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The Scholarly Impact of CLEF (2000-2009)

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Motivation



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- Evaluating evaluation campaigns
- Assess the impact of research not possible otherwise
 - Scientific impact
 - Scholarly impact, filed patents, etc.
 - Economic impact
 - Technology transfer, time & effort saved for researchers, etc.
- Goal: Assess the scholarly impact of CLEF (2000-2009)
 - Thornley, Johnson, Smeaton, & Lee. The scholarly impact of TRECVID (2003–2009). JASIST 2011.
 - Tsikrika, Seco de Herrera, & Müller. Assessing the scholarly impact of ImageCLEF. CLEF 2011.
 - Rowe, Wood, Link, & Simoni. Economic impact assessment of NIST's Text REtrieval Conference (TREC) Program. Technical Report, 2010.

CLEF evaluation campaign (2000-2009)



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- Structured in Labs and/or Tasks
 - 14 Labs:
 - Adhoc, CL-SR, CLEF-IP, Domain-Specific, GeoCLEF, GRID@CLEF, iCLEF, ImageCLEF, INFILE, LogCLEF, MorphoChallenge, QA@CLEF, VideoCLEF, WebCLEF
 - 17 Tasks: AdHoc (4), ImageCLEF (7), QA (6)
- CLEF publications
 - CLEF Working Notes (NoteBooks)
 - **CLEF proceedings**
 - Papers describing or using CLEF resources published elsewhere
- CLEF proceedings publications types
 - Participant
 - Overview
 - Evaluation

Scholarly impact analysis method



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Bibliometric analysis

1. Publication data collection

- Source: DBLP
- **Annotation** (automatic + manual validation)
 - Type : evaluation, overview, participant
 - Lab + Task

2. Citation data collection

- i. Thomson Reuters (ISI) Web of Science
- ii. Scopus
- iii. Google Scholar
 - Publish or Perish (**PoP**) – Anne-Wil Harzing
 - Online Citation Service (**OCS**) – University of Leipzig

3. Data analysis



Google Scholar shortcomings

- Several entries for the same publication
 - Due to misspellings
 - May deflate citation count
 - PoP: supports manual merging of publications
 - OCS: multiple matches merged manually
- Grouping citations of different papers
 - With similar titles and author lists
 - E.g., conference and journal versions of a paper
 - Manual data cleaning
- Inability to correctly identify publication year

CLEF proceedings publications



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Number of CLEF 2000-2009 publications : 873

- Scopus indexes 92% (2000 – 2001 missing)
- Google Scholar indexes 97.5%

Country	Affiliation	Author	
Spain	178 Universidad de Alicante	44 Jones G.J.F.	29
Germany	105 UNED	33 Mandl T.	25
United States	93 Dublin City University	30 Llopis F.	24
France	67 University of Amsterdam	29 de Rijke M.	24
United Kingdom	61 Universidad de Jaen	27 Garcia-Cumbreras M.A.	20
Italy	55 Universität Hildesheim	25 Urena-Lopez L.A.	20
Netherlands	54 Universidad Carlos III de Madrid	24 Clough P.	19
Switzerland	52 UC Berkeley	23 Penas A.	18
Ireland	41 Universidad Politecnica de Madrid	22 Rosso P.	18
Canada	25 University of Sheffield	21 Leveling J.	17

* CLEF 2002-2009 proceedings (source: Scopus)

CLEF proceedings citations



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	# labs	# publ.	OCS			PoP			Scopus		
			# cit.	avg.	h-index	# cit.	avg.	h-index	# cit.	avg.	h-index
2000	3	27	501	18.56	15	507	18.78	15	-	-	-
2001	2	37	904	24.43	17	901	24.35	17	-	-	-
2002	4	44	636	14.45	14	634	14.41	14	74	1.68	4
2003	6	65	787	12.11	15	776	11.94	15	87	1.34	5
2004	6	81	989	12.21	17	942	11.63	16	137	1.69	5
2005	8	112	1231	10.99	18	1207	10.78	17	133	1.19	5
2006	8	127	1278	10.06	18	1250	9.84	18	133	1.05	5
2007	7	116	1028	8.86	16	902	7.78	15	119	1.03	5
2008	10	131	1002	7.65	16	989	7.55	16	78	0.60	3
2009	10	133	781	5.87	12	770	5.79	12	144	1.08	5
Total	14	873	9,137	10.47	41	8,878	10.17	41	905	1.04	10



CLEF proceedings citations

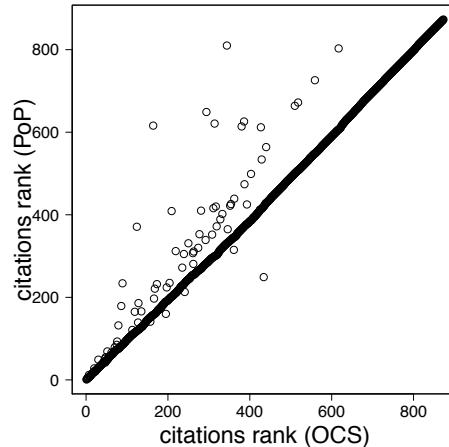
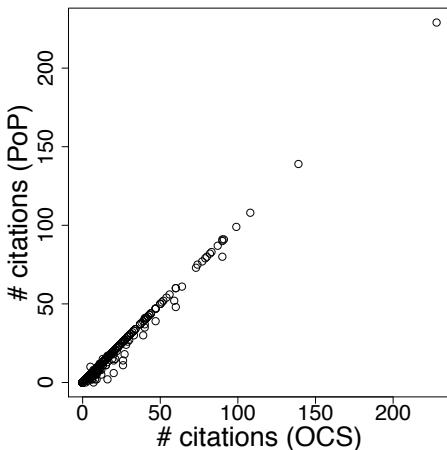
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OCS finds 259 more citations (+3%)

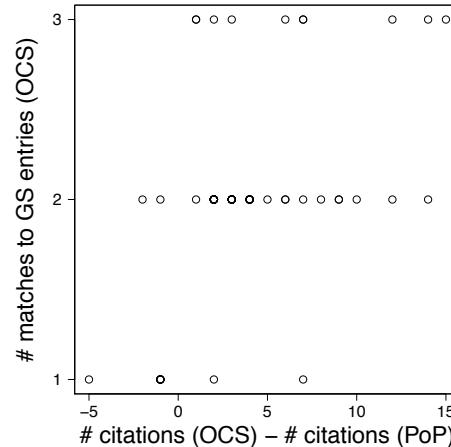
OCS vs. PoP



Correlations



Differences



- Strong correlations for number of citations and rankings
- Overlap in top $k = \{100, 200, \dots, 500\} > 96\%$

