



Conceptual Indexing

Dolf Trieschnigg, Djoerd Hiemstra & Theo Huibers

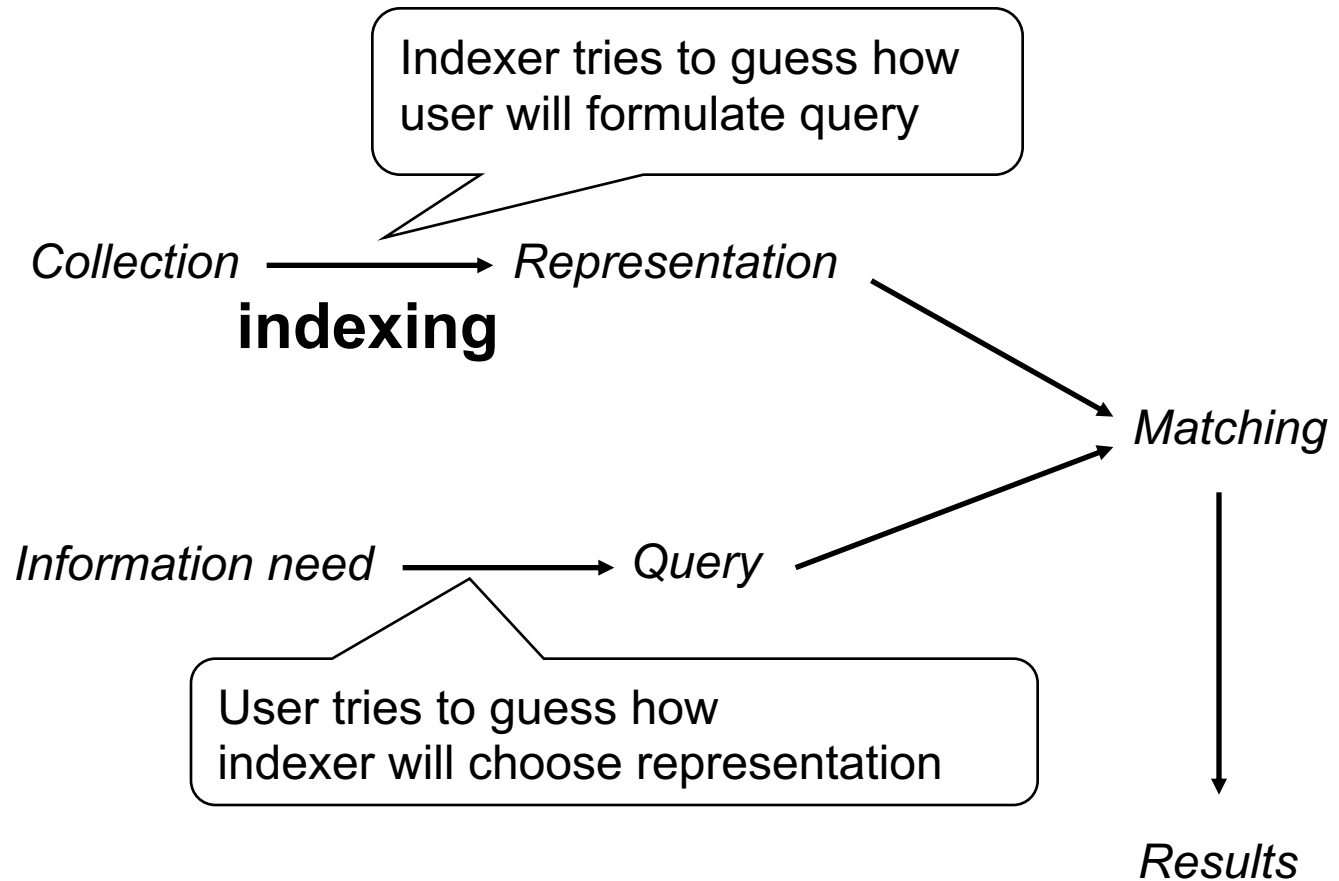


Overview

- Characteristics of indexing & indexing languages
- Basic measures of performance
- Some *crowdexing*
- Indexing in two domains
 - Biomedicine
 - What is biomedicine
 - Biomedical terminology and IR
 - PubMed & MeSH
 - Folktales

★ With pop quizzes! ★

Characteristics of indexing & indexing languages



Characteristics of indexing & indexing languages

- Indexing characteristics
 - Automatic vs. manual
 - Exhaustivity: number of topics indexed
- Index language
 - Controlled vs. uncontrolled vocabulary
 - Specificity: level of precision
- Types of retrieval
 - Exact match (set) vs best match (ranked)

Basic measures of performance: precision and recall

- System: returns documents (or not)
- User: finds document relevant (or not)
- **Precision:** ONLY relevant results
- **Recall:** ALL relevant results

Note: for ***ranked*** retrieval other (related) measures exist!

