



# M3.1 – Cross-lingual Thesaurus and Controlled Term Translation

Cristina España-Bonet<sup>1</sup>, Roland Ramthun<sup>2</sup> and Sophie Henning<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universität des Saarlandes

<sup>2</sup>Leibniz-Zentrum für Psychologische Information und Dokumentation

– v1.2 –  
March 2018

## **Abstract**

This document describes the data, resources, methodology and software developed to translate the controlled terms and related text available as metadata in the PubPsych database.

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Controlled Terms in PubPsych</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Quadrilingual Lexicon</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Multilingual MeSH . . . . .	4
2.2	Multilingual Wikipedia Entries . . . . .	5
2.3	Apertium Dictionaries . . . . .	6
2.4	Post-edited Automatic Translations . . . . .	6
2.5	Cleaning and Quad-lexicon Compilation . . . . .	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Controlled Term Translation</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	Methodology . . . . .	8
3.2	Software . . . . .	9
<b>4</b>	<b>Query Translation</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1	Methodology . . . . .	11
4.2	Off-line Software . . . . .	11
4.3	Online Integration into PubPsych . . . . .	11
4.4	Evaluation of the Queries . . . . .	12
<b>5</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Basic Rules for Plural Formation</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Translation Coverage for CTlanH, ITlanH and ITlanL</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>References</b>	<b>15</b>

# 1 Controlled Terms in PubPsych

The different database segments in PubPsych use controlled terms from different systems (e.g. the Medical Subject Headings or the APA thesaurus) or even no controlled terminology at all. Many databases include indexing terms, meaning these terms are descriptive, but freely assigned and not from a controlled vocabulary.

The relevant fields holding the controlled term and indexing term information are

**CTlanH:** "Controlled term high". These are terms from controlled vocabulary (MeSH, APA/PSYINDEX terms, etc.), not freely assigned terms.

**CTlanL:** "Controlled terms low". As CTlanH, but the person who created the record gave these entries a lower importance for describing the content than the ones in CTlanH.

**ITlanH:** "Additional descriptor high". As the name says, additional describing terms, which may have been freely chosen by the person who created the record, so they do not need to come from a controlled terminology.

**ITlanL:** "Additional descriptor low". As ITlanH, but with lower descriptive relevance.

Table 1 and Table 2 give an overview about the available descriptive term data available for each database segment.

	CTEH/CTEL	CTDH/CTDL	CTFH/CTFL	CTSH/CTSL
MEDLINE	90.4%/96.0%	90.4%/96.0%	90.4%/96.0%	-/-
ERIC	53.2%/98.9%	-/-	-/-	-/-
ISOC	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
NARCIS	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
NORART	-/94.2%	-/-	-/-	-/-
PASCAL	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
PsychData	-/94.3%	-/94.3%	-/-	-/-
PsychOpen	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
PSYINDEX	96.0%/93.2%	96.0%/93.2%	-/-	-/-

Table 1: Relative availability of controlled terms for records per database segment

	ITEH/ITEL	ITDH/ITDL	ITFH/ITFL	ITSH/ITSL
MEDLINE	9.9%/8.9%	-/-	-/-	-/-
ERIC	43.6%/20.9%	-/-	-/-	-/-
ISOC	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/95.9%
NARCIS	40.8%/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
NORART	-/34.6%	-/-	-/-	-/-
PASCAL	-/99.4%	-/0%	-/99.4%	-/99.2%
PsychData	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
PsychOpen	80.8%/-	-/-	-/-	-/-
PSYINDEX	4.4%/1.3%	4.5%/1.3%	-/-	-/-

Table 2: Relative availability of indexing terms for records per database segment

For a first analysis, we extract some of the controlled terms (CTs) from a frozen Solr instance<sup>1</sup> using the fields CTDL, CTEL, CTFL and CTSL. Table 3 shows the statistics per language. We use CTlanL for this analysis because it is the field appearing in more records.

Some of the entries have two parts, the descriptor and a class specification in parentheses:

Action Potentials  
Action Potentials (drug effects)  
Action Potentials (genetics)

This allows to further split the controlled terms into a descriptor and a specification thereby reducing the number of unique terms to translate as seen in rows *uniq descriptors* and *uniq specifications* of Table 3.

