

ImageCLEFmed 2009: towards clinically relevant tasks



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Overview

- History and goals of ImageCLEFmed
 - Past databases, goals, tasks
- Clinical workflow
 - Evidence-based medicine, case-based reasoning
- Ideas for 2009
- Discussion



ImageCLEFmed 2004-2008: Goals

- 2004: Motivate visual retrieval researchers to participate
 - Topics were images, only
- 2005-2007: stimulate the combination of visual and textual retrieval methods (multimodal)
 - Larger database of teaching files
- 2008: move towards a new database with clinical relevance (Goldminer)
 - Peer reviewed articles from scientific journals



Task development

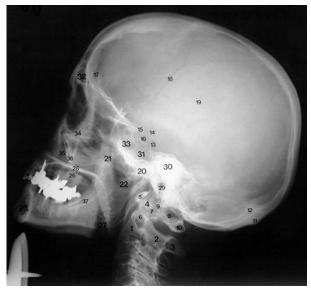
- Using various sources to find topics
 - Log files of search engines, medline, surveys, etc.
- Along four axes that were identified
 - Anatomic region
 - Modality
 - Pathology (regarded as most important)
 - Visual observation ("enlarged heart")



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Example topics (1)





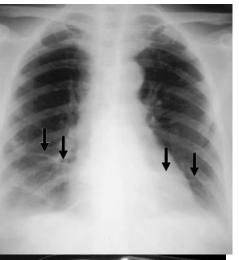




Example topics (2)

Ultrasound with rectangular sensor.
Ultraschallbild mit rechteckigem
Sensor.

Ultrason avec capteur rectangulaire.







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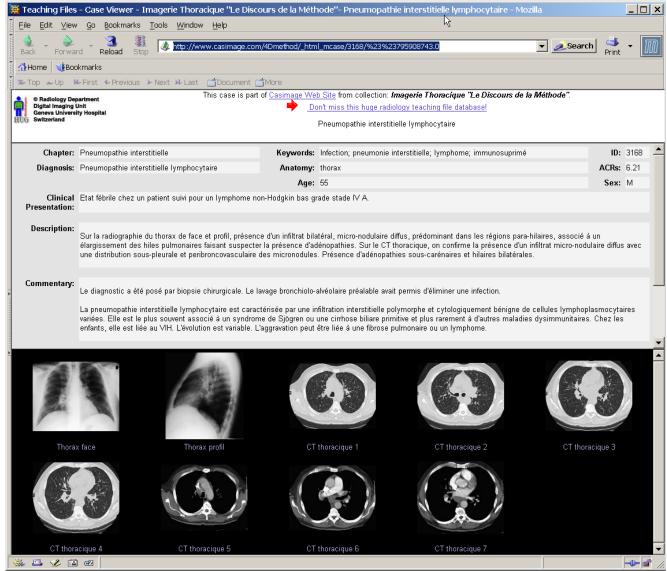


Pulmonary embolism all modalities. Lungenembolie alle Modalitäten. Embolie pulmonaire, toutes les



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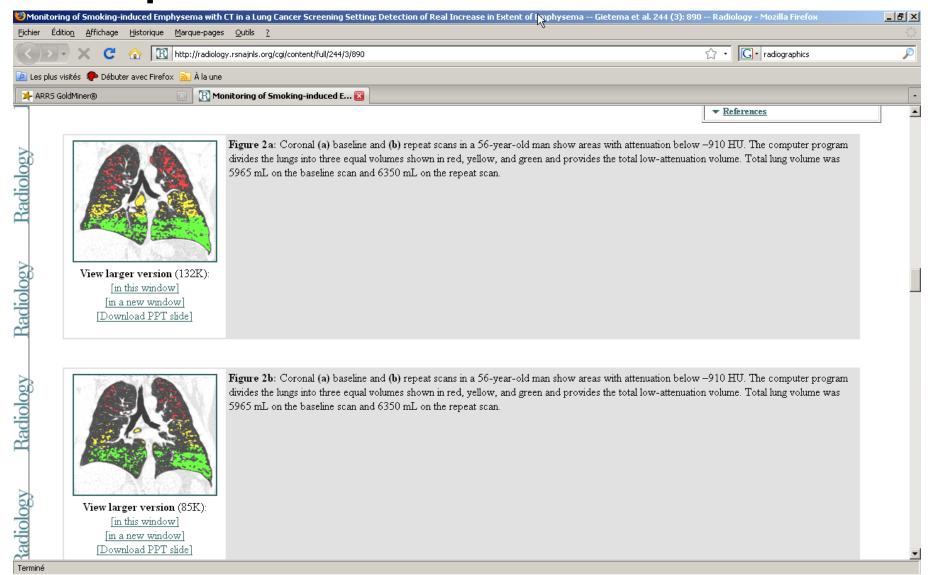
Example case 2005-2007





Example case 2008

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Clinical relevance of the search tasks

- Clearly defined information needs such as our search tasks exist, but ...
 - ... in teaching, less critical domains
 - Additional information for illustrations rather than decision support
 - Text can find most of what we ask for
- Database is partly of unknown quality
- Unit for clinician is a case rather than the image



Evidence-based medicine

- Use evidence from medical literature to find the diagnosis and the best treatment
 - Studies in favour or against a certain action
- Case-based reasoning
 - Find the most similar cases with their outcome
 - Perform the actions that lead to the best results
- Use knowledge stored in past cases (of an institution) and in the scientific literature
 - This access is not always easy



Clinical decision support – relevance

- Use incomplete information available at a certain moment
 - Anamnesis, lab results, images, symptoms, problems, ...
- Find high quality similar cases and their outcomes
 - Case-based reasoning
 - High quality cases in the scientific literature rather than teaching files



One proposition for 2008

- Use a similar database as in 2008
 - Maybe larger?
- Use the case as the unit
 - Not the image
- Search tasks are an incomplete description
 - 1-5 images of various sorts
 - Part of an anamnesis
 - List of symptoms, some lab results, etc.



Problems with this methodology

- Creating the search tasks is hard and takes time
 - Take cases from the literature (non-distributed) and remove information selectively
 - Keep diagnosis for the relevance judgements
- Pools could be increased automatically when searching with full information
- Relevance judgements are harder
 - More subjective time consuming



... and even more problems

- Images from clinical archives are in DICOM
 - Often 10-12 bit grey levels, ...
 - Images in teaching files and the literature are in JPEG is a certain level/window setting
- Clinical case are (fortunately) often healthy or with little pathology
 - Literature and teaching files do not keep proportion of reality
 - Rather abnormal cases, extreme scenarios, ...



Other options for 2009

- A completely new database
 - Finding nodules in lung CTs?
 - LIDC database of the NIH
 - Sorting a CT stack into the right order
 - 3D task
 - Other image databases are available
- Maybe the literature and a new database?
 - Both tasks will need a clear focus



Conclusions

- A change is somewhat required for ImageCLEFmed
 - Interesting database but little can be learned from the current tasks
- Visual retrieval needs to be motivated in a better way
- Steps towards clinically more relevant tasks are needed
 - Case instead of image as unit



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