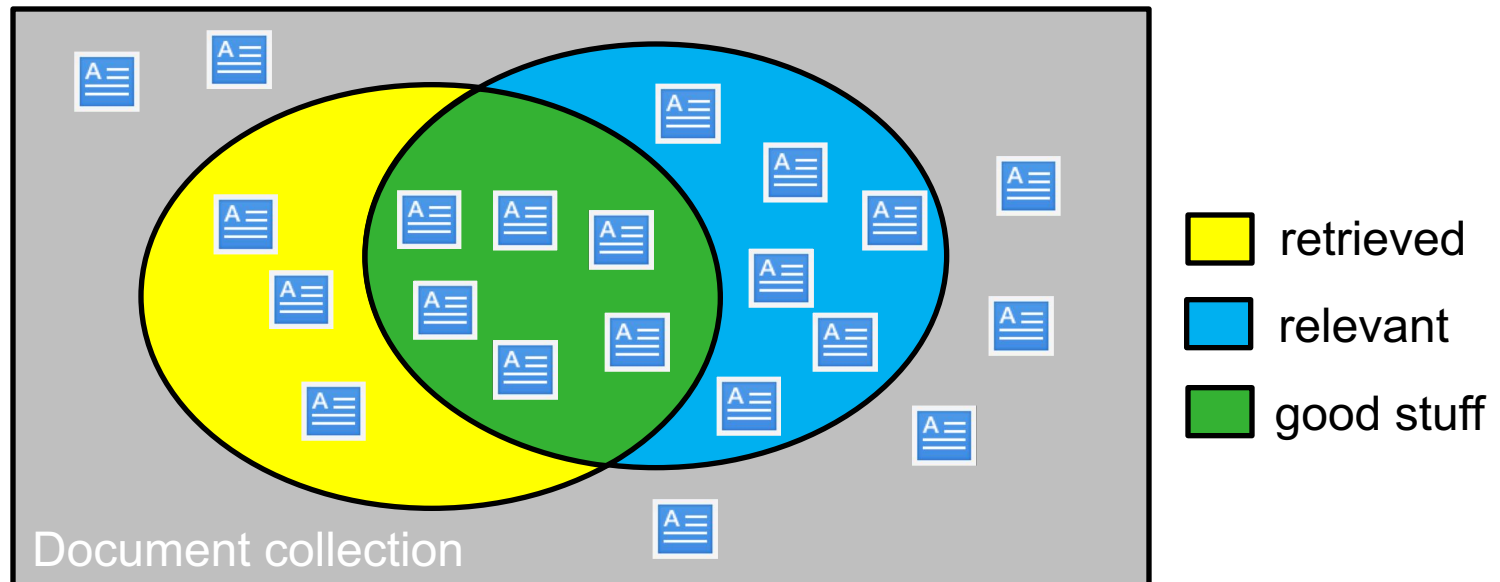
Basic measures of performance: precision and recall

		<i>System says:</i>	
		Match	No match
<i>User says:</i>	Relevant	True positives (#TP)	False negatives (#FN)
	Not relevant	False positives (#FP)	True negatives (#TN)

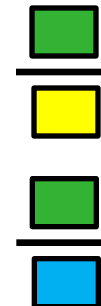
$$Recall = \frac{\#TP}{\#TP + \#FN}$$

$$Precision = \frac{\#TP}{\#TP + \#FP}$$

Basic measures of performance: precision and recall



- **Precision:** fraction of relevant retrieved documents
 - Only relevant
- **Recall:** fraction of retrieved relevant documents
 - All relevant



Quiz

- How can you achieve a recall of 1?
- How can you achieve a precision of 1?
- Can you measure the precision/recall of a Google search result?
- Is precision or recall important for:
 - News search?
 - Patent search?
 - Product search?

Let's do some *crowdexing*



- Visit
 - <http://dolf.trieschnigg.nl/crowdexing>
 - <http://goo.gl/x62XPq>



Five things about Alibaba's Jack Ma

The co-founder of e-commerce giant Alibaba and one of China's best-known businessmen, Jack Ma, is stepping down. The tech billionaire dubbed the 'Steve Jobs of China' will leave the firm on his 55th birthday.

Some discussion questions

- What terms to use: words, phrases, entities?
- Which terms to include?
- Are all terms equally important?
- How to deal with numbers?
- How to deal with word variations?

Some observations (hopefully ;-))

- You chose an indexing unit, with a certain **specificity**
- You made a **selection** of words to include, resulting in a certain **exhaustivity**
 - Probably you **don't agree**
- Some terms are **more important** than others
- Important information is **implicit**
- Terms can be **ambiguous**
- How **consistent** do you think you are?

Let's automate this

- Extract index terms automatically: *tokenization*

Copyright 2001 by Randy Glasbergen.
www.glasbergen.com



"The new automated ordering system has really speeded up our business. We're losing customers faster than ever."

Tokenization example

Get indexing terms from text automatically

1. Lowercase text

"US" is the same as "us"

2. Extract words

"Hepatitis-A"

3. Stopword removal

"To be or not to be"

