

IARPA OpenCLIR19 Rules and Regulations

Contents

Background	1
Overview	2
Timetable	2
Cancelation	2
Prizes	2
Judging Criteria	2
Payment Terms	3
Intellectual Property	3
Who is Eligible to Participate?	3
General Liability Release	4
Warranties / Indemnification	5

Background

The collection and analysis of information required to understand and investigate topics from a global perspective has increasingly become a multilingual venture. For most languages, there are very few or no automated tools available for information retrieval (IR) or machine translation (MT) to identify relevant information in a timely manner. For some commonly spoken languages, certain natural language processing (NLP) technologies are of sufficient quality to accomplish highly constrained tasks within a static domain, such as selecting a hotel room by perusing evaluations from machine-translated output. However, such a highly customized technology is not easily transferable between domains and proves challenging to develop in low resource language conditions and across genres of data. The OpenCLIR challenge invites the best and brightest NLP practitioners to demonstrate how MT and IR methods can most efficiently be developed and employed to address information needs, represented by English queries, against multilingual speech and text data.

Overview

The goal of the OpenCLIR (Open Cross Language Information Retrieval) evaluation is to develop methods to locate text and speech content in “documents” (speech or text) in low-resource languages, using English queries. This capability is one of several expected to ultimately support effective triage and analysis of large volumes of data, in a variety of languages.

The OpenCLIR evaluation was created out of the IARPA MATERIAL program that encompasses more tasks, including domain classification and summarization, and more languages and query types. The purpose of OpenCLIR is to provide a simplified, smaller scale evaluation open to all. Please see IARPA's [MATERIAL website](#) for more information on the MATERIAL program.

For the most up-to-date overview of the metrics, procedures, and rules for OpenCLIR19, please refer to the current version of the OpenCLIR19 Evaluation plan, which can be found on NIST's OpenCLIR19 website, <https://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/mig/opencrir-evaluation#opencrir19>.

Timetable

NIST's OpenCLIR19 website, <https://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/mig/opencrir-evaluation#opencrir19>, specifies the schedule of the evaluation.

Cancelation

IARPA reserves the right to cancel the OpenCLIR19 prize challenge due to low participation (less than five teams) or indications from early results that insufficient progress is being made toward challenge goals, as indicated by an AQWV score below the thresholds specified in the OpenCLIR19 Evaluation Plan available on <https://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/mig/opencrir-evaluation#opencrir19>.

Prizes

- First place, Text data category: USD 10,000
- First place, Audio data category: USD 20,000

Judging Criteria

The winners in each of the two categories (text/audio data) will be determined based on the following factors:

- 80%: Normalized official metric score above a provided baseline score on the text/audio data subset of the evaluation data set. The official metric is modified AQWV (modified Actual Query Weighted Value). Please refer to the OpenCLIR19 Evaluation Plan posted on NIST's [OpenCLIR website](#) for a detailed definition and description of the metric.
- 20%: Normalized system description rating. A system description of at least seven pages is required, and submissions by participants who fail to submit such a description will not be eligible to win. Each system description will be reviewed by two independent subject-matter experts and will be assessed on a 1–5 scale for the following questions:
 - Is the approach novel?
 - Is the description clearly structured, easy to understand, and replicable?

Payment Terms

Participants need to submit a W-9 tax form, or a W8-BEN form in order to receive payment. Participants are responsible for all taxes incurred from the acceptance of Prize funds.

No payments will be made to participants from countries where US sanctions preclude it.

Intellectual Property

Each entrant retains full ownership and title in and to their submission and expressly reserve all intellectual property rights not expressly granted under the challenge agreement. By participating in the challenge, each entrant hereby irrevocably grants to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), of which IARPA is a component, and NIST a limited, non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide license and right to reproduce, publicly perform, publicly display, and use the submission for internal ODNI and NIST business and to the extent necessary to administer the challenge. By submitting an Entry, you grant a non-exclusive right and license to ODNI and NIST to use your name, likeness, biographical information, image, any other personal data submitted with your Entry and the contents in your Entry (including any created works, such as YouTube® videos, but not including any App software submitted with or as part of your Entry), in connection with the Competition. You also agree that this license is perpetual and irrevocable.

You agree that nothing in this Notice grants you a right or license to use any names or logos of ODNI, IARPA, or NIST or any other intellectual property or proprietary rights of ODNI, IARPA, and NIST. You grant to ODNI and NIST the right to include your company or institution name and logo (if your Entry is from a company or institution) as a Participant on the Event Web site and in materials from IARPA announcing winners of or Participants in the Competition. Other than these uses or as otherwise set forth herein, you are not granting ODNI or NIST any rights to your trademarks.

Any data or documentation that qualifies as business proprietary information, as defined by the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC Section 552), and is properly marked as such will be treated as confidential and will only be used for the purposes of the OpenCLIR test.

Who is Eligible to Participate?

