural aspects of information retrieval are.

Multimedia Information Retrieval – Stéphane Marchand-Maillet, University of Geneva, Switzerland

The presentation on multimedia retrieval showed many of the difficulties to extract useful data from multimedia data such as images and videos and use this alone or in combination with text for retrieval. The presentation also explained many of the currently used techniques including machine learning applications that have helped to leverage multimedia retrieval and make it a useful tool in many specialized application domains. Multimedia data analysis is very different from text analysis and the semantic gap, the mismatch between user interpretation and machine comprehension of multimedia raw data still persists.

Bibliometrics/Scientometrics and IR – Peter Ingwersen, Royal School of Library and Information Science, Denmark

The lecture introduced the concepts and definitions of bibliometrics, scientometrics, and Webometrics and how IR is necessary to support the data collection and analyses of these disciplines. Then, Prof. Ingwersen discussed how to conduct reference and citation analysis and provided several examples of visualizations that allow us to study the evolution of a research fields, e.g. in terms of its authors and their relationships.

TREC Style Evaluation– Donna Harman, National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA

The presentation provided many insights on the motivation, history, and benefits of laboratory evaluation. Starting from the early work of Cleverdon for the Cranfield experiments, Dr. Harman discussed the whole methodology concerning test collection creation and the related challenges such as completeness and robustness of the relevance judgments. She provided many examples concerning

the TREC evaluation campaign. Moreover, she provided students with a series of how-tos about participation in evaluation campaigns, re-use of existing collections in your own experimentation, and design of your own test collection.

Metrics, Statistics, Tests – Stephen Robertson, Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK

Prof. Robertson provided many insights about metrics and the type of variables you can observe and went into the details of the IR evaluation tradition. He covered metrics based on relevance and assumptions about them, he presented work on commercial Web search engines, and discussed on questions of statistical significance. Finally, he gave an outlook of possible future directions beyond Cranfield, such as considering sessions rather than single queries or focusing on information rather than documents.

Number Visualization – Giuseppe Santucci, Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

Prof. Santucci discussed how to present and visualize quantitative information via tables and graphs. In particular, he provided several examples of good and bad graphs in order to distill a set of guidelines and rules to be followed. Then, he presented the basic rules of quantitative perception and the role of interaction in information visualization and provided two examples of application of such concepts to the visualization of experimental results coming from the IR evaluation.

Visual Analytics – Silvia Miksch, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

The lecture presented the motivations for visual analytics, meant as the science of analytical reasoning facilitated by interactive visual interfaces. Prof. Miksch discussed how visual analytics intersects three areas, namely visualization and interaction, computation and mining, and human perception and cognition. She introduced several examples of visual and interactive prototypes with a particular focus on text and document visualizations and visual analytics of time-oriented data.

Web Personalisation – Owen Conlan and Vincent P. Wade, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

The lecture concerned the motivations behind personalization in the Web and its potential impact. Dr. Conlan defined personalisation, presented several of its dimensions, the techniques for adapting content, and the approaches for user modelling. The whole problem of personalization was then framed in the wider context of the history and evolution of adaptive hypermedia. Case studies from the CULTURA and AMAS projects were discussed.

Log File Analysis – Maarten de Rijke, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Prof. de Rijke discussed log analysis from the standpoint of the behaviour – observable activities of a person, a team, a system – we can detect and record in log files. He highlighted how logs allow us to trace data and actions and not just to have access to isolated snapshots. He presented the impact of log analysis, in terms system design and optimization and improvement of models of user interaction and behaviour. Several examples of logs have been introduced and several techniques

for analysing them have been explained. Finally, a number of uses of log files has been discussed such as, for example, query expansion and suggestion, simulation, learning to rank, and interleaved comparison.

Crowdsourcing – Gareth Jones, Dublin City University, Ireland

Prof. Jones talked about crowdsourcing as a form of human computation and how the availability of crowdsourcing services is now making human computation easily available to the research community. He provided several examples of implicit or explicit crowdsourcing systems and alternative platforms that are available to develop and implement them. Then, he discussed the challenges involved in crowdsourcing, such as recruitment, reputation, payment and incentives, and spam detection. Finally, he applied crowdsourcing to IR evaluation and presented MediaEval as a case study.