4. Stemming

University → Univers

Universe → Univers

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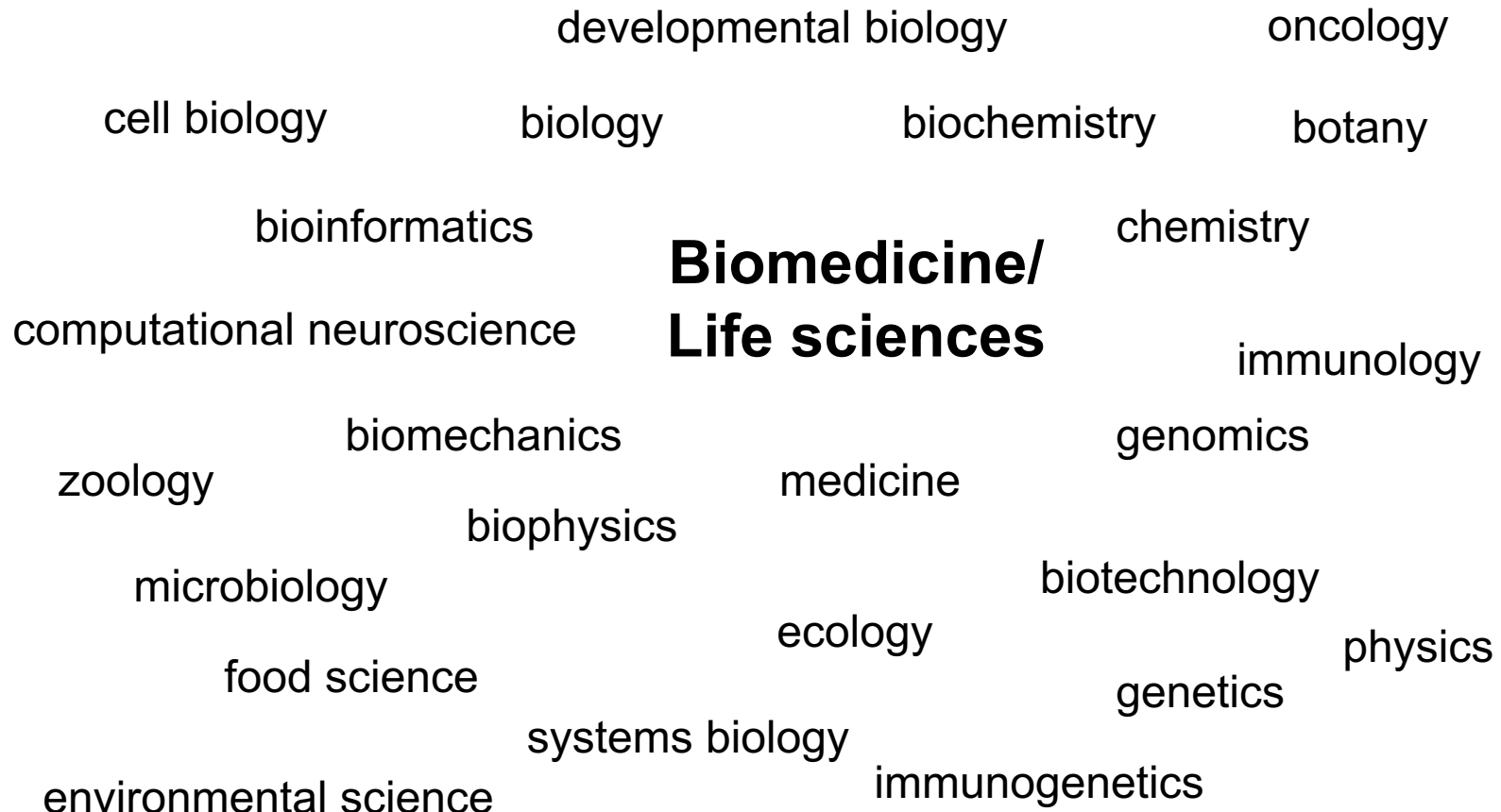
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Case study 1: biomedicine

What is biomedicine?



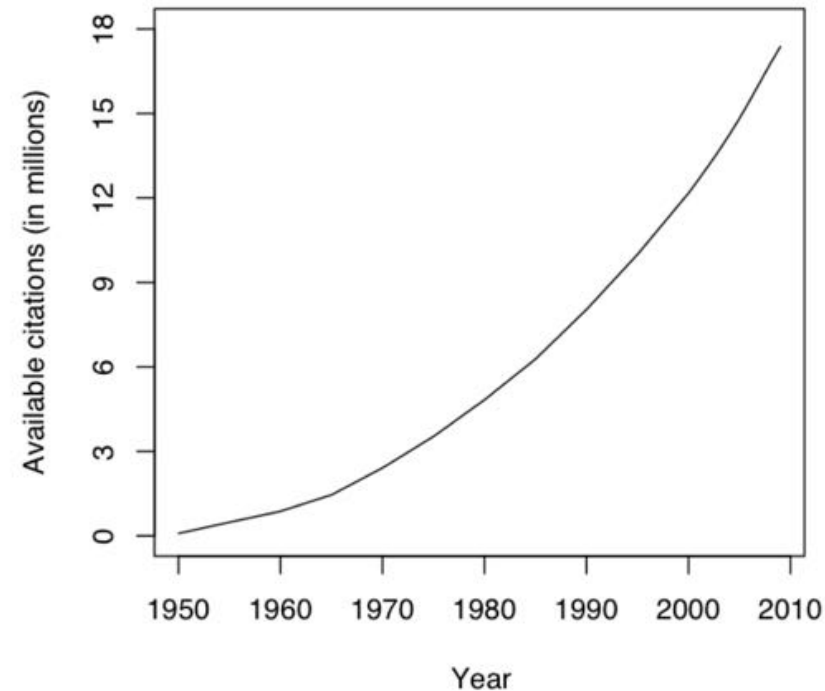
What is biomedicine?

- A large number of related disciplines
- “Studying the structure, function, growth, origin, evolution or distribution of living organisms and their natural environments”

They like to publish

- MEDLINE:
 - A bibliographic database
 - Exponential growth
 - Manually indexed (MeSH)
 - 2013 statistics
 - 19 mln references
 - $\pm 5,600$ journals
 - 2010: 700,000 additions

2016 update: 2017 update: 2018 update:



PubMed	PubMed	PubMed
PubMed comprises more than 28 million citations for MEDLINE and other life science journals.	PubMed comprises more than 28 million citations for MEDLINE and other life science journals.	PubMed comprises more than 28 million citations for MEDLINE and other life science journals.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

A sample MEDLINE entry

- Authors & Affiliations
- Title
- Journal
- Publication date
- Abstract
- MeSH terms

Aust Vet J. 2011 Jul;89(7):243-6. doi: 10.1111/j.1751-0813.2011.00792.x.

Neurological diseases of ruminant livestock in Australia. I: general neurological examination, necropsy procedures and neurological manifestations of systemic disease, trauma and neoplasia.

Finnie JW, Windsor PA, Kessell AE.

SA Pathology, Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science and School of Animal and Veterinary Science, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA, Australia. john.finnie@health.sa.gov

Abstract

Disease surveillance is an integral part of most veterinary practices in Australia. The aim of this series of invited reviews is to facilitate the differential and ultimately definitive diagnosis of some of the previously known, as well as the novel and emerging, neurological disorders of ruminant livestock, which is of particular importance in the surveillance for transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. General principles of a systematic neurological examination, necropsy procedures and the neurological manifestations of systemic disease, trauma and neoplasia are described here.

© 2011 SA Pathology. Australian Veterinary Journal © 2011 Australian Veterinary Association.