- Difference per publication: 1-15 citations
- Higher difference → More likely OCS found more matches

In essence comparable, with different querying facilities,
may prove advantageous in different situations



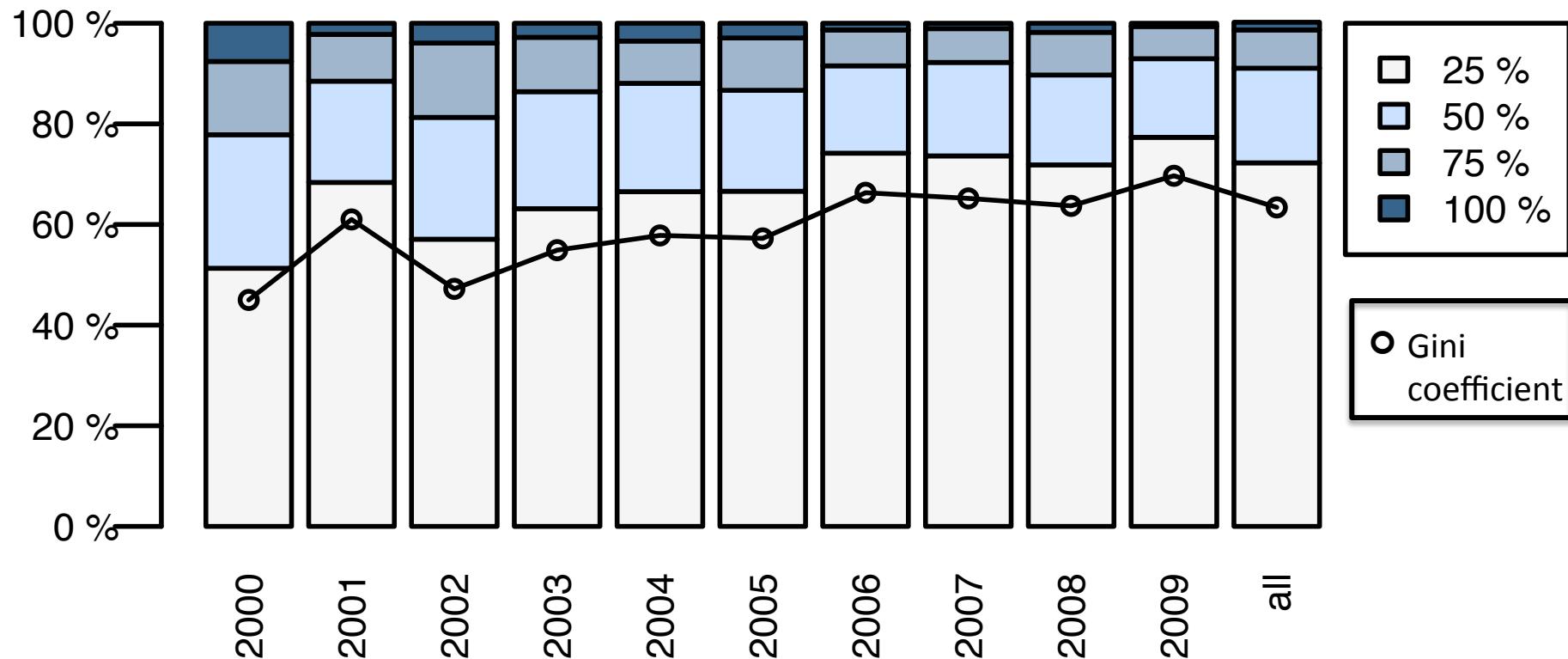
Top CLEF proceedings publications

rank	# citations	Author(s)	Title	Year	Type
1	228	Voorhees	The Philosophy of Information Retrieval Evaluation.	2001	E
2	139	Müller et al.	Overview of the ImageCLEFmed 2006 Medical Retrieval and Medical Annotation Tasks.	2006	O
3	108	Clough et al.	The CLEF 2005 Cross-Language Image Retrieval Track.	2005	O
4	99	Clough et al.	The CLEF 2004 Cross-Language Image Retrieval Track.	2004	O
5	91	Vallin et al.	Overview of the CLEF 2005 Multilingual QA Track.	2005	O
6	90	Chen	Cross-Language Retrieval Experiments at CLEF 2002.	2002	P
7	90	Grubinger et al.	Overview of the ImageCLEFphoto 2007 Photographic Retrieval Task.	2007	O
8	90	Monz & de Rijke	Shallow Morphological Analysis in Monolingual Information Retrieval for Dutch, German and Italian	2001	P
9	87	Müller et al.	Overview of the CLEF 2009 Medical Image Retrieval Track.	2009	O
10	83	Magnini et al.	Overview of the CLEF 2004 Multilingual QA Track.	2004	O

Citation distribution



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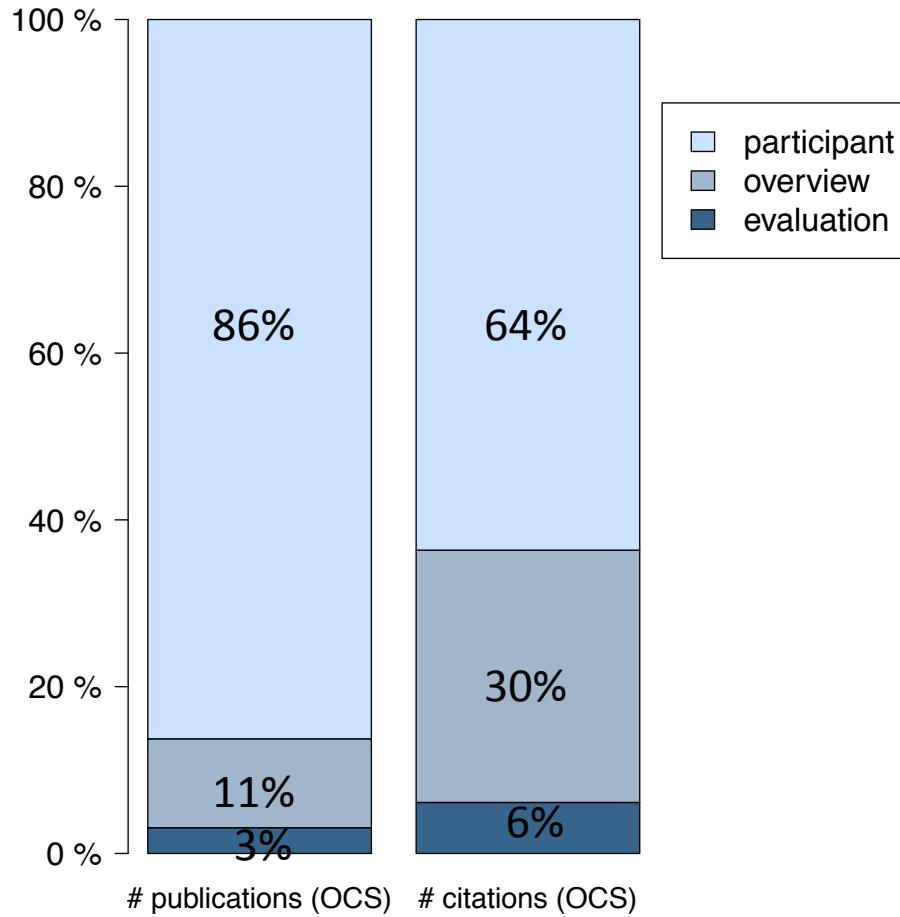