Retrieval from Social Media – Alejandro Jaimes, Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Spain

Dr. Jaimes presented an intriguing view of what social media are, how they are shaping our lives, and why it is important to leverage on them both from a research and a commercial perspective. He discussed several examples of social media and application built over them, as well as how to exploit them for retrieval purposes. Finally, he discussed some future directions and possible interesting research issues on this topic.

3 Poster Session

All participants had the possibility to present their own work during the first day of the winter school at the evening welcome reception that took two hours and started many discussions among the participants. Around 25 posters were presented.

An evaluation and selection of the posters was performed and a symbolic best poster award – a bottle of excellent Swiss wine – was attributed to the three best posters.

The posters were then kept on the walls for the entire week and many lively discussions were going on during the coffee breaks in front of the posters.

4 Satisfaction Questionnaire

A satisfaction survey was conducted to assess the extent to which the participants enjoyed the winter school under several aspects which range from the scientific content to the logistics and organization.

Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the outcomes of the questionnaires. Over 90% of the participants had a good to very good overall impression and satisfaction of the winter school.

The scientific program and the quality of the lectures was from good to very good for over 70% over the participants which sums up to 90%, considering also the neutral ones. This finds also a

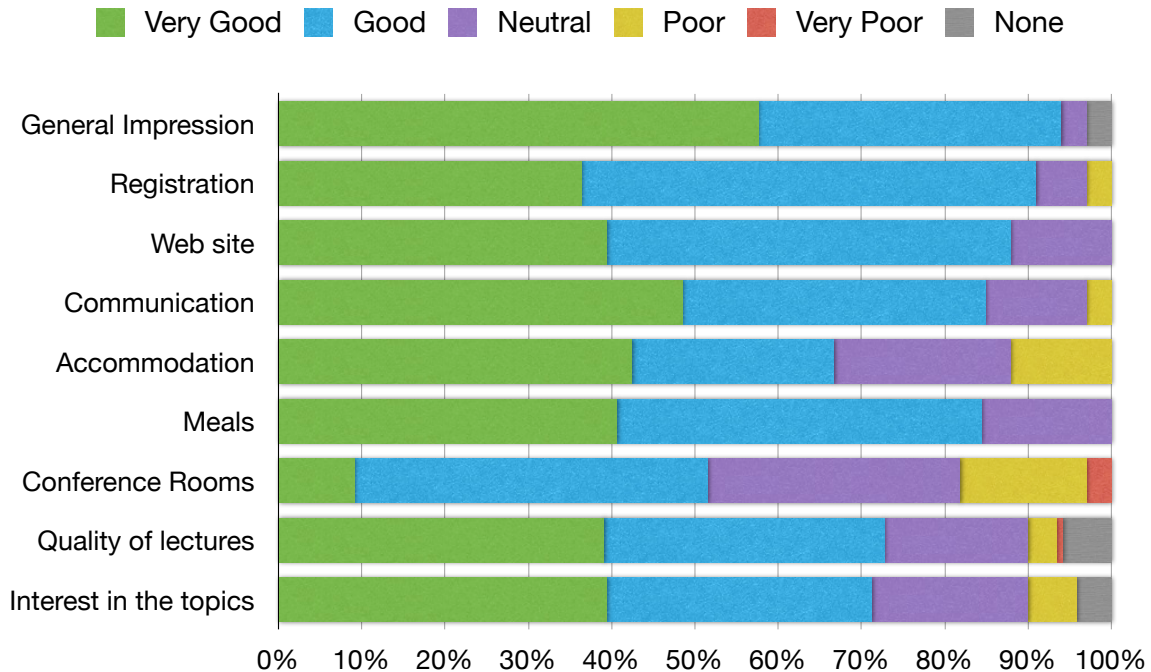


Figure 1: Breakdown of the user satisfaction questionnaire.

correspondence in the personal interest that participants had in the topics which was over 70% for good to very good and amounts to 90%, considering also the neutral ones.

As far as communication and dissemination is concerned, the satisfaction ranged between 80% and 90% for good to very good and come up to almost 100%, considering also the neutral ones.

Other aspects of the logistics were highly appreciated as well, ranging between 80% and 90%, considering also the neutral ones.

5 Dissemination and Advertising

5.1 Web site

A dedicated Web site⁵ was prepared and kept updated in order to disseminate information and news about the Winter school as well as making all the material of the Winter school available.