PMID: 21696371 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

 **MeSH Terms**

 **LinkOut - more resources**

Quiz

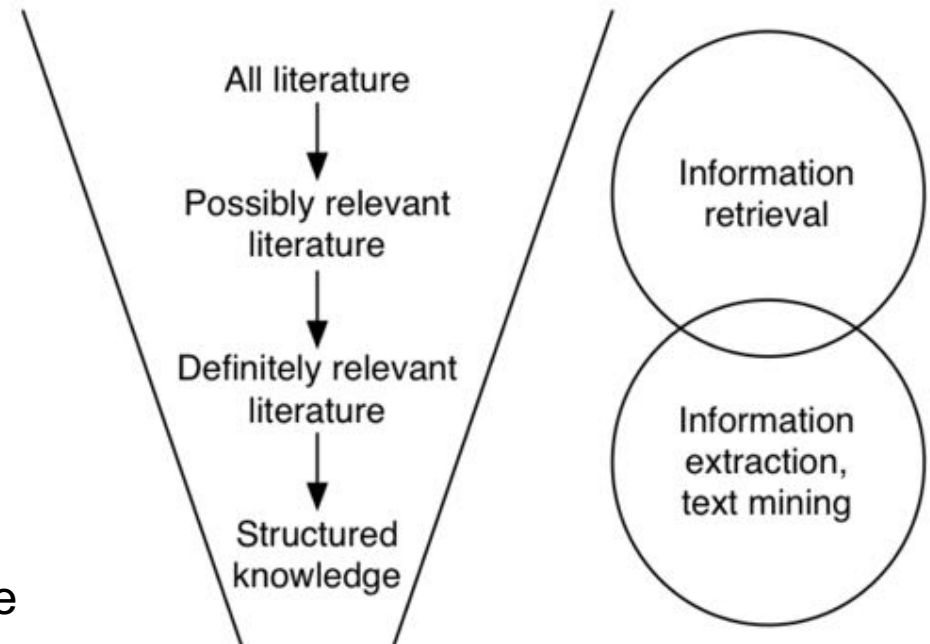
- What is more important in this domain? Precision or recall?

“A month in the laboratory can save an hour in the library”

F. Westheimer (1912-2007), professor of Chemistry at Harvard
University

Information retrieval in the text mining landscape

- Information retrieval
 - Finding information
 - *Find information about P53*
- Information extraction
 - Extracting facts
 - *Which proteins interact with P53?*
- Knowledge discovery
 - Discovering new knowledge
 - E.g. combining complementary but disjoint literatures (Swanson)
 - *Fish oil ⇔ blood viscosity*
blood viscosity ⇔ Raynaud's disease



[Hersh, 2009]

Terminology: a challenge for biomedical IR

- Biomedical **concepts** are represented by **terms**
- What is a concept?
 - “an abstract idea, a general notion” ~ something interesting
- Examples of biomedical concepts
 - Diseases
 - Organisms
 - Genes
 - Proteins
 - Chemicals
 - ...



“mad cow disease”

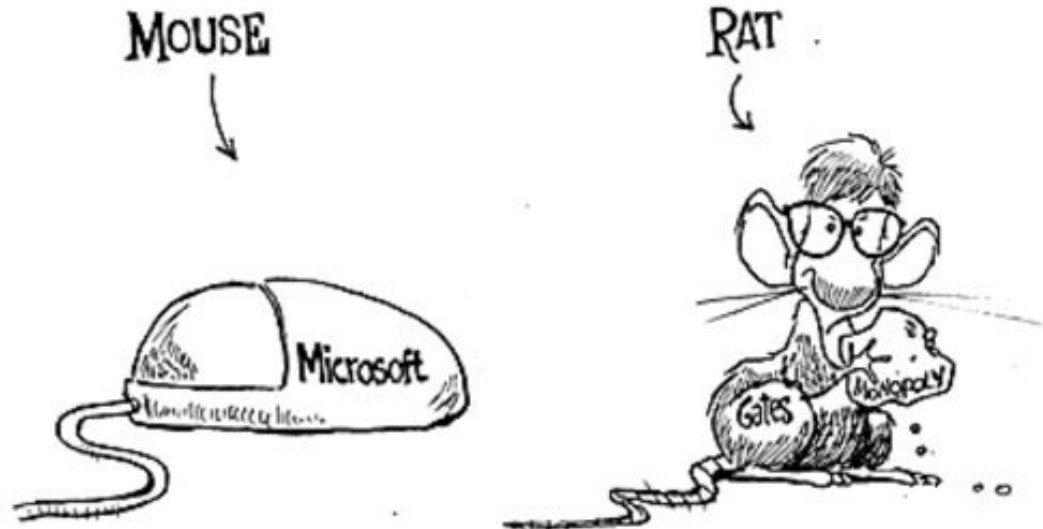
“BSE”

“Bovine spongiform encephalopathy”

Characteristics of biomedical terminology

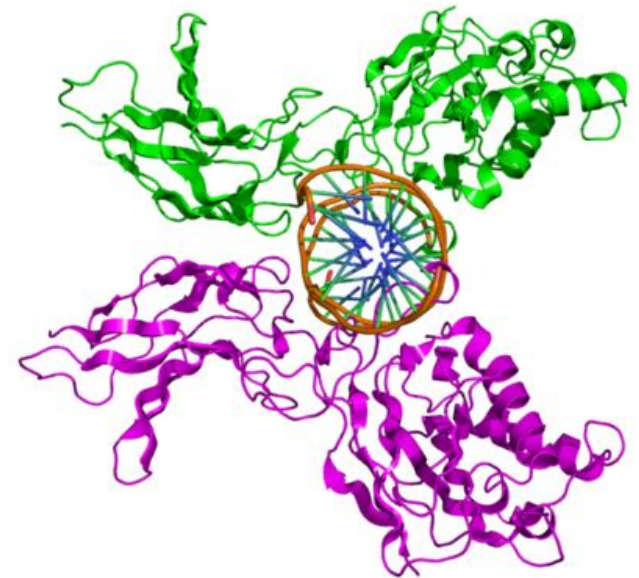
- Complex
- Inconsistent
- Many synonyms
- Ambiguous

