

Established in 2007, EVALITA (<http://www.evalita.it>) is the evaluation campaign of Natural Language Processing and Speech Technologies for the Italian language, organized around shared tasks focusing on the analysis of written and spoken language respectively. EVALITA's shared tasks are aimed at contributing to the development and dissemination of natural language resources and technologies by proposing a shared context for training and evaluation.

Following the success of previous editions, we organized EVALITA 2014, the fourth evaluation campaign with the aim of continuing to provide a forum for the comparison and evaluation of research outcomes as far as Italian is concerned from both academic institutions and industrial organizations. The event has been supported by the NLP Special Interest Group of the Italian Association for Artificial Intelligence (AI*IA) and by the Italian Association of Speech Science (AISV). The novelty of this year is that the final workshop of EVALITA is co-located with the 1st Italian Conference of Computational Linguistics (CLiC-it, <http://clic.humnet.unipi.it/>), a new event aiming to establish a reference forum for research on Computational Linguistics of the Italian community with contributions from a wide range of disciplines going from Computational Linguistics, Linguistics and Cognitive Science to Machine Learning, Computer Science, Knowledge Representation, Information Retrieval and Digital Humanities. The co-location with CLiC-it potentially widens the potential audience of EVALITA.

The final workshop, held in Pisa on the 11th December 2014 within the context of the XIII AI*IA Symposium on Artificial Intelligence (Pisa, 10-12 December 2014, <http://aiia2014.di.unipi.it/>), gathers the results of 8 tasks, 4 of which focusing on written language and 4 on speech technologies. In this EVALITA edition, we received 30 expressions of interest, 55 registrations and 43 actual submissions to 8 proposed tasks distributed as follows:

- Written language tasks: Dependency Parsing - DP (5), Evaluation of Events and Temporal Information - EVENTI (6), Sentiment Polarity Classification - SENTIPOLC (27), Word Sense Disambiguation and Lexical Substitution - WSD&LS (0);
- Speech tasks: Emotion Recognition Task - ERT (2), Forced Alignment on Children Speech - FACS (1), Human and Machine Dialect Identification from Natural Speech and Artificial Stimuli - HMDI (0), Speech Activity Detection and Speaker Localization in Domestic Environments - SASLODOM (2).

23 participants (either as individual researchers or as academic institutions) submitted their results to one or more different tasks of the contest.

In this volume, the reports of the tasks' organizers and participants of EVALITA 2014 are collected.

As in previous editions, both the tasks and the final workshop were collectively organized by several researchers from the community working on Italian language resources and technologies. We thank all the people and institutions involved in the organization of the tasks, who contributed to the success of the event. A special thank is due to Francesco Cutugno (Università Degli Studi di Napoli Federico II) for his important contribution to the organization of the EVALITA Speech tasks. Thanks are also due to Manuela Sanguinetti (Università di Torino) for helping with the management of the EVALITA website, and to FBK for making the web platform available for this

edition as well. Last but not least, we thank our invited speaker, Ryan McDonald from Google, for agreeing to share his expertise on key topics of EVALITA 2014.

November 2014

EVALITA 2014 CO-CHAIRS

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EVALITA 2014 Steering Committee

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