	German	English	French	Spanish
CTlanL total	3,659,210	4,639,171	2,371,110	0
CTlanL uniq	56,754	60,939	51,759	0
descriptors uniq	23,556	27,734	18,623	0
specifications uniq	393	392	187	0

Table 3: Number of controlled terms per language in the PubPsych Database. See text for the nomenclature. CTlanL denotes the name of the language dependent PubPsych fields for CTs, e.g. CTDL for German or CTSL for Spanish

After this preliminary analysis to study the expectable quantity of different terms, we fixed the set of relevant fields to be CTlanH, CTlanL, ITlanH and ITlanL. In order to translate these 16 fields (4 fields per language) we create a quadrilingual lexicon as explained in the next section.

## 2 Quadrilingual Lexicon

The resources described in this section can be found in the project’s Seafile in the folder: CLIR-PubPsych/Code/MT/DBtranslator/models/CT

### 2.1 Multilingual MeSH

We extract the largest part of our quadrilingual lexicon from a quadrilingual MeSH version created with MeSHMerger<sup>2</sup> file MeSH\_2017\_de+en+fr+es.xml. The format of the data has been changed to a list format for CT translation. We extract one list per language L1, where for each term (preferred, non-preferred, and permutations) describing a concept in L1 only the preferred term in the other languages L2, L3 and L4 is added as translation. This ensures that any term for any concept in any language is always mapped to the preferred term in the other languages. The identifier of the concept is also added. With this procedure we obtain 175,004 concepts for English, 96,333 for French, 70,694 for German and 66,828 for Spanish. The difference between languages stems from the different number of *synonyms* (permutations and strings) in the MeSH translations.

<sup>1</sup>PubPsych record set as of 4th August 2017 with 1,037,536 entries.

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/clubs-project/MeSHMerger>

Example for the English terms for concept ID:M0000020. We first show the complete MeSH entry for the concept, and then the four files that are generated where one can see why different languages have different numbers of entries:

```
MeSH_2017_de+en+fr+es.xml:
<concept id="M0000020">
  <term id="T000045" lang="eng" preferred="true">
    <string>Abomasum</string>
    <permutation>Abomasums</permutation>
  </term>
  <term id="spa0000603" lang="spa" preferred="true">
    <string>Abomaso</string>
  </term>
  <term id="spa0049997" lang="spa" preferred="false">
    <string>Cuajar</string>
  </term>
  <term id="ger0000018" lang="ger" preferred="true">
    <string>Labmagen</string>
  </term>
  <term id="fre0063293" lang="fre" preferred="true">
    <string>Abomasum</string>
  </term>
  <term id="fre0000018" lang="fre" preferred="false">
    <string>Caillette</string>
  </term>
</concept>
```

```
mesh.dekey.txt:
Labmagen ||| en:Abomasum ||| es:Abomaso ||| fr:Abomasum ||| ID:M0000020
```

```
mesh.enkey.txt:
Abomasum ||| es:Abomaso ||| de:Labmagen ||| fr:Abomasum ||| ID:M0000020
Abomasums ||| es:Abomaso ||| de:Labmagen ||| fr:Abomasum ||| ID:M0000020
```

```
mesh.eskey.txt:
Abomaso ||| en:Abomasum ||| de:Labmagen ||| fr:Abomasum ||| ID:M0000020
Cuajar ||| en:Abomasum ||| de:Labmagen ||| fr:Abomasum ||| ID:M0000020
```

```
mesh.frkey.txt:
Abomasum ||| en:Abomasum ||| es:Abomaso ||| de:Labmagen ||| ID:M0000020
Caillette ||| en:Abomasum ||| es:Abomaso ||| de:Labmagen ||| ID:M0000020
```

Notice that within each file/language, the keys are unique but there might be degeneracy when we concatenate the 4 languages into a single file – in this example, *Abomasum* is a key both for English and French.

## 2.2 Multilingual Wikipedia Entries

To increase the amount of psychological term translations, we have extracted multilingual in-domain titles from Wikipedia on psychology and health with the WikiTailor tool<sup>3</sup> [1].

WikiTailor extracts domain articles by exploring the categories graph starting from the category describing the domain (psychology and health in our case) and identifying a subset of related categories and their associated articles<sup>4</sup>. These articles are gathered

<sup>3</sup><https://github.com/cristinae/WikiTailor>

<sup>4</sup>We use models WT0.5-100 or WT0.5-500 depending on the language. Refer to WikiTailor manual if you want to replicate these models <http://cristinae.github.io/WikiTailor/>

independently for English, German, French and Spanish and, afterwards, the intersection or union of the articles is done. For the intersection, we use the articles that have been identified simultaneously in the four languages. For the union, we expand the set of articles to include all the articles that have been identified as in-domain articles at least in one of the languages with the equivalent article in the other three languages in case it exists. Using the intersection of in-domain articles in the four languages we obtain a high precision/low recall multilingual lexicon with 497 entries. With the union of in-domain articles we gather a low precision/high recall multilingual lexicon with 81,369 entries.