Figure 2 shows a screen shoot of the main page of the Web site. In particular, it provides information about:

- the program of the Winter school;
- the lecturers and their short biography;

⁵<http://www.promise-noe.eu/events/winter-school-2012/>

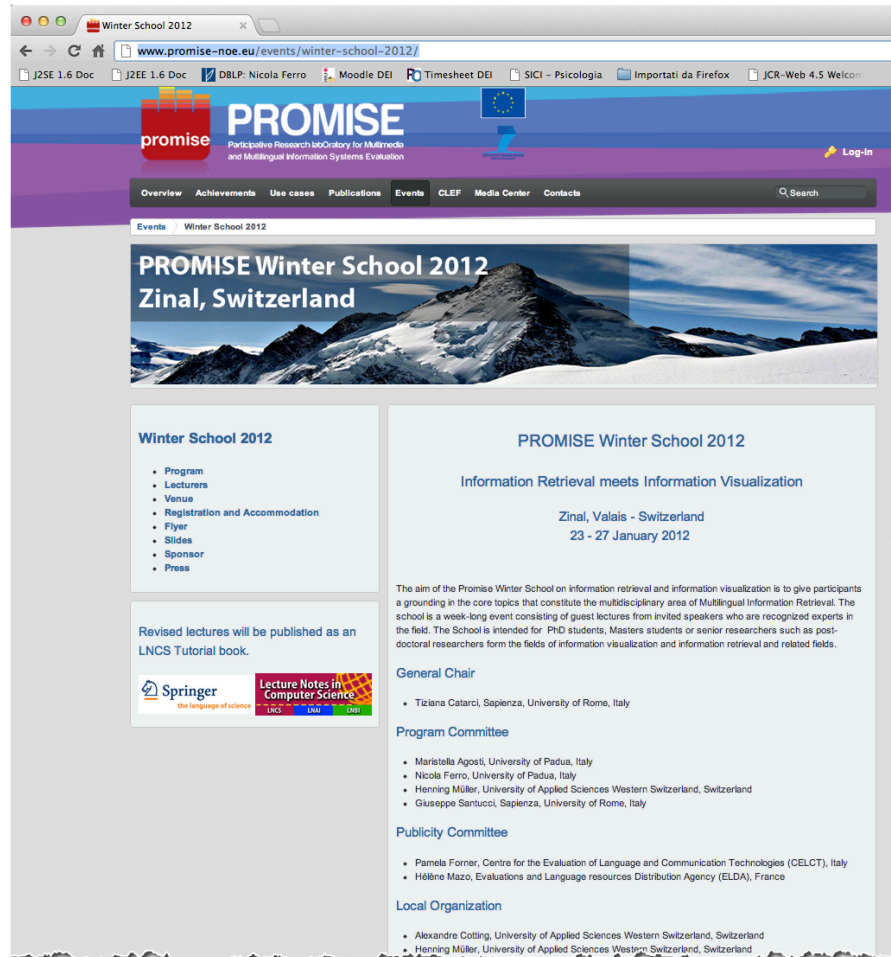


Figure 2: Main page of the PROMISE Winter School 2012 Web site.

- the venue;
- logistics for registration and accommodation;
- the flyer of the winter school;
- the slides of the lectures;
- the sponsors; and,
- press releases.



The flyer for the PROMISE Winter School 2012, held in Zinal, Valais, Switzerland, from January 23-27, 2012. The event focuses on Information Retrieval and Information Visualization. The flyer lists the General Chair (Tiziana Catarci), Programme Committee (Maurizio Agosti, Nicola Ferro, Henning Müller, Giuseppe Sanicci, Pamela Fomer, Hélène Mado), and Local Organization (Henning Müller and Alexandre Colling). It also includes details about the programme, registration fees, and how to get to Zinal.

General Chair
Tiziana Catarci
Second University of Rome, Italy

Programme Committee
Maurizio Agosti
University of Pavia, Italy
Nicola Ferro
University of Pavia, Italy
Henning Müller
University of Applied Sciences Western
Switzerland, Switzerland
Giuseppe Sanicci
Second University of Rome, Italy

Publicity Chair
Pamela Fomer
CLCT, Italy
Hélène Mado
ELIA, France

Local Organization
Henning Müller and Alexandre Colling
University of Applied Sciences Western
Switzerland, Switzerland

The aim of the Promise Winter School on Information retrieval and information visualization is to cover basic concepts in the core topics that constitute the multidisciplinary area of multilingual information retrieval.

