TREC CAR: Complex Answer Retrieval
Laura Dietz, Manisha Verma, Filip Radlinski, Nick Craswell
Laura.dietz@unh.edu, m.verma@cs.ucl.ac.uk, fradlinski@gmail.com, nickr@microsoft.com
http://trec-car.cs.unh.edu/

MOTIVATION
● Entities are central to information needs. We search for people, places and things very frequently.
● At present search engines support entity lookup and simple entity centric fact lookups.

No support for complex entity-specific information needs with longer answers. Imagine following query types:
● Summary of entities (such as events, people etc.) in time
● Entity A vs Entity B comparison
● Low resource entities (recent startups, CEOs etc.)
● Or high resource entities (with multiple wiki pages and articles)

TREC-CAR provides a platform for participants to retrieve and construct complex answers to entity-specific information needs.

TRACK SETUP

TASK
Given an article $Q$ and list of headings $H$, retrieve the following:
● Relevant entities
● Relevant passages

DATASET
We provide participants the following:
● A passage corpus
● A knowledge base of entities and relations
● Training dataset of 1000 articles with headings and corresponding entities and passages.
  ○ Each passage and entity is labeled for relevance on binary scale
  ○ Relevance of training data is determined automatically.

EVALUATION

LABELS
Manual evaluation of passage and entity relevance for each section will be obtained with the help of NIST assessors.

Labels for entities and passages will be labeled as follows:
● ‘Should be mentioned’
● ‘Can be mentioned’
● ‘Should not be mentioned’

EVALUATION
Retrieval metrics such as MAP, Precision and Recall would be used in first year to evaluate passage and entity ranking.