

Preface

This proceedings contains the accepted papers of the SIGIR 2019 Workshop on eCommerce (ECOM19), a full day workshop that took place on Thursday, July 25, 2019 in Paris, France. The workshop was held in conjunction with SIGIR 2019. The purpose of the workshop was to serve as a platform for publication and discussion of Information Retrieval and NLP research and their applications in the domain of eCommerce.

eCommerce Information Retrieval has received little attention in the academic literature, yet it is an essential component of some of the largest web sites (such as eBay, Amazon, Airbnb, Alibaba, Taobao, Target, The Home Depot, and others). The SIGIR 2019 Workshop on eCommerce (ECOM19) brought together researchers and practitioners of eCommerce IR to discuss topics unique to it, to set a research agenda going forward, and to examine how to build a data set for research. Our primary motivation as organizers of this workshop was to create a community and act as a forum to discuss interesting research ideas and challenges in the eCommerce domain.

The workshop drew contributions from both industry as well as academia, in total the workshop received thirty nine submissions, and accepted twenty four papers (62%). The submissions were reviewed by an international program committee of high repute experts in the field, formed from representatives of several eCommerce companies and academic institutions. Each submission was reviewed by at least three reviewers. We would like to thank everyone who submitted a paper to the workshop.

In addition to presentation of a subset of accepted submissions, the workshop had two keynotes by invited speakers from the industry, a poster session where all the accepted submissions were presented, a panel discussion, and a group discussion.

In the 2019 edition of this workshop we had a *High Accuracy Recall Task* challenge organized and run by eBay search group. The challenge targets a common problem in eCommerce search: Identifying the items to show when using non-relevance sorts such as by price, distance, recency among others. The goal of this challenge was to draw attention of the research community to the unique challenges posed by this problem. A total of sixteen teams participated in the data challenge and several interesting solutions using state-of-the-art methods were used.

We would like to thank the Program Committee members of the workshop for their participation and reviewing efforts. We would like to thank SIGIR for hosting us. We extend our sincere gratitude to all the authors, presenters, and invited speakers for their contributions to the material and productive discussions that formed an outstanding workshop.

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