The school is a week-long event consisting of guest lectures from invited speakers who are recognized experts in the field.

The School is intended for PhD students, Masters students or senior researchers such as post-doctoral researchers from the fields of information visualization, information retrieval and related fields.

Winter School 2012
Zinal, Valais - Switzerland
23 - 27 January 2012

Information Retrieval meets Information Visualization

Programme
Monday 23rd
14:00 Beginning of the Winter School
14:00 - 17:30 Lectures
17:30 - 21:00 Poster Session with Welcome reception

Tuesday 24th to Thursday 26th
8:30 - 12:30 Lectures
12:00 - 16:30 Skiing
16:30 - 20:00 Lectures
20:15 Dinner

Friday 27th
08:30 - 12:00 Lectures
12:00 end of the Winter School
Visit the web site for the detailed programme.

Accommodation
Participants will be accommodated at the Hotel Europe, the largest hotel in Zinal and in other hotels close by in the village.

Registration fees
Student (masters/PhD): 350€ / 450€ / 450€ *
Post doc / Academic: 450€ / 550€ **
Industry: 600€ / 650€ **
* meals non-inclusive
** meals non-inclusive
The fees include:
• admission to all lectures
• course material
• accommodation (including breakfast)
• daily coffee breaks - dinners - social event
• bus transportation from Zinal to Zinal (only at the beginning and the end of the school)
Lunches are not included.
Grants are available. Please contact us.

Where is Zinal?
Zinal is a village located at an altitude of 1670m, in the canton of Valais in Switzerland. It is a well-known ski resort of the Swiss Alps.

How to get to Zinal?
By plane
• To Geneva International Airport, then by train, Geneva-Sierre, and by bus, Sierre-Zinal.
• To Milano Malpensa Airport, then by train Milano-Sierre via Biella, and by bus Sierre-Zinal.
• To Zurich Airport, then by train Zurich-Sierre via Visp, and by bus Sierre-Zinal.
By car
All motorway to Sierre, then follow the road signposted to Zinal. The access roads are closed all year round. By train
The Swiss train network is very well connected to other European countries, such as France, Germany or Italy.
By train
The Swiss train is very well connected to other European countries, such as France, Germany or Italy. To Sierre railway station then by bus to Zinal.

More information:
www.promise-noe.eu/events/winter-school-2012
winter-school@promise-noe.eu

Network of Excellence co-funded by the 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission, grant agreement n. 258191
<http://www.promise-noe.eu>

Figure 3: Flyer of the PROMISE Winter School 2012.

5.2 Flyer and Poster

Figure 3 shows the flyer that was prepared and used to advertise and disseminate the program of the winter school during various events (conferences, workshops, meetings, . . .) in which PROMISE consortium members participated in the months before the school.

Figure 4 shows the poster that was been sent to all the institutions participating in and organizing the Winter school in order to be displayed at their sites and attract further audience.

5.3 Press Release

A press release about the PROMISE Winter school 2012 has been published in the "Nouveliste" (a local Swiss newspaper from Valais) on February 14, 2012.

5.4 Dissemination in the Scientific Community

The PROMISE Winter school 2012 was announced and advertised on several mailing lists and news letters:

- Evaluation Inivitatives
 - CLEF (Conference and Labs of Evaluation Forum, Europe)
 - TREC (Text Retrieval Conference, USA)
 - TRECvid (TREC Video Retrieval Evaluation, USA)
 - NTCIR (NII Test Collection for IR Systems, Japan)
 - FIRE (Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation, India)
- Research field news letters
 - SIG-IRList (ACM Special Interest Group on Information Retrieval (SIGIR) moderate newsletter)

Winter School 2012

Zinal, Valais - Switzerland
23 - 27 January 2012



Information Retrieval meets Information Visualization

General Chair
Tiziana Catarci

Program Committee
Maristella Agosti
Nicola Ferro
Henning Müller
Giuseppe Santucci