Terminology



Biomedical terminology is complex

- Many compound terms
 - *nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells*
- 85% of the terms consist of more than one word (Nenadic et al, 2005)
- Frequent use of ad hoc abbreviations
 - *TRADD binds to the TNF receptor-associated factor 2 (TRAF-2) that recruits NF-kB-inducible kinase (NIK).*



Biomedical terminology is inconsistent

- 75% of the authors do not use official gene symbol or full gene names (Chen et al., 2005)
- Frequent spelling variation:
 - *NF-kB*, *nfkb*, *NF kappa B*
 - *syt4*, *syt iv*
- Fast changing terminology:
 - How many synonyms of Mexican flu can you think of?

novel influenza A (H1N1), 2009 H1N1 flu, new influenza A virus, pandemic H1N1/09 virus, novel H1N1 virus, A/California/07/2009 (H1N1), H1N1 influenza, H1N1 Virus, Mexican Virus, swine influenza, SI, Pig Flu, Swine-Origin Influenza A H1N1 Virus, Influenza A Virus, H1N1 Subtype, ...



Biomedical terminology is inconsistent

“Biologists would rather share their toothbrush than a gene name”

Michael Ashburner, professor of biology at the University of Cambridge



Biomedical terminology contains many synonyms

- Nuclear Factor-kappa B
 - Immunoglobulin Enhancer-Binding Protein
 - Ig-EBP-1, Ig EBP 1, IgEBP1
 - NF-kB, NFkappaB, NF-kappa-B, NF-kappa beta
 - Transcription Factor NF kB
 - NF kapa beta



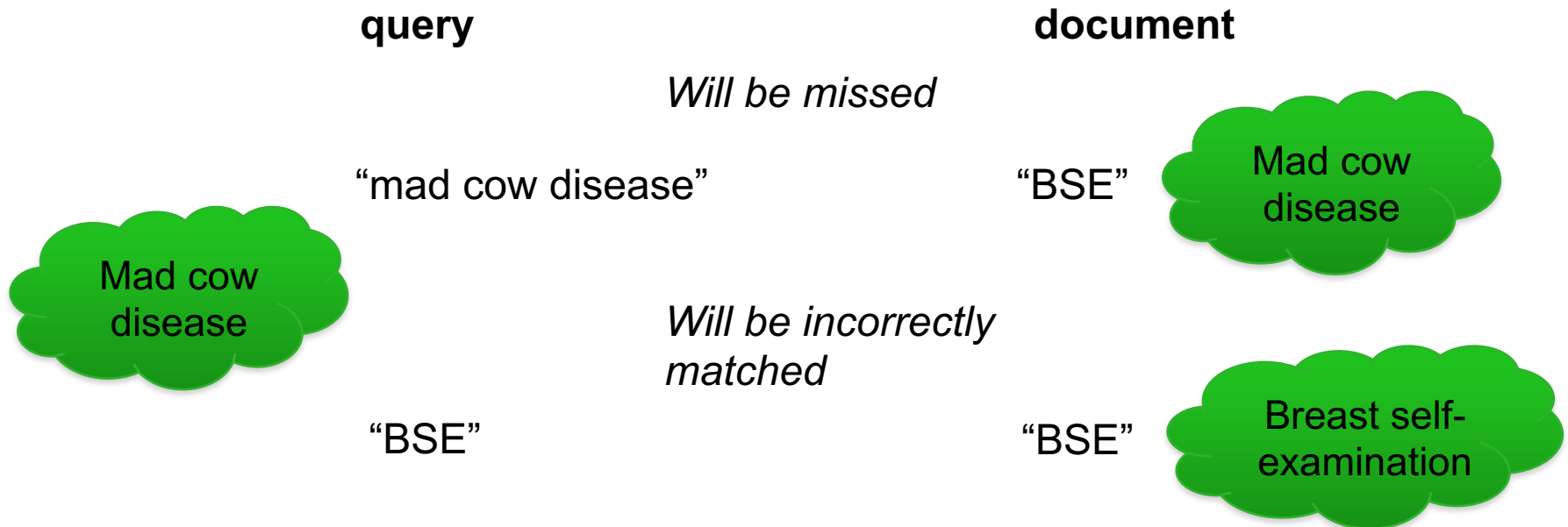
Biomedical terminology is highly ambiguous

- Abbreviations: PSA
 - *prostate specific antigen*
 - *psoriasis arthritis*
 - *poultry science administration*
 - ... (100 more)
- Use of general English terms
 - *white* protein
 - *big brain* protein
 - *hr*