- Top 25% cited publications → 50-75% of all citations (72% avg.)
- Bottom 25% cited publications → 0.5-7.5% of all citations (1.5% avg.)
- Citation skewness increasing over the years

CLEF publications types



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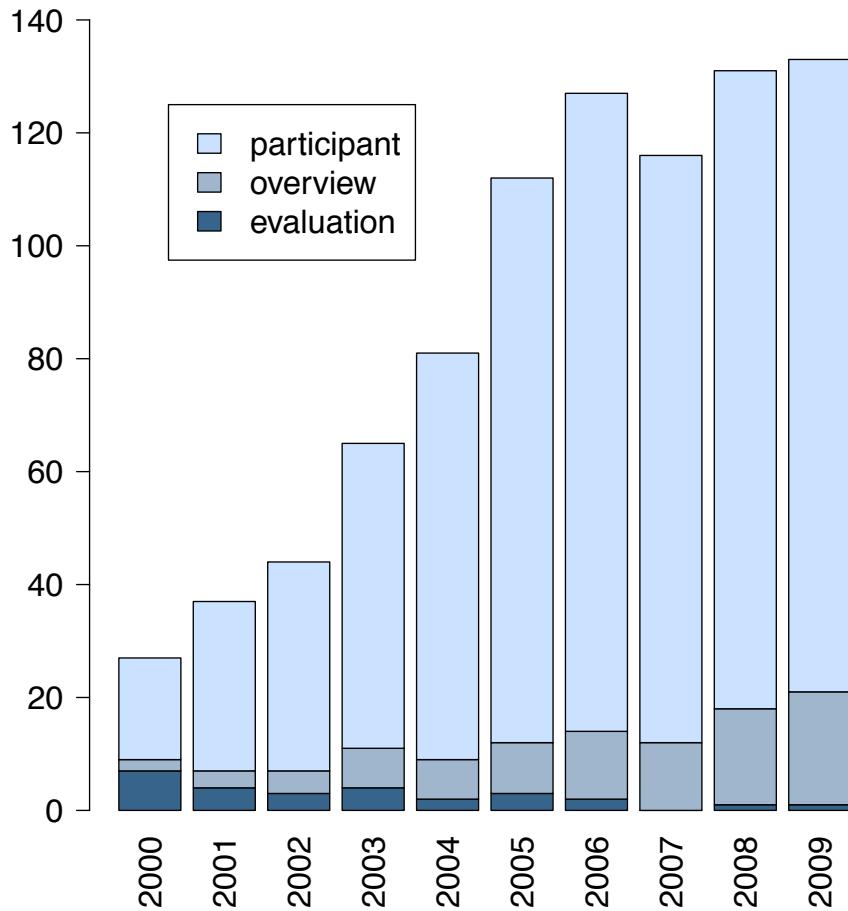


- **Overviews:**
relative citation frequency =
 $3 \times$ relative publication frequency
- 7 of top 10 most cited are overviews
- 60% of the papers with $\# \text{citations} \geq h\text{-index}$ are overviews
- Impact of overviews increases over the years

