

## Suggestions about GeoCLEF future

Diana Santos  
Paulo Rocha

Linguatca, [www.linguatca.pt](http://www.linguatca.pt)  
and SINTEF ICT

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## GeoCLEF should not be a separate track

- Geographical concerns occur
  - In standard IR
  - In standard QA
  - In standard speech retrieval
  - In some image retrieval
  - Even in interactive tasks
- Suggestion
  - Include geographical awareness and specific evaluation in all these tracks
  - Use geographical as a transversal area

## Advantages of cross-track fertilization

- ability to raise interest for a problem in several research communities
- reuse of collections, topics and judgements/solutions
- possibility to study in practice how different technologies solve a "similar" problem
- possibility to foster reuse of same geographical resources
  
- it should not be a **separate** track, but a **common** concern...

## Joining with adhoc...

- Increases significantly the number of participants
- Allows comparison of geographically-enhanced techniques for all kinds of topics!
- Adds significantly the number of judged geographical or pseudo-geographical topics (from previous campaigns)

## Joining with QA...

- Many questions are either requiring a location as answer or are geographically conditioned...
  - *where* questions: *Where is Alicante?*
  - other questions with "geographical" modifiers: *Which African woman received the Nobel prize for Peace?*
- Some geotopics would be better answered in a list form...
  - *Name cities near Frankfurt*
- Some geographical questions require reasoning...
  - Which cities' population is higher than NewYork's?

## Concluding

- It was great to participate in GeoCLEF 2006's organization
- But geographical challenges occur in all tracks...
  
- Suggestion:
  - Define GeoCLEF as a horizontal concern
  - Two ways:
    - distribute the "geographical" load among the several tracks which remain
    - or try to make all tracks converge (and insist on the geographical dimension)
  
- Or define a radically different GeoCLEF task with a specific user model!