Quiz

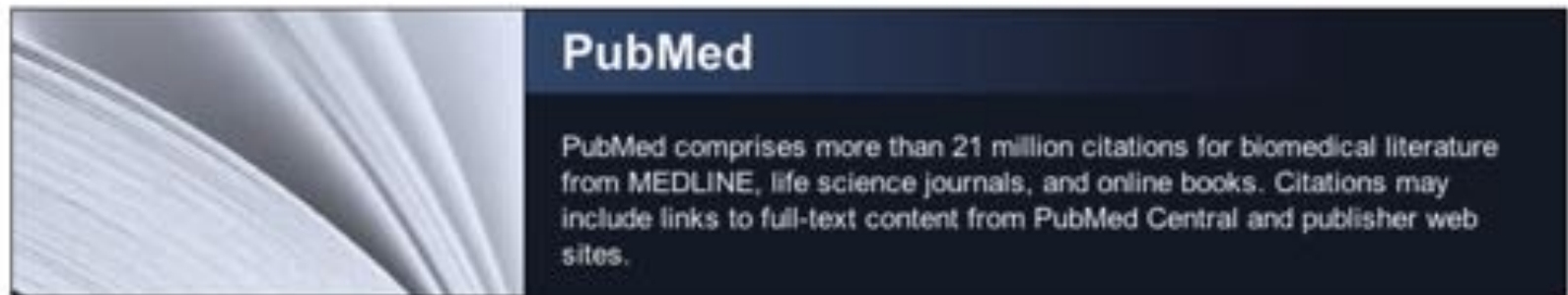
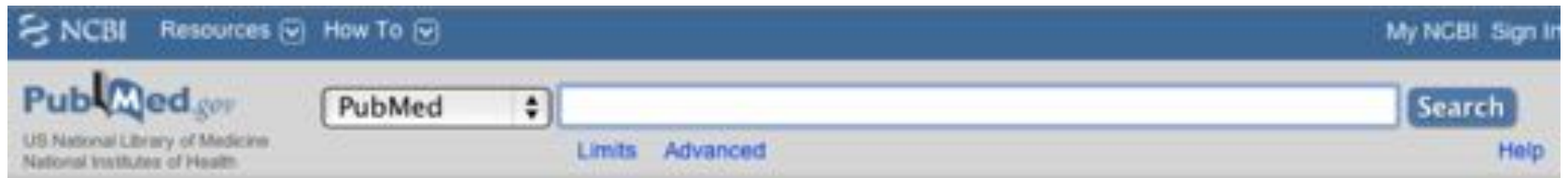
- What is the effect of these characteristics? (on precision/recall)
- How can an IR system deal with these characteristics?



Quiz

- What is the effect of these characteristics?
 - **Vocabulary mismatch** between query and (relevant) documents
 - Missing synonyms: low recall
 - Using ambiguous terms: low precision
- How can an IR system deal with these characteristics?
 - Incorporate **domain knowledge**, for instance
 - Sophisticated lexical analysis
 - Query/document expansion
 - Concept representations
 -

Biomedical Search in Practice: PubMed



Using PubMed

[PubMed Quick Start Guide](#)

[Full Text Articles](#)

[PubMed FAQs](#)

[PubMed Tutorials](#)

[New and Noteworthy](#) 

PubMed Tools

[PubMed Mobile](#)

[Single Citation Matcher](#)

[Batch Citation Matcher](#)

[Clinical Queries](#)

[Topic-Specific Queries](#)

More Resources

[MeSH Database](#)

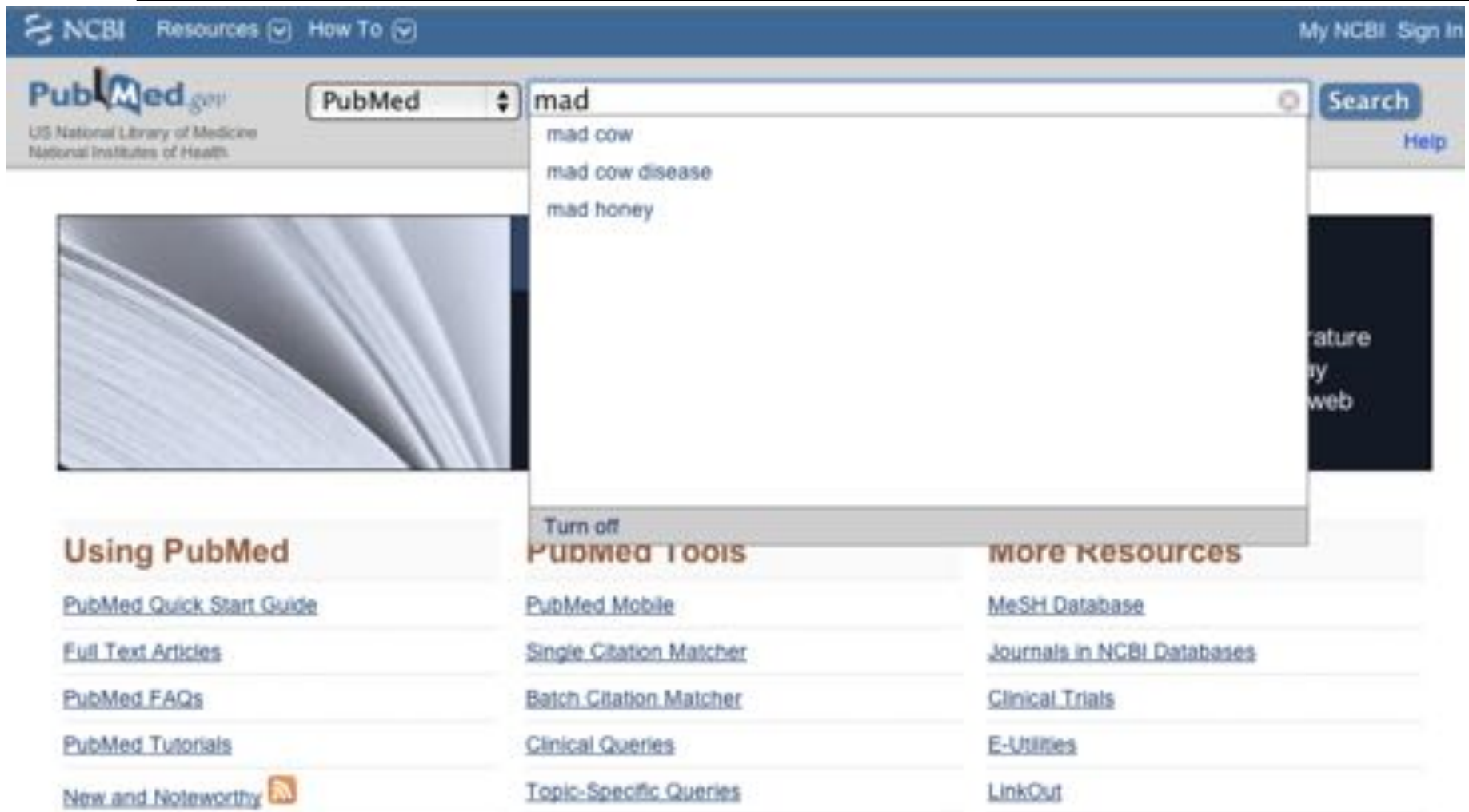
[Journals in NCBI Databases](#)