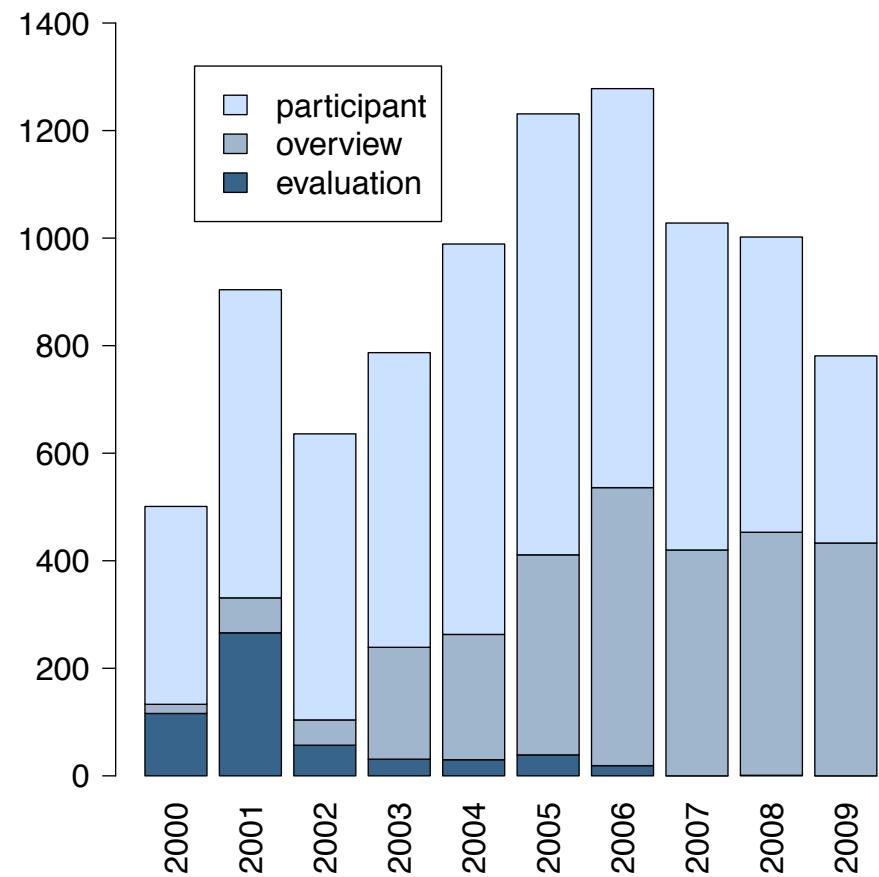
CLEF publications types



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publications

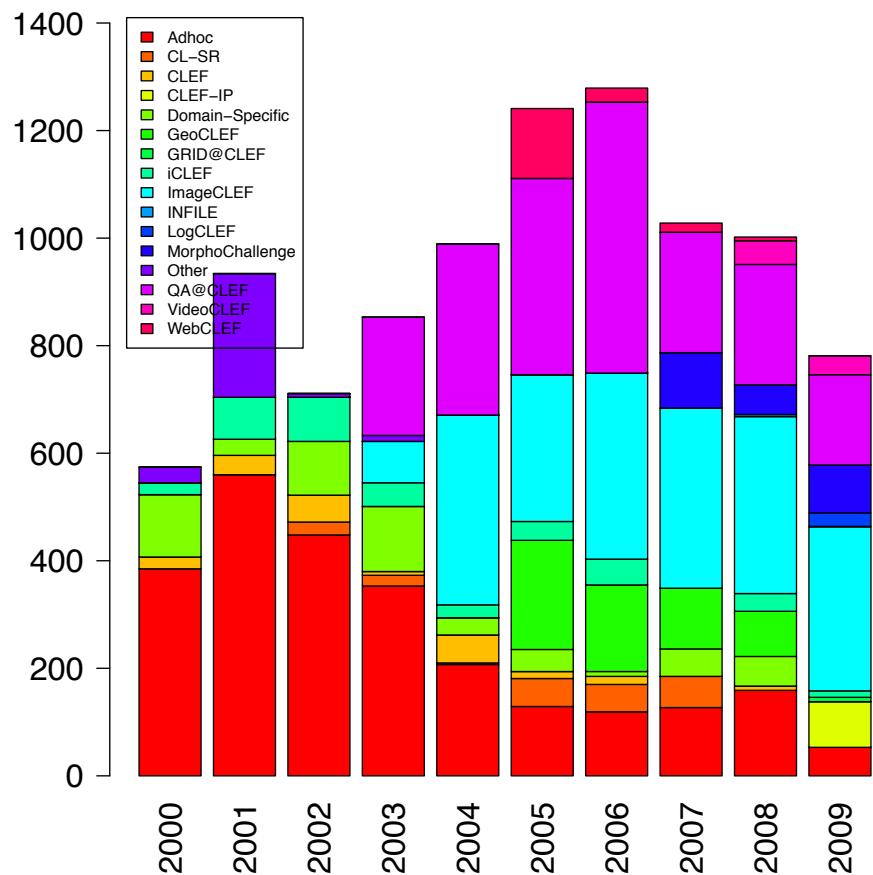
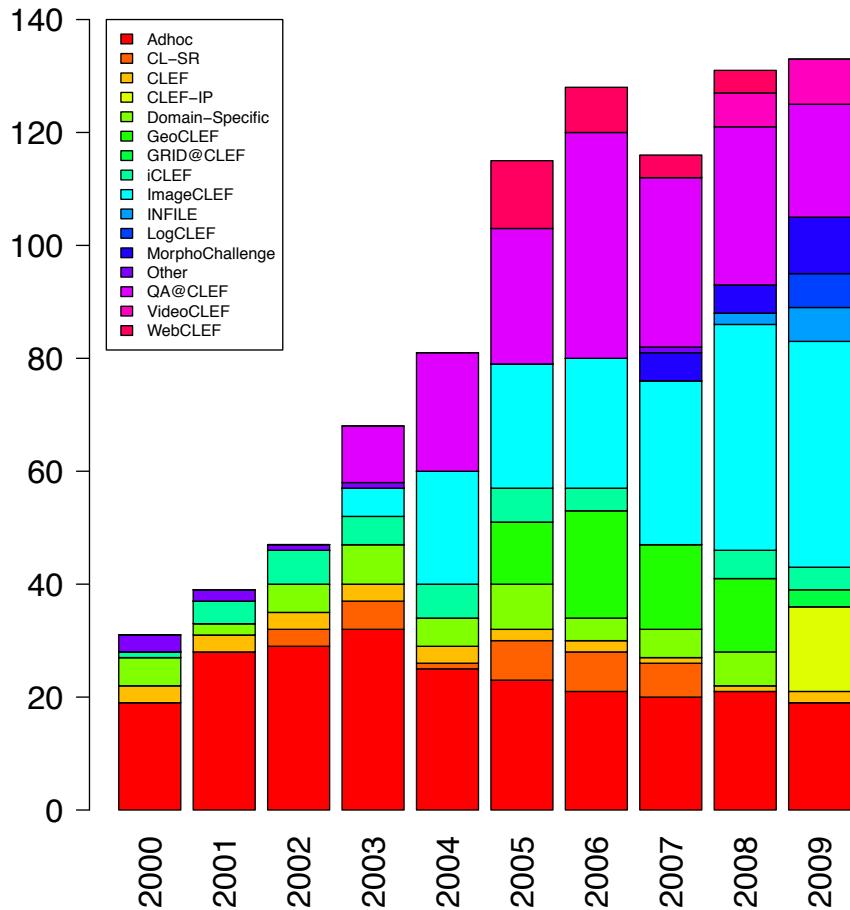


citations

CLEF Labs scholarly impact



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CLEF Labs scholarly impact



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	#years	# publications	# citations	# citations / publication
Adhoc	10	237	2,540	10.72
CL-SR	6	29	208	7.17
CLEF	10	23	203	8.83
CLEF-IP	1	15	85	5.67
Domain-Specific	9	47	555	11.81
GeoCLEF	4	58	561	9.67
GRID@CLEF	1	3	8	2.67
iCLEF	9	41	378	9.22
ImageCLEF	7	179	2,018	11.27
INFILE	2	8	5	0.62
LogCLEF	1	6	25	4.17
MorphoChallenge	3	20	247	12.35
Other	5	8	277	34.62
QA@CLEF	7	173	2,023	11.69
VideoCLEF	2	14	79	5.64
WebCLEF	4	28	180	6.43
All	10	873	9,137	10.47