The lexicon contains both single words and phrases related to our domain, but in lots of cases entries correspond to named entities:

En	Es	Fr	De
Perception	Percepción	Perception	Wahrnehmung
Echoic_memory	Memoria ecoica	Mémoire auditive	Echoisches Gedächtnis
Emil_Kraepelin	Emil_Kraepelin	Emil_Kraepelin	Emil_Kraepelin
...	...	...	...

In a similar way, we extract aligned category names from Wikipedia, but this time, we select all of them and not only those related to psychology. 38,038 entries are obtained in this case.

As for the MeSH lexicon, we build 4 files, one per language, with the entries in the four languages aligned. In this case though, there is no associated ID:

```
wp.dekey.txt:
Wahrnehmung|||en:Perception|||es:Percepción|||fr:Perception
Echoisches Gedächtnis|||en:Echoic memory|||es:Memoria ecoica|||fr:Mémoire auditive

wp.enkey.txt:
Perception|||es:Percepción|||de:Wahrnehmung|||fr:Perception
Echoic memory|||es:Memoria ecoica|||de:Echoisches Gedächtnis|||fr:Mémoire auditive

wp.eskey.txt:
Percepción|||en:Perception|||de:Wahrnehmung|||fr:Perception
Memoria ecoica|||en:Echoic memory|||de:Echoisches Gedächtnis|||fr:Mémoire auditive

wp.frkey.txt:
Perception|||en:Perception|||es:Percepción|||de:Wahrnehmung
Mémoire auditive|||en:Echoic memory|||es:Memoria ecoica|||de:Echoisches Gedächtnis
```

## 2.3 Apertium Dictionaries

Apertium [2] is a free/open-source ruled-based translation engine that uses bilingual dictionaries for lexical transfer. We have used three of their dictionaries<sup>5</sup> (*en-de*, *en-es* and *es-fr*) to extract a quadrilingual dictionary with the overlapping entries. Table 4 shows the number of entries of this multilingual dictionary in comparison with the other sources.

## 2.4 Post-edited Automatic Translations

Finally, we have selected a set of tokens within our controlled terms not covered by the previous resources and translated them with the automatic translation engine DeepL<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup>[http://wiki.apertium.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_dictionaries](http://wiki.apertium.org/wiki/List_of_dictionaries)

<sup>6</sup><https://www.deepl.com>

	German	English	French	Spanish
MeSH	70,694	175,004	96,333	66,828
WPtitles (health+phsy.)	81,369	81,369	81,369	81,369
WPcategories	38,038	38,038	38,038	38,038
Apertium	7,792	5,935	6,020	5,846
Manual	4,262	4,142	4,047	4,081
<i>Total</i>	202,128	304,277	225,607	195,937

Table 4: Number of aligned terms per language in our multilingual resources. The row with the total excludes duplicate entries between the sources.

(translator as of 25th January and 1st-2nd February 2018). These  $\sim 4,000$  entries have been manually post-edited mainly to improve mistranslations due to ambiguous options, but the post-editor was neither native in the four languages nor in-domain expert. Table 4 shows the exact number of entries depending on the source language in the row "Manual". Mismatches in the numbers of one row hint to the availability of synonyms for a language.

## 2.5 Cleaning and Quad-lexicon Compilation

We have cleaned and compiled two quadrilingual lexicons: one that only consists of entries of the MeSH dictionary and one that consists of the entries of all the other dictionaries. We have separated the sources since we consider the MeSH entries to be of higher quality.

We have applied the following cleaning steps to both dictionaries:

- Lowercase tokens
- Remove diacritics (e.g. *rücklauf*  $\rightarrow$  *rucklauf*)
- Replace  $\beta$  with *ss* (that is how Solr deals with this character)
- Delete *[dokumenttyp]* annotation (e.g. *biografie [dokumenttyp]*  $\rightarrow$  *biografie*)
- Remove the whole entry if the source word or a translation is empty
- Remove the whole entry if the source word or a translation is a stopword in any of the languages

Moreover, we eliminated source words that were source words in more than one language, sticking to the following order: English was favoured over German, German over French and French over Spanish. In order to cover different spellings, we have also introduced some duplicates: Source words containing umlauts were duplicated with a version in which the umlaut was replaced by the basic character and an *e* (*rücklauf* was not only changed to *rucklauf*, but also lead to another entry with *ruecklauf* as a source word). Similarly, we have added duplicates for words ending with *-ise* respectively *-ize*, *-isation* respectively *-ization* and *-our* and *-or* to account for differences between American and British English. Furthermore, we manually deleted some wrong entries.