[Clinical Trials](#)

[E-Utilities](#)

[LinkOut](#)

Let's search PubMed



The screenshot shows the PubMed website interface. At the top, there's a blue header with the NCBI logo, "Resources" and "How To" links, and "My NCBI" and "Sign In" options. Below this is the PubMed logo and the text "US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health". A search bar contains the text "mad", and a dropdown menu shows suggestions: "mad cow", "mad cow disease", and "mad honey". To the right of the search bar is a "Search" button and a "Help" link. Below the search bar, there's a large image of a book's pages. On the left side, there's a section titled "Using PubMed" with links to "PubMed Quick Start Guide", "Full Text Articles", "PubMed FAQs", "PubMed Tutorials", and "New and Noteworthy". In the center, there's a section titled "PubMed Tools" with links to "PubMed Mobile", "Single Citation Matcher", "Batch Citation Matcher", "Clinical Queries", and "Topic-Specific Queries". On the right side, there's a section titled "More Resources" with links to "MeSH Database", "Journals in NCBI Databases", "Clinical Trials", "E-Utilities", and "LinkOut".

NCBI Resources How To My NCBI Sign In

PubMed US National Library of Medicine National Institutes of Health

mad

- mad cow
- mad cow disease
- mad honey

Search Help

ature
y
web

Turn off

Using PubMed

- [PubMed Quick Start Guide](#)
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Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added Send to: Filter your results:

Results: 1 to 20 of 3193 Page 1 of 160

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy associated insertion/deletion polymorphisms of the prion protein gene in the four beef cattle breeds from North China.

1. Zhu XY, Feng FY, Xue SY, Hou T, Liu HR. Genome. 2011 Sep 19. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 21923635 [Put Related citations] Manage Filters

2. Use of Murine Bio... Beck KE, Sallis RE, Terry LA, Tout AC, A, Groschup MH, Brain Pathol. 2011 Sep. PMID: 21919992 [Put Related citations]

3. The molecular epidemiology of variant CJD. Int J Mol Epidemiol Genet. 2011. PMID: 21915360 [Put Free full text] Related citations

4. Paraffin-embedded classical scrapie and experimental bovine spongiform encephalopathy in sheep. Webb PR, Denyer M, Gough J, Spiropoulos J, Simmons MM, Spencer YI. J Vet Diagn Invest. 2011 May;23(3):492-8. PMID: 21908277 [PubMed - in process]

Search details

"encephalopathy, bovine spongiform"[MeSH Terms] OR ("encephalopathy"[All Fields] AND "bovine"[All Fields] AND "spongiform"[All Fields]) OR "bovine spongiform encephalopathy"[All Fields] OR ("mad"[All Fields] AND "cow"[All Fields] AND "disease"[All Fields]) OR "mad cow disease"[All Fields]

Search

See more...

in your search terms

- scrapie syndrome of sheep and goat to mad cow disease [Zhonghua Yi Shi Za Zhi. 2009]
- media representations of mad cow [J Toxicol Environ Health A. 2009]
- mad cow disease caused by a bacteria? [Med Hypotheses. 2004]

See more...

full-text articles in PubMed

- Classical epidemiology of variant CJD. [Int J Mol Epidemiol Genet. 2011]
- Frequency domain analysis of heart rate variability in cattle affected by scrapie [BMC Res Notes. 2011]
- Genetic studies of "CH1641-like" scrapie virus classical scrapie [PLoS One. 2011]

See all (379)...

Find related data



PubMed

- Searches the MEDLINE database
- Boolean matching
- It uses multiple indexing vocabularies:
 - Manual controlled vocabulary index (MeSH) &
 - Automatic uncontrolled vocabulary index (free text)
- By default, sorted by publication date (newest first)
- Automatic query mapping and expansion



- A controlled vocabulary for indexing biomedical documents
- 24,000 main descriptors + qualifiers
- Hierarchically organized (DAG)

1. + Anatomy [A]
2. + Organisms [B]
3. + Diseases [C]
4. + Chemicals and Drugs [D]
5. + Analytical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques and Equipment [E]
6. + Psychiatry and Psychology [F]
7. + Phenomena and Processes [G]
8. + Disciplines and Occupations [H]
9. + Anthropology, Education, Sociology and Social Phenomena [I]
10. + Technology, Industry, Agriculture [J]
11. + Humanities [K]
12. + Information Science [L]
13. + Named Groups [M]
14. + Health Care [N]
15. + Publication Characteristics [V]
16. + Geographicals [Z]

MeSH Heading	Encephalopathy, Bovine Spongiform
Tree Number	C10.228.228.800.260
Tree Number	C10.574.843.300
Tree Number	C22.196.250
Annotation	if transmitted to man, coord IM (with probably / transm) with specific brain or other neurol dis in text (IM); if transmitted to another species of animal, coord IM (with probably / transm) with animal/dis precoord (IM) + specific animal IM or NIM; DF ENCEPH BOVINE SPONGIFORM
Scope Note	A transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cattle associated with abnormal prion proteins in the brain. Affected animals develop excitability and salivation followed by ATAXIA . This disorder has been associated with consumption of SCRAPIE infected ruminant derived protein. This condition may be transmitted to humans, where it is referred to as variant or new variant CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB SYNDROME . (Vet Rec 1998 Jul 25;143(41):101-5)
Entry Term	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
Entry Term	BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy)
Entry Term	Encephalitis, Bovine Spongiform
Entry Term	Mad Cow Disease
Entry Term	Spongiform Encephalopathy, Bovine
Allowable Qualifiers	BL CF CI CL CN CO DH DI DT EC EM EN EP ET GE HI IM ME MI MO NU PA PC PP PS PX RA RL RT SU TH TM UR US VI
Entry Version	ENCEPH BOVINE SPONGIFORM
Previous Indexing	Brain Diseases /veterinary (1988-1991)
Previous Indexing	Cattle Diseases (1988-1991)
History	

Neurological diseases of ruminant livestock in Australia. I: general neurological examination, necropsy procedures and neurological manifestations of systemic disease, trauma and neoplasia.