CLEF Labs scholarly impact



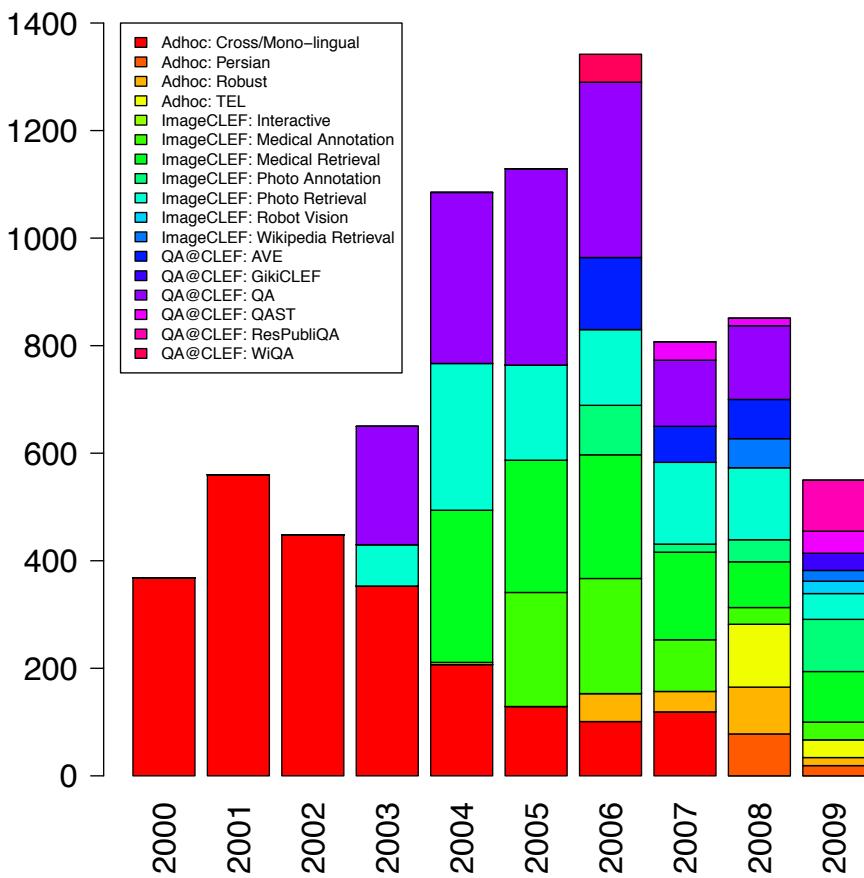
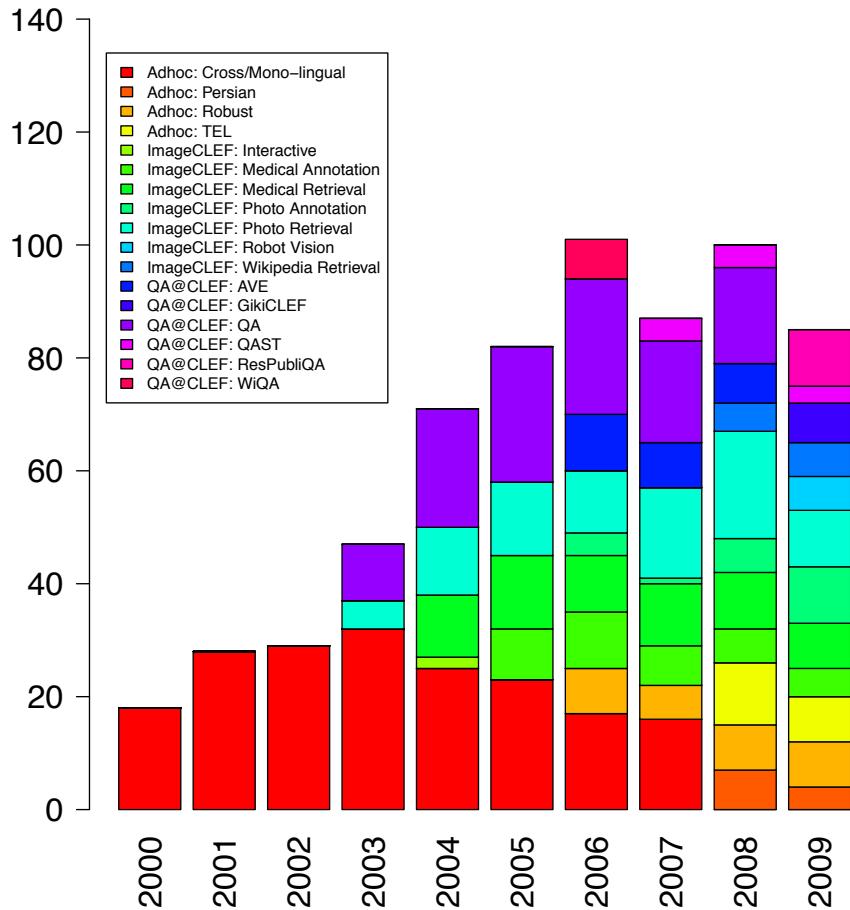
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CLEF Tasks scholarly impact



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CLEF Tasks scholarly impact



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Adhoc	10	237	2,540	10.72
Cross/Mono-lingual	8	188	2285	12.15
Persian	2	11	97	8.82
Robust	4	30	192	6.40
TEL	2	19	150	7.89
ImageCLEF	7	179	2,018	11.27
Interactive	1	2	4	2.00
Medical Annotation	5	37	586	15.84
Medical Retrieval	6	62	1002	16.16
Photo Annotation	4	21	245	11.67
Photo Retrieval	7	86	1002	11.65
Robot Vision	1	6	23	3.83
Wikipedia Retrieval	2	11	74	6.73
QA@CLEF	7	173	2,023	11.69
AVE	3	25	274	10.96
GikiCLEF	1	7	32	4.57
QA	6	114	1489	13.06
QAST	3	11	89	8.09
ResPubliQA	1	10	95	9.50
WiQA	1	7	52	7.43