After applying this procedure to each other dictionary from the sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4, we merged them into one dictionary, while, in the case of duplicates, following this priority setting: The lexicon built with WikiTailor was favoured over the dictionary made of Wikipedia category name alignments, that one over the post-edited automatic translations and those over the Apertium dictionary.

## 3 Controlled Term Translation

### 3.1 Methodology

We use the resources described in the previous section to translate the controlled terms appearing in the articles of the PubPsych database (Section 1). Notice that the most accurate translation would be achieved with the multilingual MeSH alone. The other three resources add noise to the translations but significantly increase the coverage of the engine.

We follow the strategy below and sketched in Figure 2:

1. A CT is splitted into the descriptor and the class specification (Section 1). Both parts are subsequently cleaned and translated independently. Ex: *Action Potentials (genetics)*  $\Rightarrow$  *Action Potentials, genetics*
2. Part Translation
  - 2.1. All possible capitalisations of the part (*Action Potentials*, *action potentials*, *Action potentials*) are looked up in the corresponding quadrilingual lexicon and, in case the entry exists, the translations into the other three languages are obtained.  
Ex: *Action Potentials*||*es:Potenciales de Acción*||*de:Aktionspotentiale*||*fr:Potentiels d'action*
  - 2.2. The original capitalisation is restored.
3. Token Translation. If a part is not found in the dictionary, it is translated on a token-by-token basis.
  - 3.1. The part is split into tokens and words are translated independently.
  - 3.2. All possible capitalisations of the token are looked up in the corresponding quadrilingual lexicon and, in case the entry exists, the translations into the other three languages are obtained.
  - 3.3. If the entry is not available, some basic rules regarding the formation of plural nouns (see Appendix A) are applied to obtain a singular form for the entry. In case the entry exists, the translations into the other three languages for the singular form are obtained and used to translate it.
  - 3.4. If the entry is not available, we copy the source token as translation for the three other languages.
  - 3.5. The original capitalisation is restored.
4. Tokens and parts are joined with the appropriate punctuation to build the final translation of the original CT.

We apply the previous methodology to translate the CTs using two different lexicons: the multilingual MeSH (named **MeSH** or **M** in tables), and the union of the MeSH, Wikipedia, Apertium and manual multilingual lexicons (**QuadLex** or **Q**). We cannot evaluate the quality of the translation because we do not have a subset of multilingual controlled terms other than MeSH itself, so we quantify the effect of our resources by the number of entries they are able to translate. Table 5 shows the coverage for the *CTlanL* field in the languages of the project. The MeSH thesaurus alone covers between 25%-87% of the all the controlled