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 **MeSH Terms**



 **LinkOut - more resources**

MeSH Terms

Animals

Australia/epidemiology

Cattle

Encephalopathy, Bovine Spongiform/diagnosis

Encephalopathy, Bovine Spongiform/epidemiology

Encephalopathy, Bovine Spongiform/prevention & control

Immunohistochemistry/veterinary

Nervous System Diseases/diagnosis

Nervous System Diseases/epidemiology

Nervous System Diseases/prevention & control

Nervous System Diseases/veterinary*

Neurologic Examination/veterinary

Prion Diseases/diagnosis

Prion Diseases/epidemiology

Prion Diseases/prevention & control

Prion Diseases/veterinary*

Sentinel Surveillance/veterinary*

■ Main descriptor/qualifier

■ * indicates important

Nature. 2011 Aug 3;476(7358):25-6. doi: 10.1038/476025a.

Search needs a shake-up.

Etzioni O.

Turing Center, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, USA. etzioni@cs.washington.edu

PMID: 21814257 [PubMed - Indexed for MEDLINE]

MeSH Terms

MeSH Terms

Informatics/methods

Informatics/trends*

Internet/trends*

Search Engine/methods

Search Engine/trends*

Software

FACTS on MeSH

- Organizing principle: “to conceptually partition the literature”
- Hierarchy: Is-a and part-of relationships
- Yearly updated
- Average: 9 MeSH descriptors per document
- Manually assigned, also based on full-text

Quiz: different styles of indexing

	Manual Controlled vocabulary (MeSH)	Automatic Uncontrolled vocabulary (free text)
Advantages	?	?
Disadvantages	?	?

Aspects: costs, representation quality, consistency, maintainability, effectiveness for searching, user friendliness, exhaustiveness/specificity

Quiz: different styles of indexing

	Manual Controlled vocabulary (MeSH)	Automatic Uncontrolled vocabulary (free text)
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Unambiguous-Terms are informative-High level summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Fast-Cheap-Trivial to maintain
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Slow-Expensive-Hard to maintain-Difficult to keep consistent-Difficult to query	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Can be ambiguous-Not as intuitive

Automatic free text vs. manual contr. vocabulary indexing

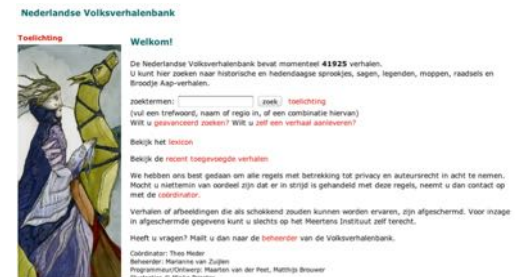
- Automatic free text indexing is cheap, fast and trivial to maintain
 - Controlled vocabulary indexing is easier to understand and unambiguous
- ➔ They might complement each other

Case study 2: Folktales



The Dutch Folktale Database

- Maintained by the Meertens Institute since 1994
- > 40,000 Dutch folktales, collected since the 19th century
- Subgenres
 - Fairy tales, legends, urban legends
 - jokes, riddles, personal narratives
- Languages
 - Dutch, Frisian, Old Dutch, Middle Dutch
 - and many Dutch dialects
- Other metadata
 - Summary, **keywords**, story type, motifs
 - proper names, storyteller, location etc.
- Online since 2004: www.verhalenbank.nl



Quiz

- Why do manual indexing in this domain?
- Why use an uncontrolled vocabulary?

Quiz

- Why do manual indexing in this domain?
 - Multilingual content
 - Variety in style (temporal, audience)
 - Assign abstract terms
 - Make a selection of important topics
- Why use an uncontrolled vocabulary?
 - New topics appear frequently (urban legends)
 - Controlled vocabulary is labour-intensive

Manual keywords (1/2)



Manual keywords (2/2)

- Keyword assignment
 - Manual uncontrolled vocabulary indexing
 - Vaguely defined indexing task
 - Carried out by many different annotators
- Statistics (42k docs, 17k Dutch)
 - 15 assigned keywords on average, median 10
 - Mostly single words (90%)
 - 43k unique keywords
 - 65% of keywords appears literally in (Dutch) text

How do the keywords relate to the story text?

- Manual classification of 50 docs, 989 keywords
- Classes fraction
 - Literal 68%
 - Almost literal 12%
 - Synonym 5%
 - Hypernym 2%
 - Typing error <1%
 - Other (more abstract, etc.) 13%
- ➔ 80% can be (almost) literally linked to the text



Do annotators agree?

- Setup
 - 10 annotators, 5 stories each
 - Each story annotated by 2 annotators
 - Judge all story words:
 - 1) non-relevant; 2) relevant; 3) highly relevant
- Results of measuring inter-annotator agreement
 - Substantial agreement on relevant keywords (κ : 0.62), only moderate agreement on highly relevant keywords (κ : 0.48)
 - Reasons for disagreement
 - 1) verbs and adjectives? 2) overlook
 - 3) choice rather than both 4) lack of instruction



Consistency is an issue with manual indexing

Summary

- Different styles of indexing and indexing languages
 - Each with its pros and cons
- Depends on the domain, important factors include
 - Type of information
 - Cost
 - Speed
 - Maintainability
 - Consistency
 - User friendliness