Publicity Committee
Pamela Forner
Hélène Mazo

Local Organization
Alexandre Cotting
Henning Müller

Topics and Lecturers

Introduction to IR - Keith van Rijsbergen
Introduction to IV - Alan Dix
HCI Principles - Maria Francesca Costabile
HCI View of Information Retrieval Evaluation - Tiziana Catarci
User-oriented Information Retrieval - Peter Ingwersen
Evaluating User-oriented IR - Kalervo Järvelin
Multilingual Information Retrieval - Jacques Savoy
Multimedia Information Retrieval - Stéphane Marchand-Maillet
TREC Style Evaluation - Donna Harman
Metrics, Statistics, Tests - Stephen Robertson
Number Visualization - Giuseppe Santucci
Visual Analytics - Silvia Miksch
Web Personalisation - Vincent P. Wade
Log File Analysis - Maarten de Rijke
Crowdsourcing - Gareth Jones
Retrieval from Social Media - Alejandro Jaimes



Photos by Franco Pechio

More information, write to:
winter-school@promise-noe.eu

Register @ <http://www.promise-noe.eu/events/winter-school-2012/registration>

Network of Excellence co-funded by the 7th Framework Program of the European Commission, grant agreement no. 258191

<http://www.promise-noe.eu/>

Figure 4: Poster of the PROMISE Winter School 2012.

LES RENDEZ-VOUS DE L'EMPLOI avec



HES-SO VALAIS «Winter school» à Zinal organisé par le projet européen PROMISE

L'école à la montagne pour les chercheurs

Du 23 au 27 janvier dernier, la HES-SO Valais organisait à Zinal une rencontre internationale de spécialistes de la recherche d'information et de la visualisation de l'information. Réunis essentiellement par un gros projet européen sur l'évaluation de la recherche d'informations, les participants ont partagé leur temps entre conférences, ateliers et activités sportives de saison.

Selon le site internet worldometers.com, la terre compte près de 2,5 milliards d'internautes. 2,5 milliards de personnes qui fouillent sur le net à la recherche d'informations. Et l'avènement des smartphones va faire exploser ce chiffre. Si les premiers utilisateurs du réseau étaient familiers de la langue anglaise, cela n'est évidemment plus le cas. Par ailleurs, netcraft.com enregistre une augmentation mensuelle de 4 ou 5% du nombre de sites internet actifs qui dépasse déjà 175 millions. L'accès aux informations est rendu doublement complexe: le volume de données croît de manière exponentielle et les langues du monde entier y sont désormais utilisées.

Un domaine d'investigation quasi infini s'ouvre ainsi aux chercheurs du monde entier:



Une septantaine de professionnels ont participé à la «winter school» de Zinal. ORK DE ROOF

comment faciliter l'accès à l'information au plus grand nombre d'utilisateurs. Les moteurs de recherche sont les sites les plus visités; l'internaute n'a généralement pas d'autre solution que d'y avoir recours, tant l'espace est immense. Malgré cette

aide, ses espoirs sont souvent déçus.

Echanges

Le projet européen PROMISE (Participative Research labOratory for Multimedia and Multilingual Information Systems

Evaluation) se veut une plateforme d'échange entre les divers organismes qui se préoccupent de l'efficacité de la recherche d'information sur l'internet. Dix instituts internationaux d'Italie, de Suède, de France, d'Allemagne ou de Suisse y participent.

La HES-SO Valais par son institut d'informatique de gestion est responsable d'un des volets du projet, l'évaluation des performances des systèmes de recherche d'information médicale. Cinq personnes y travaillent à temps partiel durant encore

deux ans. Le financement est assuré partiellement par la Commission européenne qui versera au total plus de 400 000 francs.

La HES-SO choisit Zinal

Un des objectifs du projet étant la divulgation des résultats des travaux, les partenaires organisent des conférences destinées aux professionnels de la branche (en grande partie des candidats au doctorat). En ce début d'année la HES-SO Valais a mis sur pied la première de ces manifestations. Le choix du lieu s'est porté sur la station anniviarde de Zinal. Les 70 participants proviennent de presque tous les continents (l'Australie n'est pas représentée par les 25 pays présents) et sont issus aussi bien des milieux économiques ou industriels que des institutions de recherche. Ils ont eu la possibilité de suivre la quinzaine de conférences que leur ont proposées la vingtaine d'intervenants. Parmi ces derniers figurent des professeurs d'université de renommée internationale mais aussi des responsables de recherche d'entreprises telles que Yahoo ou Microsoft. Les pistes de ski et le charme de la petite station sise au milieu des 4000 alpins ont sans aucun doute contribué à la réussite de cette winter school.

