CLEF 2025 SimpleText Track

Simplify Scientific Text (and Nothing More)

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[1] There's a large team of organizers and supporters of individual tasks: Hosein Azarbonyad, Hamed Babaei Giglou, Jan Bakker, Stéphane Huet, Jaap Kamps, Benjamin Vendeville, Giorgio Maria Di Nunzio, Eric SanJuan, Jennifer D'Souza, Federica Vezzani, ...

Motivation

- Improving Access to Scientific Texts for Everyone
    - Everyone agrees on the importance of objective scientific information
    - But scientific documents are inherently complex...
- Can we improve accessibility for everyone?
    - Experts
    - Students
    - Lay persons
- Useful for:
    - Scientific communication
    - Science journalism
    - Political communication
    - Education

Overview

- SimpleText Track setup similar 2021-2024
  - Very successful benchmarks constructed
  - "Finished" original tasks?
  - Major changes in setup and corpora in 2025
- CLEF 2025 SimpleText Track
  - *Simplify Scientific Text (and Nothing More)*
- The following 3+1 tasks:
  1. **Text Simplification**: *simplify scientific text.*
  2. ***Controlled Creativity***: *identify and avoid hallucination.*
  3. ***LeaderBoardQA***: *extract state-of-the-art from scientific text.*
  4. ***SimpleText 2024 Revisited***: *selected tasks by popular request.*

Task 1: Text Simplification

- *Task 1: Simplify Scientific Text*
  - New corpus!
    - Cochrane-auto is true document-level text simplification
    - More variation (sentence merge, order swaps) and discourse structure
    - Paragraph-level and sentence-level data realigned and restricted
  - Biomedical text – free to use, similar to existing TS corpora
    - Sentence-level (T1.1) and Document-level (T1.2) text simplification
    - Large-scale aligned train and test data
    - Free human judge effort for analysis...

	Cochrane-auto	**Newsela-auto**	**Wiki-auto**
Domain	Biomedical	News	General
# Doc Pairs	5,585	18,820	138,095
# Sent Pairs	35,800	813,972	685,769

- Align activities with TREC PLABA track (and CLEF BioASQ?)

Task 2: Controlled Creativity

- *Task 2: Identify and Avoid Hallucination*
- Have created huge collection of spurious/ over-generation content!
    - 2024: 47% of submissions > 10% spurious sentences, 19% > 50%...
    - Task 2.1: *to identify creative generation, at document level*
        - to detect what sentences are fully grounded on source input (a) without and (b) with access to the source sentences
        - -> also labels those introducing significant new content
        - post-hoc identification or explanation task
    - Task 2.2 *to avoid creative generation, and perform grounded generation by design*
        - asks to submit pairs of runs with/without source attribution by design
    - Task 2.3 *text alignment task*?
        - source attribution by optimal alignmentment of source and run output
    - Collab. with CLEF Joker/Eloquent/..., align with SemEval (Mu)Shroom.

Task 3: LeaderBoardQA

- *Task 3: Extract State-of-the-Art from Scientific Text*
- CLEF 2024 was the pilot year of the *SOTA? task* at SimpleText
- Continuation with more clear/attractive use-case (QA)?
- Create human supervised ground truth at scale?
- Interest in participation?

Task 4: SimpleText 2024 Revisited

- *Task 4: Selected Tasks by Popular Request*
- (Re)run selected 2024 tasks:
  - *Content Selection; Complexity Spotting; SOTA?*
- Based (only) on popular request...
  - Ease the transfer to new tasks and data
  - Stimulate reuse of build benchmarks
  - Encourage use and publication of new findings
- Can turn earlier data in CodaLabs leaderboards?
  - Allow for continuous submission
  - Allow for submitting CEUR papers (re)using earlier data
- *Collaborate with other tracks on a "Monster Track" on CLEF 2024?*

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- *Task 1: Text Simplification: simplify scientific text*
  - + New aligned biomedical data (Cochrane-auto)
  - + both sentence, paragraph and document level simplification
  - + analysis of information distortion ("*hallucination?*")
- *Task 2: Controlled Creativity: identify and avoid hallucination*
  - + Real "hallucination" data from CLEF generative text tasks
  - + What output is (not) grounded on source(s)? (w/wo source access)
  - + How to avoid creative generation? (paired submissions)
- *Task 3: LeaderBoardQA: extract state-of-the-art from scientific text*
  - Extracting information on system performance from papers
  - + QA use case, + human ground truth evaluation
- *Task 4: SimpleText 2024 Revisited:selected tasks by popular request*
  - We take submissions of earlier tasks
  - release additional data and evaluation packages

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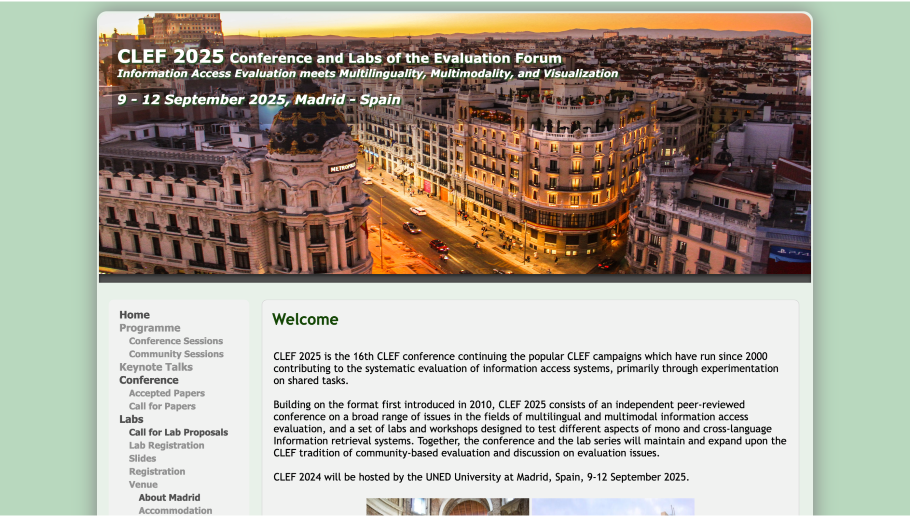

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9 - 12 September 2025, Madrid - Spain

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Building on the format first introduced in 2010, CLEF 2025 consists of an independent peer-reviewed conference on a broad range of issues in the fields of multilingual and multimodal information access evaluation, and a set of labs and workshops designed to test different aspects of mono and cross-language Information retrieval systems. Together, the conference and the lab series will maintain and expand upon the CLEF tradition of community-based evaluation and discussion on evaluation issues.

CLEF 2024 will be hosted by the UNED University at Madrid, Spain, 9-12 September 2025.

TURN IT SIMPLE

CLEF INITIATIVE

cnrs GDR Groupement de recherche
MaDICS Masses de données, informations et connaissances en sciences

anr

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