

Not Just Duplicates - Challenges in Identifying Non-Patent Literature Articles Across Databases

John Willmore, BizInt Solutions PIUG, Apritober 28, 2020

www.bizint.com

What is a Duplicate?

- Two or more records in a collection of results referring to the same underlying document
- In Patents, full-text versions of the same publication.
- In value added patent databases, we established that records on the same family are not duplicates.

Willmore, Challenges of Integrating Patent Information Resources, PIUG 2019 Annual Conference. bizint.com/slides



Duplicates are Naturally Occuring

- Different databases with different journal coverage
- Differences in indexing (general vs. domain)
 SciSearch indexes over 8,600 journals
 TULSA draws on 300 journals
- Differences in timeliness
- Differences in search engine / technology
- Collections built over time

Concept of Coverage

- RECALL increases as you apply different search techniques or search different collections
- We often look at COVERAGE the percentage of items retrieved by any one source/search/technique - as a way to evaluate sources and approaches

 Generally speaking, duplicates are a feature, not a bug (as long as you can handle them)

Surfing the Pipeline, bizint.com/slides#surfing

Simple De-duplication Strategies

- Hedging removing duplicates as part of a search strategy can easily remove hits from consideration from the only search that will retrieve them
- Let the platform do the deduplication
- Long history of study of duplicate detection, mostly focused on detecting duplicates within collections stored in reference management software (EndNote, Reference Manager, etc).

Traditional Duplicate Detection

- Source data is assumed to be incomplete, inconsistently fielded, and have artifacts (noise) in fields
- Basic techniques look at first author, title, year
- Naïve techniques find 50-60% of matches at best
- Weighted qualification by page, volume, or issue can improve to >80% duplicate detection

Rathbone et al, Better duplicate detection for systematic reviewers: evaluation of Systematic Review Assistant-Deduplication Module. Syst Rev. 2015; 4(1): 6. DOI: 10.1186/2046-4053-4-6

The Problems With AU/TI Matching

- Redundant Papers (publication of variations of a paper in multiple journals, presentation of a paper at multiple conferences)
- Orthographic standards for names, titles
 (John Willmore, J Willmore, Willmore-J-A)
- Common names (Smith; Yang; Li; Singh)
- Heavy publication activity can cause 'collisions'
 COVID-19 project at TechMiningForGlobalGood.org
 61,278 publications in PubMed as of Oct 7, 2020

How the Pros Do It

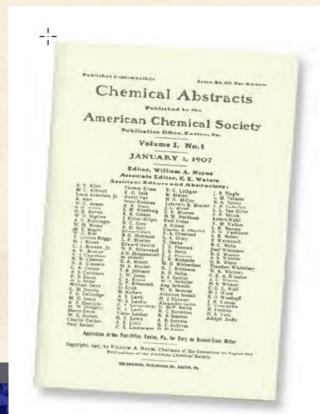
- Search aggregators often do much better in duplicate detection [Citation Needed]
- There is not a significant difference in algorithms
- Key differences are based on the data available
 - Knowing where the data comes from
 - Having a complete feed of content

When You Know The Source

- Knowing the source (e.g. MEDLINE, EMBASE) lets you de-duplicate based on AN
- Or extract content based on knowledge of the structure and tendencies of the publisher
- And use additional identifiers, not often included in typical display formats (e.g. PMID, PMCID, PII)
- If the data tells you the answer, listen!

DOI - The Great Hope

 "In our field, we have 100% coverage with DOI - de-duplication is not a problem" - private discussion



Source: Introduction to CAS

DOI - missed it by that much

- The DOI system would in theory allow for clear duplicate detection
- Use is not universal across journals

Use is not consistent - one DOI for an entire conference

proceeding Dialog

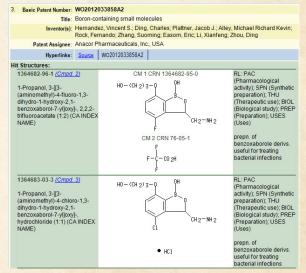


Identifiers Which are Close

- DOI + first page number
- ISSN + Year + first page + first author
- Electronic-ISSNs, ISBNs treated similarly

Content Differences Among Duplicates

- Dependent on the retrieval path (platform, format) as well as the publisher / database
- Indexing is often valuable primarily for search but can be the most important aspect of a result
- Availability of dates varies greatly (e.g. first available date)



Conclusion

- Duplicates are a feature, not a bug
- Different techniques can handle duplicates in different contexts
- Give thought to the selection of databases and display formats