Figure 5: Press release about the PROMISE Winter School 2012 in the local Swiss press.

- DBWorld (ACM Special Interest Group on Management of Data (SIGMOD) moderated newsletter)
- BCS-IRSG list (Information Retrieval Special Interest Group of the BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, UK)
- ASIS-L (American Society for Information Science, General List)
- SIGDL-L (American Society for Information Science, Digital Libraries Interest Group)
- DBItaly (Italian information management systems – databases, information retrieval systems, digital libraries – moderated newsletter)
- European Projects
 - Khresmoi⁶
 - Cultura⁷

⁶<http://www.khresmoi.eu/>

⁷<http://www.cultura-strep.eu/>

- Elias⁸
- Europeana⁹

A brief report on the PROMISE Winter School was published in the D-lib Magazine, issue of March/April 2012¹⁰ [Müller, 2012].

A more detailed report was submitted to SIGIR Forum¹¹ and it appeared in the issue of June 2012 [Agosti et al., 2012].

Finally, a book of the lectures held during the winter school is under preparation and it will be published in the Springer LNCS tutorial series. It will also contain a short paper describing the best student poster evaluated during the poster session.

6 Collaborations and Sponsorships

Several institutions cooperated in supporting the winter school beyond PROMISE: the Conférence Universitaire de Suisse Occidentale (CUSO), the Khresmoi¹² (contract n. 257528) and CULTURA¹³ (contract n. 269973) projects, as part of the 7th Framework Program of the European Commission, and the ELIAS¹⁴ research networking programme of the European Science Foundation. Also the HES-SO (Haute Ecole Spécialisé de Suisse Occidental) supported the organization of the winter school financially.

7 Conclusions

The fact that participants were remaining close together during all five days of the winter school and had many possibilities to meet with the other participants and the lecturers gave place to many discussions and to a stimulating environment for both the participants and the lecturers.

Altogether the PROMISE winter school can be seen as a great success in connecting two research domains and allowing a large number of participants to get in contact with high quality lecturers and give them hopefully a better view of the research domains and also on the ways that they can evaluate their own research and profit from tools of visualization that are available. Most participants gave a very positive feedback and hopefully the proceedings of the winter school will also help to keep the main outcomes of the winter school available for the future and persons who could unfortunately not participate.

An analysis of the evaluation forms after the winter school highlighted that most students very much enjoyed (more than 90% of the participants) the winter school and the atmosphere among participants and with the lecturers. Most presentations were liked (about 90% of the participants)

⁸<http://www.elias-network.eu/>

⁹<http://www.europeana.eu/>

¹⁰<http://www.dlib.org/>

¹¹<http://www.sigir.org/forum/>

¹²<http://www.khresmoi.eu/>

¹³<http://www.cultura-strep.eu/>

¹⁴<http://www.elias-network.eu/>

but sometimes the introductory presentations were regarded as too simply for a majority of PhD students. The students were generally interested in the different topics offered by the school (about 90% of the participants) The place in a remote alpine valley was very much appreciated but the lack of a professional conference room and of limited infrastructures as lunch time were also regarded as problematic. Lectures of 90 minutes were regarded as too long and maybe short breaks after 45 minutes would have been a better option.

The proceedings of the lectures of the winter school are currently under preparation and will be published in the Springer Tutorials series.

As far as planning for the next school to be organized by the PROMISE project, the topic which has been selected is "Evaluation as a bridge between Information Retrieval and DataBases" and it will be tentatively organized as another winter school to be held in Bressanone, Italy, in early February 2013, thus anticipating its original scheduling of August 2013.

References

Agosti, M., Catarci, T., Ferro, N., Müller, H., and Santucci, G. (2012). PROMISE Winter School 2012 Information Retrieval meets Information Visualization. *SIGIR Forum*, 46(1):65–70.

Müller, H. (2012). Report on the PROMISE Winter School: Information Retrieval and Information Visualization. *D-Lib Magazine*, <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/march12/03inbrief.html>, 18(3/4).

A Organization

The PROMISE Winter School 2012 was organized by the University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland.