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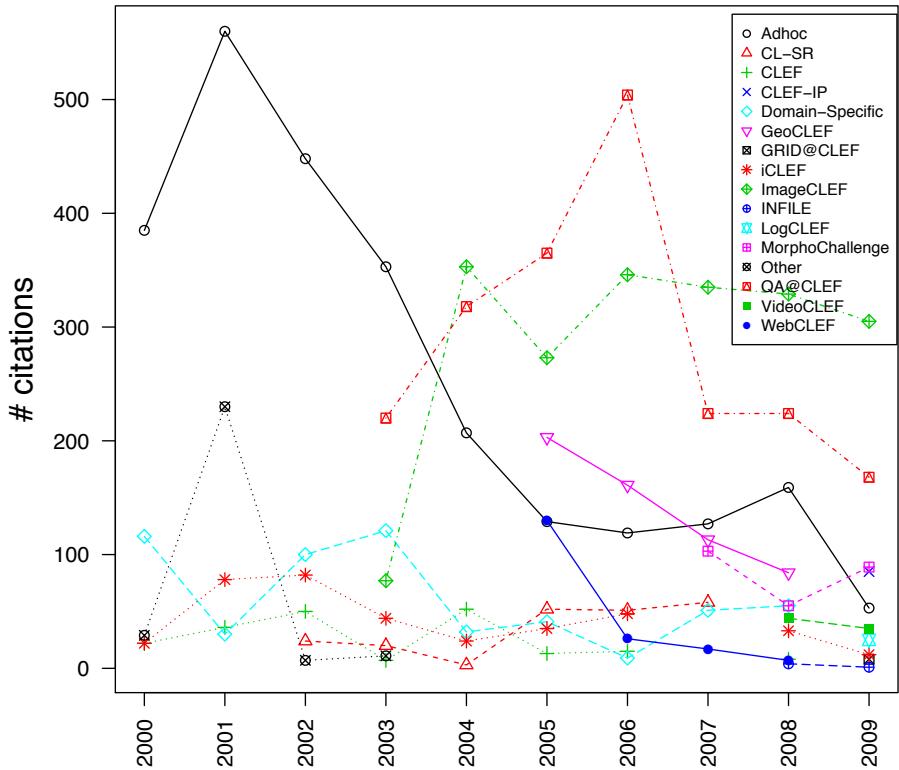
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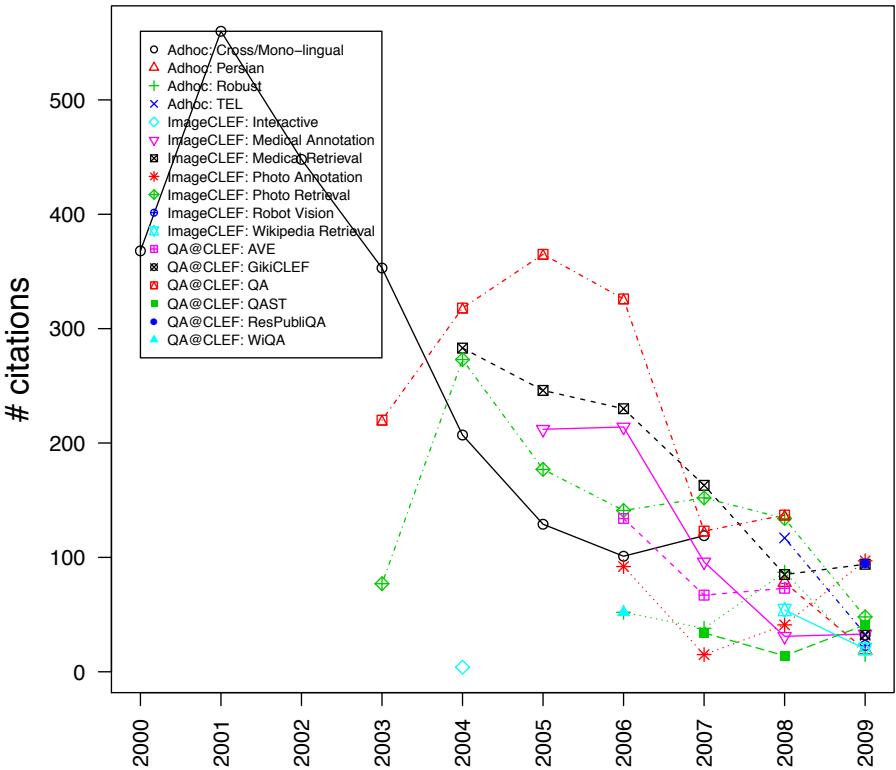
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CLEF Labs & Tasks trends



