

1st Workshop on Question Answering over Linked Data (QALD-1)

The workshop is aimed at all researchers and practitioners working on natural language processing approaches to question answering over Linked Data as well as related topics.

While more and more semantic data is published on the Web, in particular following the Linked Data principles, the question of how typical Web users can access this body of knowledge through an intuitive and easy-to-use interface that hides the complexity of the Semantic Web standards becomes of crucial importance. Since users prefer to express their information need in natural language, one of the main challenges lies in translating the user's information needs into a form such that they can be evaluated using standard Semantic Web query processing and inferencing techniques. In recent years, there have been important advances in semantic search and question answering over RDF data, and in parallel there has been substantial progress on question answering from textual data as well as in the area of natural language interfaces to databases. This workshop aims at bringing together researchers from these communities that accept the challenge of scaling question answering approaches to the growing amount of heterogeneous and distributed Linked Data.

Shared Task

To facilitate the comparison between different approaches and systems, the workshop will be preceded by an open challenge in question answering on DBpedia and MusicBrainz. We will release a DBpedia and a MusicBrainz dataset as well as 50 training questions of different complexity levels with manually specified SPARQL queries and answers for each dataset. Participating systems will then be evaluated on 50 similarly annotated test questions with respect to precision and recall as well as efficiency aspects.

Call for Papers

We welcome the submission of **research papers** on all aspects of question answering over Linked Data, **system descriptions** of systems participating in the shared task, and **short papers** on preliminary research.

The following topics are of special interest:

- Question analysis
- Natural language processing approaches applied to semantic search engines
- Disambiguation and inferencing across multiple sources and domains

- Distributed evaluation of queries over Linked Data
- Lexical resources supporting question answering over Linked Data
- Discovery on the fly of relevant Linked Data sources
- Support for multiple languages
- Methods for scaling up question answering to Linked Data
- Efficiency and performance aspects
- Dealing with data and schema heterogeneity
- Answer merging and ranking
- Providing justifications of answers and conveying trust
- User feedback and interaction
- Habitability and usability aspects
- Evaluation of question answering approaches for Linked Data

Important Dates

Deadline for workshop papers:	March 4
Notification of acceptance:	April 1
Deadline for camera-ready version:	April 15
Release of QA training dataset and instructions:	January 31
Release of QA testset:	March 28
Submission of results by participants:	April 1
Evaluation of results to participants:	April 10

Submission Details

Research papers should not exceed 12 pages in length (excluding references), system descriptions should not exceed 8 pages (excluding references). Short papers describing preliminary research or positions can also be submitted and should not exceed 4 pages in length. All papers have to be submitted in PDF format; camera-ready versions must be formatted according to the LNCS guidelines.

Submission and reviewing will be via EasyChair:

<http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=qald1>

For detailed information and updates on the shared task, there is a QALD-1 mailing list, to which you can subscribe at the following location:

<https://lists.techfak.uni-bielefeld.de/cit-ec/mailman/listinfo/qald-1>