General Chair

- Tiziana Catarci, Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

Program Committee

- Maristella Agosti, University of Padua, Italy
- Nicola Ferro, University of Padua, Italy
- Henning Müller, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Switzerland
- Giuseppe Santucci, Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

Publicity Committee

- Pamela Forner, Centre for the Evaluation of Language and Communication Technologies (CELCT), Italy
- Hélène Mazo, Evaluations and Language resources Distribution Agency (ELDA), France

Local Organization

- Alexandre Cotting, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Switzerland
- Henning Müller, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Switzerland

B List of Participants

| Suranme | Name | Affiliation | Country |
|------------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Abbasi | Muhammad Kamran | University of Bedfordshire | U.K |
| Abdou | Samir | local.ch | Switzerland |
| Agosti | Maristella | University of Padova | Italy |
| Akasereh | Mitra | University of Neuchâtel | Switzerland |
| Al Kaff | Moh Ibrahim | | |
| Beauxis-Aussalet | Emmanuelle | CWI | The Netherlands |
| Berendsen | Richard | University of Amsterdam | The Netherlands |
| Bessai-Mechmache | Fatma Zohra | Research Center on Scientific and Technical Information | Algeria |
| Bhattacharjee | Debotosh | Jadavpur University | India |
| Boyandin | Ilya | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Bykova | Ksenia | Technische Universität Dresden | Germany |
| Calumby | Rodrigo | University of Feira de Santana / University of Campinas | Brazil |
| Camargo | Jorge | National University of Colombia | Colombia |
| Catarci | Tiziana | La Sapienza | Italy |
| Conlan | Owen | Trinity College Dublin | Ireland |
| Costabile | Maria Francesca | University of Bari | Italy |
| Cotting | Alexandre | HES-SO | Switzerland |
| Cr deville | Aline | Ecole de biblioth conomie et de Sciences de l'information | Canada |
| de Ribaupierre | H l ne | University of Geneva | Switzerland |
| de Rijke | Maarten | University of Amsterdam | The Netherlands |
| de Rooij | Ork | University of Amsterdam | The Netherlands |
| Dix | Alan | University of Glasgow | UK |
| Dungs | Sebastian | University Duisburg-Essen | Germany |
| Eklund | Ann-Marie | University of Gothenburg | Sweden |
| Ev quoz | Florian | HES-SO Valais | Switzerland |
| Ferro | Nicola | University of Padova | Italy |
| Floreskul | Volodymyr | University of Tartu | Estonia |

| Suranme | Name | Affiliation | Country |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Foncubierta Rodríguez | Antonio | HES-SO | Switzerland |
| Freitas | Andre | National University of Ireland | Ireland |
| Friberg Heppin | Karin | University of Gothenburg | Sweden |
| Galuscakova | Petra | Charles University in Prague | Czech Republic |
| García Seco de Herrera | Alba | HES-SO | Switzerland |
| Grilli | Luca | Vis4 | Italy |
| Guchev | Vladimir | La Sapienza | Italy |
| Gupta | Parth | UPV, Valencia | Spain |
| Harman | Donna | NIST | USA |
| Henriksson | Aron | Stockholm University | Sweden |
| Hirsbrunner | Béat | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Hosseinzadeh | Vahid Ali | Dokuz Eylul University | Turkey |
| Ingwersen | Peter | Royal Information Science School | Denmark |
| Jaimes | Alejandro | Yahoo! research | Spain |
| Järvelin | Kalervo | University of Tampere | Finland |
| Joël | Vogt | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Jones | Gareth | DCU | Ireland |
| Juergens | Julia | University of Hildesheim | Germany |
| Kacar | Ivana | Novi Sad | Serbia |
| Kreuzthaler | Markus | Medical University Graz | Austria |
| Lalanne | Denis | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Mahrholz | Nadine | University of Hildesheim | Germany |
| Marcel | Wehrle | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Marchand-Maillet | Stéphane | University of Geneva | Switzerland |
| Markonis | Dimitrios | HES-SO | Switzerland |
| Miksch | Silvia | Technical University of Vienna | Austria |
| Mohamed | Hisham | University of Geneva | Switzerland |
| Moreno | Jose G | Universidade da Beira Interior | Portugal |
| Müller | Henning | HES-SO | Switzerland |
| Naji | Nada | University of Neuchâtel | Switzerland |
| Nordström | Joakim | Omegapoint AB | Sweden |
| Odijk | Daan | Universiteit van Amsterdam | The Netherlands |
| Pärkson | Siiri | University of Tartu | Estonia |