Labs

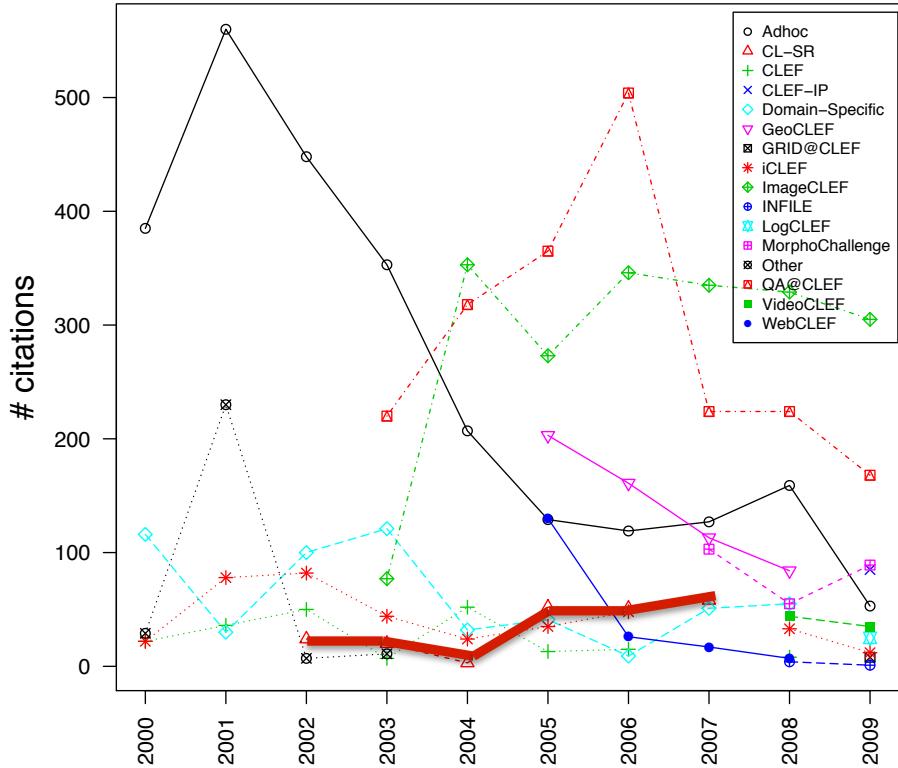


Tasks

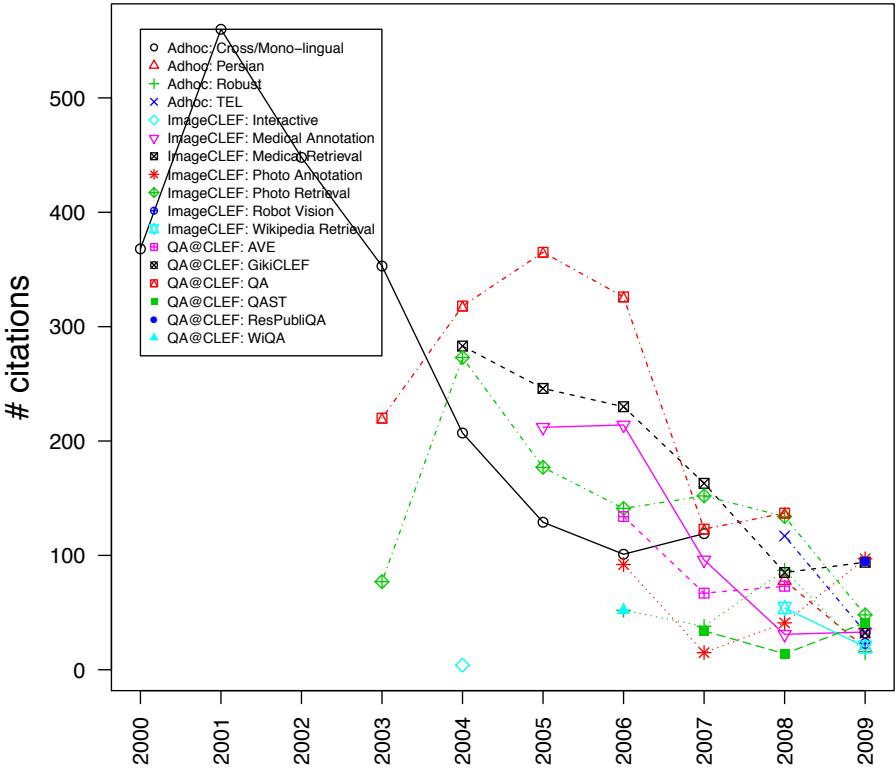
Peak in second or third year of operation, followed by a decline,
... unless there is a major overhaul of the task



CLEF Labs & Tasks trends



Labs

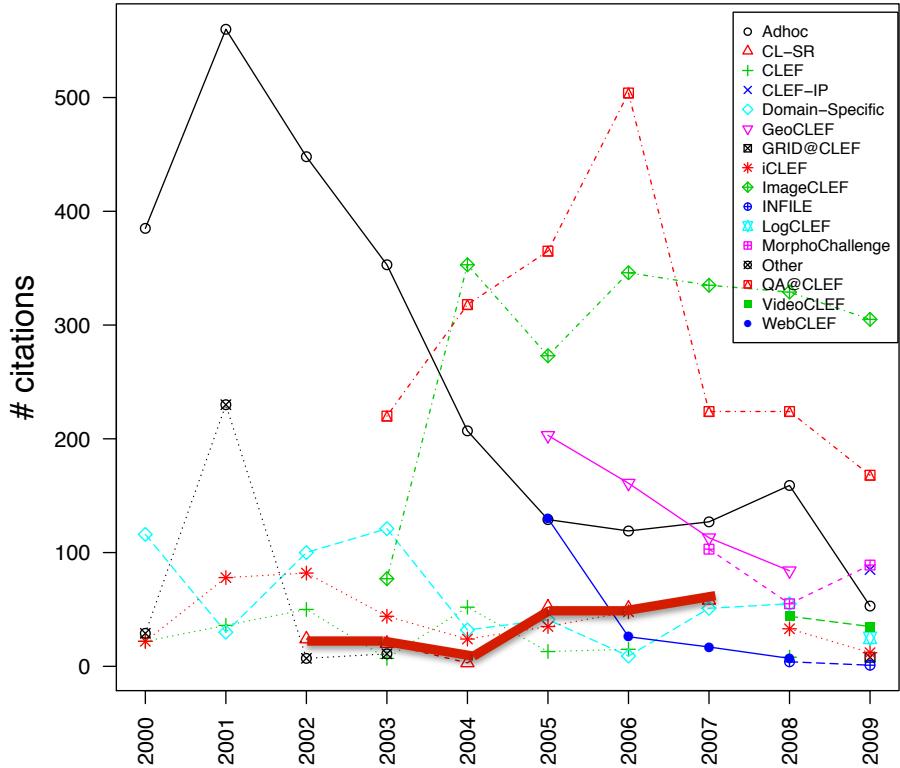


Tasks

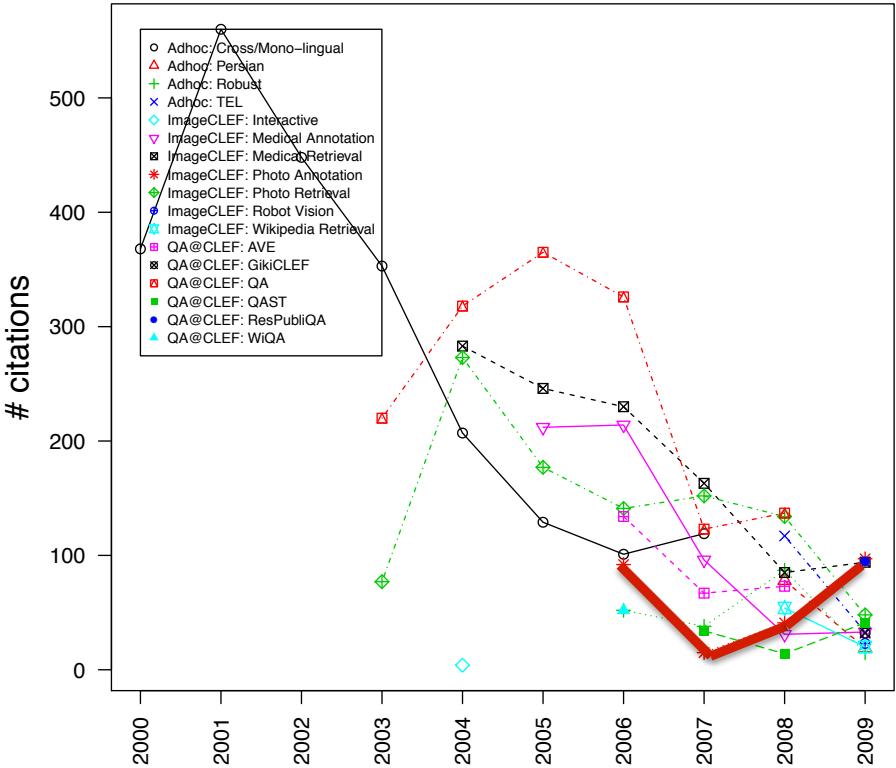
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CLEF Labs & Tasks trends