Eligibility

To be eligible to win a prize under this competition, an individual or entity:

1. Must have created an account and completed and submitted a registration and data license agreement on NIST's [OpenCLIR web server](#);
2. Must have complied with all the requirements under the Federal Register Notice and these rules;
3. Must be (1) an individual or team each of whom are 18 years of age and over, or (2) an entity incorporated; and
4. May not be a federal entity or federal employee acting within the scope of their employment. An individual or entity shall not be deemed ineligible because the individual or entity used federal facilities or consulted with federal employees during a competition if the facilities and employees are made available to all individuals and entities participating in the competition on an equitable basis.
5. May not be an employee of IARPA or their affiliate, and/or any other individual or entity associated with the development, evaluation, or administration of the competition as well as members of such persons' immediate families (spouses, children, siblings, parents), and persons living in the same household as such persons, whether or not related.

6. May not be a prime contractor or subcontractor, or an employee of a prime contractor or subcontractor, of the IARPA MATERIAL program, due to its similarity to the OpenCLIR prize challenge.

Federal grantees may not use federal funds to develop challenge applications unless consistent with the purpose of their grant award. Federal contractors may not use federal funds from a contract to develop challenge applications or to fund efforts in support of a challenge submission.

Entrants must agree to assume any and all risks and waive claims against the federal government and its related entities, except in the case of willful misconduct, for any injury, death, damage, or loss of property, revenue, or profits, whether direct, indirect, or consequential, arising from their participation in a competition, whether the injury, death, damage, or loss arises through negligence or otherwise.

Entrants must also agree to indemnify the federal government against third-party claims for damages arising from or related to competition activities. Entrants are not required to obtain liability insurance or demonstrate financial responsibility in order to participate in the competition.

By participating in the competition, each entrant agrees to comply with and abide by these rules and the decisions of IARPA and/or the individual judges, which shall be final and binding in all respects.

By participating in the competition, each entrant agrees to follow all applicable local, state, federal and country of residence laws and regulations.

General Liability Release

By participating in the competition, each entrant hereby agrees that:

1. IARPA shall not be responsible or liable for any losses, damages, or injuries of any kind (including death) resulting from participation in the competition or any competition-related activity, or from entrants' acceptance, receipt, possession, use, or misuse of any prize; and
2. Entrants will indemnify, defend, and hold harmless IARPA, SETA (Bluemont Technologies, Booz Allen Hamilton, Tarragon Consulting), Test & Evaluation, NIST, Dakota Consulting, and ODNI from and against all third party claims, actions, or proceedings of any kind and from any and all damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses relating to or arising from entrant's participation in the competition.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, IARPA is not responsible for incomplete, illegible, misdirected, misprinted, late, lost, postage-due, damaged, or stolen entries or prize notifications; or for lost, interrupted, inaccessible, or unavailable networks, servers, satellites, Internet Service Providers, websites, or other connections; or for miscommunications, failed, jumbled, scrambled, delayed, or misdirected computer, telephone, cable transmissions or other communications; or for any technical malfunctions, failures, difficulties, or other errors of any kind or nature; or for the incorrect or inaccurate capture of information, or the failure to capture any information.

These rules cannot be modified except by IARPA. All decisions by IARPA regarding adherence to these rules are final. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these rules shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision. In the event that any provision is determined to be invalid or otherwise unenforceable or illegal, these rules shall otherwise remain in effect and shall be construed in accordance with their terms as if the invalid or illegal provision were not contained herein.

Warranties / Indemnification

By participating in the competition, each entrant represents, warrants, and covenants as follows:

1. The entrant – whether an individual, team or entity – is the sole author, creator, and owner of the submission;
2. The submission is not the subject of any actual or threatened litigation or claim;
3. The submission does not and will not violate or infringe upon the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, publicity rights, or other legal rights of any third party;
4. The submission does not and will not contain any known malicious code.
5. The Submission, and entrants' use of the Submission, does not and will not violate any applicable laws or regulations, including, without limitation, applicable export control laws and regulations of the U.S. and other jurisdictions.

If the Submission includes any third party works (such as third party content, equipment, or open source code), entrant must be able to provide, upon the request of IARPA, documentation of all appropriate licenses and releases for such third party works. If entrant cannot provide documentation of all required licenses and releases, IARPA reserves the right to disqualify the applicable Submission, or seek to secure the licenses and releases for the benefit of IARPA, and allow the applicable Submission to remain in the Competition. IARPA also reserves all rights with respect to claims based on any damages caused by participant's failure to obtain such licenses and releases.

Entrants – whether an individual, a team or an entity – will indemnify, defend, and hold IARPA, SETA (Bluemont Technologies, Booz Allen Hamilton, Tarragon Consulting), Test & Evaluation, NIST, Dakota Consulting, and ODNI from and against all third party claims, actions, or proceedings of any kind and from any and all damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses relating to or arising from entrant's Submission or any breach or alleged breach of any of the representations, warranties, and covenants of entrant hereunder.

IARPA reserves the right to disqualify any Submission that IARPA, in its discretion, deems to violate these Rules. IARPA also reserves the right to amend these rules throughout the duration of the contest should extenuating circumstances arise.