| Suranme | Name | Affiliation | Country |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Pavlakis | Christoforos | National University of Athens | Greece |
| Peruzzo | Simone | University of Padova | Italy |
| Popa | Angela Cristina | University of Bucharest | Romania |
| Radeta | Marko | Polytechnic of Milan | Italy |
| Riehmman | Patrick | Bauhaus-Universität Weimar | Germany |
| Rietberger | Stefan | Zurich University of Applied Sciences | Switzerland |
| Robertson | Stephen | Microsoft research | UK |
| Salampasis | Michail | Technical University of Vienna | Austria |
| Santucci | Giuseppe | La Sapienza | Italy |
| Savoy | Jacques | University of Neuchatel | Switzerland |
| Silvello | Gianmaria | University of Padua | Italy |
| Skeppstedt | Maria | Stockholm University | Sweden |
| Sneiders | Eriks | Stockholm University | Sweden |
| Stranak | Pavel | Charles University in Prague | Czech republic |
| Tawfik | Ahmed | University of Trento | Italy |
| Teran | Luis | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |
| Tino | Giuseppe | La Sapienza | Italy |
| Toms | Elaine | University of Sheffield | UK |
| Tran | Tuan Vu | University of Duisburg-Essen | Germany |
| Valentin | Mazareanu | Alexandru Ioan Cuza University | Romania |
| van den Elzen | Stef | Eindhoven University of Technology | The Netherlands |
| van Rijsbergen | Cornelis Joost | University of Glasgow | UK |
| Wan-Chik | Rita | University of Sheffield | UK |
| Zubaryeva-Kummer | Olena | University of Neuchatel | Switzerland |
| Zufferey | Damien | University of Fribourg | Switzerland |

Table 1: List of participants at the PROMISE Winter School 2012.

C Program

Monday, 23 January

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 13.30 - 14.30 | Registration |
| 14.30 - 16.00 | Introduction to IR - Keith van Rijsbergen , University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK |
| 16.00 - 16.30 | Coffee Break |
| 16.30 - 18.00 | Introduction to IV - Alan Dix , Lancaster University, UK |
| 18.00 - 18.30 | Poster setup |
| 18.30 - 20.00 | Poster Session with Welcome Reception |
| 20.00 | Dinner |

Tuesday, 24 January

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 8.30 - 10.00 | HCI Principles - Maria Francesca Costabile , University of Bari, Italy |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Coffee Break |
| 10.30 - 12.00 | HCI View of Information Retrieval Evaluation - Tiziana Catarci , Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy |
| 12.00 - 16.30 | Skiing |
| 16.30 - 18.00 | User-oriented Information Retrieval - Elaine Toms , University of Sheffield, UK |
| 18.00 - 18.15 | Short Break |
| 18.15 - 19.45 | Evaluating User-oriented IR - Kalervo Järvelin , University of Tampere, Finland |
| 20.00 | Dinner |

Wednesday, 25 January

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 8.30 - 10.00 | Multilingual Information Retrieval - Jacques Savoy , University of Neuchatel, Neuchâtel, Switzerland |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Coffee Break |
| 10.30 - 12.00 | Multimedia Information Retrieval - Stéphane Marchand-Maillet , University of Geneva, Switzerland |
| 12.00 - 16.30 | Skiing |
| 16.30 - 18.00 | TREC Style Evaluation - Donna Harman , National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, USA |
| 18.00 - 18.15 | Short Break |
| 18.15 - 19.45 | Metrics, Statistics, Tests - Stephen Robertson , Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK |
| 20.00 | Dinner |

Thursday, 26 January

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 8.30 - 10.00 | Number Visualization - Giuseppe Santucci , Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Coffee Break |
| 10.30 - 12.00 | Visual Analytics - Silvia Miksch , Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria |
| 12.00 - 16.30 | Skiing |
| 16.30 - 18.00 | Web Personalisation - Vincent P. Wade , Centre for Next Generation Localisation, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland |
| 18.00 - 18.15 | Short Break |
| 18.15 - 19.45 | Log File Analysis - Maarten de Rijke , University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands |
| 20.00 | Dinner |

Friday, 27 January

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.30 - 10.00 | Crowdsourcing - Gareth Jones , Centre for Next Generation Localisation, Dublin City University, Ireland |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | Coffee Break |
| 10.30 - 12.00 | Retrieval from Social Media - Alejandro Jaimes , Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain |