

Open Search

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Abstract

It is time for a paradigm shift. Cranfield style evaluation has served us well for many years, but relevance assessments from judges are very different from what actually satisfies users. We should move to online evaluation, where we use implicit user signals to validate retrieval systems. A major issue for academics however has been the lack of a system with users.

Open Search changes this. Open Search opens up real search engines with real users for research. Open Search allows researchers to expose their retrieval system to real, unsuspecting users with real information needs that can really be satisfied.