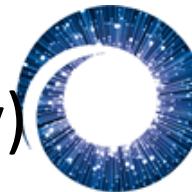
Labs



Tasks

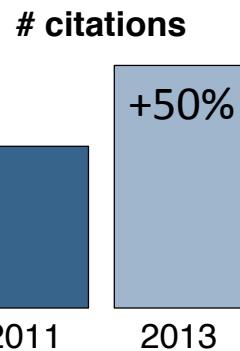
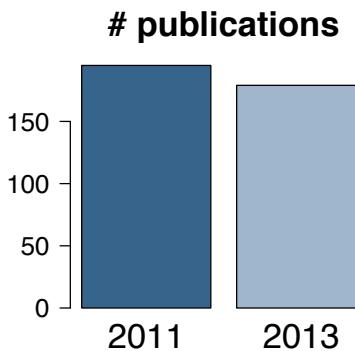
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ImageCLEF impact (2011* vs. 2013 study)

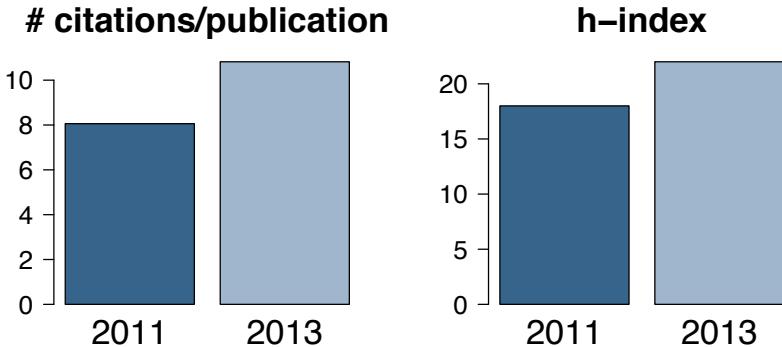
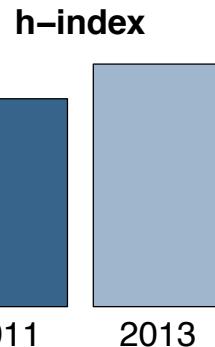
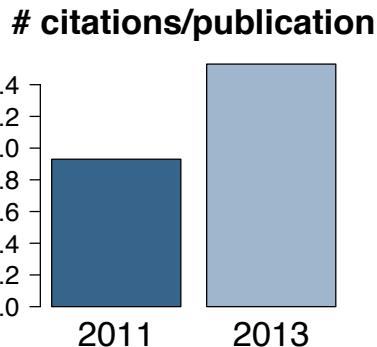
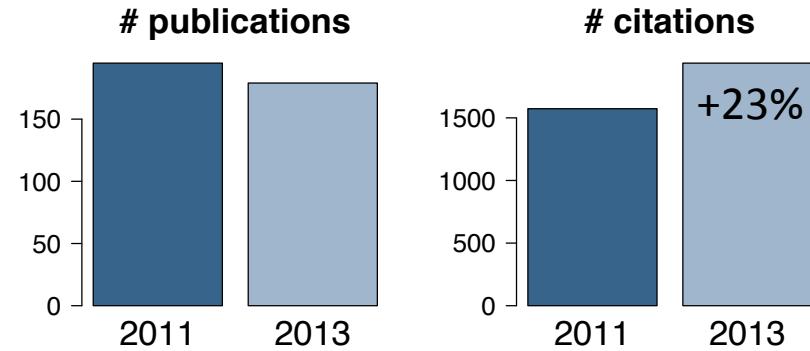


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Scopus



PoP



* Tsikrika, Seco de Herrera, & Müller. Assessing the scholarly impact of ImageCLEF. CLEF 2011.



What to compare against?

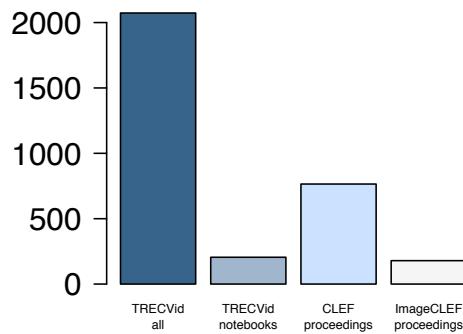
- Different fields → Different citation practices
 - CLEF is multi-disciplinary
- Identify similar fields
 - Level of granularity? Lab? Task? Other?
 - Bibliometric studies not readily available
- Other evaluation campaigns
 - In similar fields



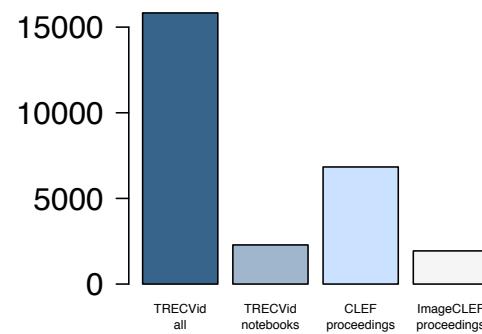
Comparison to TRECVID* (2003-2009)

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publications

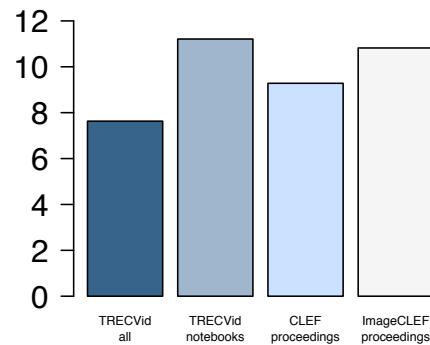


citations

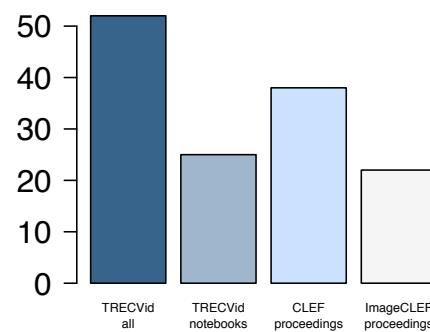


- [Dark Blue Box] TRECVID all
- [Medium Blue Box] TRECVID notebooks
- [Light Blue Box] CLEF proceedings
- [White Box] ImageCLEF proceedings

citations/publication



h-index



* Thornley, Johnson, Smeaton, & Lee. The scholarly impact of TRECVID (2003–2009). JASIST 2011. ²⁷

Conclusions & Future work



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- Impact assessment supports research policy decisions
- **Bibliometric analysis of CLEF proceedings**
 - 873 publications with 9,137 citations (10.47 citations / publication)
 - Skewed citation distribution
 - High impact of overview papers
 - Labs/Tasks need to update every 2-3 years
 - TRECVID vs. ImageCLEF : comparable #citations/publication
- Next steps:
 - Include CLEF working notes + CLEF derived publications
 - Automatically learn the task/dataset associated with a publication
 - Compare against other baselines



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Thank you!