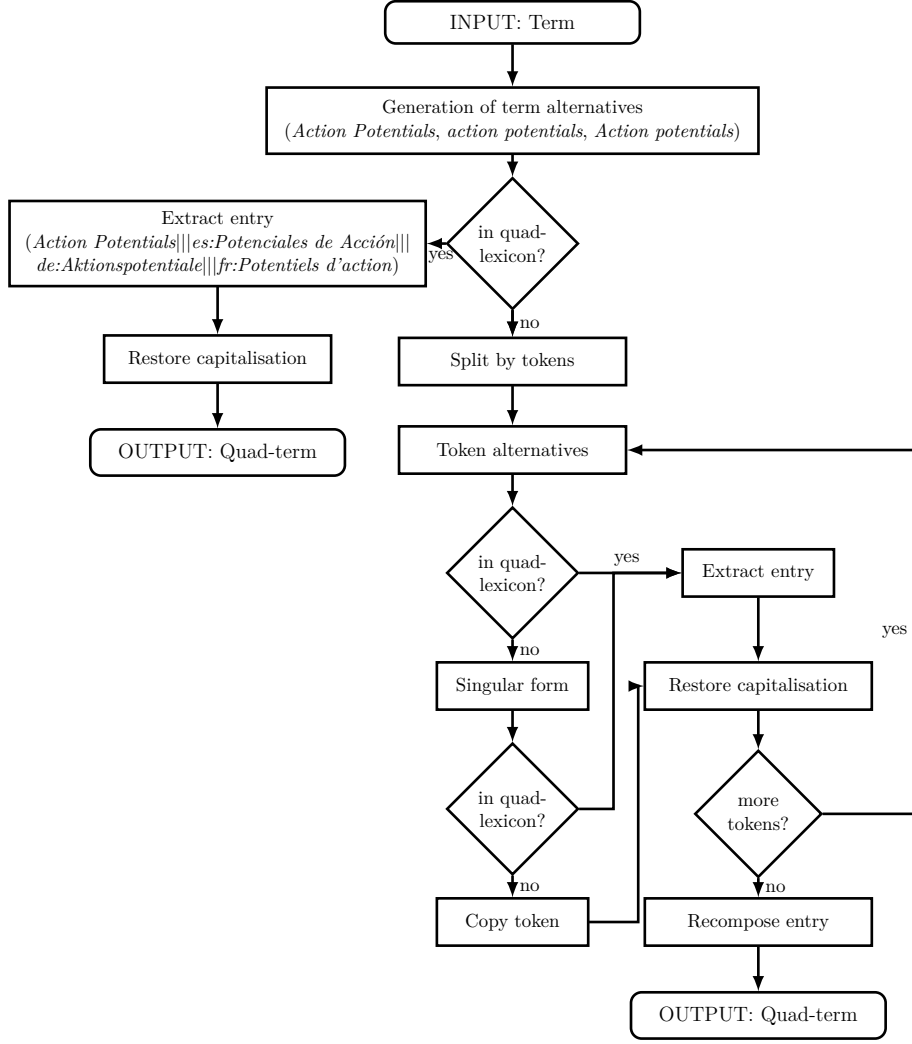


Figure 1: Flux diagram for the controlled term translation. If a complete term cannot be matched, a token by token translation is applied.

terms depending on the database and language. These numbers improve as we consider the coverage we can obtain by using also word-level mappings. The word-level mappings together with the usage of the extended lexicon allows us to reach almost a 100% in all the cases. Results for *CTlanH*, *ITlanH* and *ITlanL* are shown in Appendix B.

Even if at this point we cannot evaluate the quality of the translations, note that copying the source word into the output does not necessarily correspond to a wrong translation because in most cases the unknown words are named entities. Equivalently, using the quadrilingual lexicon to translate an entry does not assure a correct translation because, besides of the existing noise, the concatenation of word translations does not need to correspond to the term translation. However, we followed the proposed approach to maximize retrieval quality and not translation quality.

### 3.2 Software

A python script takes care of the CT translation. It can be found in the *DBtranslator* package<sup>7</sup> together with all the software developed to translate the different components

<sup>7</sup><https://github.com/clubs-project/DBtranslator>

## English

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens		uniq
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)	
MeSH	ACCNO	344,453 (30.4%)	787,342 (69.6%)	1,325,648 (70.9%)	545,113 (29.1%)	1834
	DFK	544,275 (33.3%)	1,092,037 (66.7%)	2,043,618 (77.2%)	603,889 (22.8%)	2051
	NORART	5,630 (24.6%)	17,223 (75.4%)	34,048 (86.9%)	5,128 (13.1%)	86
	PDID	197 (43.9%)	252 (56.1%)	623 (80.5%)	151 (19.5%)	87
	PMID	2,987,945 (86.9%)	448,879 (13.1%)	5,007,120 (97.1%)	151,482 (2.9%)	242
QuadLex	ACCNO	586,440 (51.8%)	545,355 (48.2%)	1,861,278 (99.5%)	9,483 (0.5%)	33
	DFK	900,396 (55.0%)	735,916 (45.0%)	2,640,589 (99.7%)	6,918 (0.3%)	57
	NORART	5,779 (25.3%)	17,074 (74.7%)	38,941 (99.4%)	235 (0.6%)	9
	PDID	287 (63.9%)	162 (36.1%)	771 (99.6%)	3 (0.4%)	1
	PMID	3,094,379 (90.0%)	342,445 (10.0%)	5,155,774 (99.9%)	2,828 (0.1%)	30

## German

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens		uniq
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)	
MeSH	DFK	480,050 (29.1%)	1,172,023 (70.9%)	1,328,236 (61.7%)	823,705 (38.3%)	3528
	PDID	182 (38.0%)	297 (62.0%)	425 (64.4%)	235 (35.6%)	132
	PMID	2,915,784 (84.5%)	535,085 (15.5%)	4,321,857 (94.7%)	240,222 (5.3%)	160
QuadLex	DFK	1,002,373 (60.7%)	649,700 (39.3%)	2,150,866 (100.0%)	1,075 (0.0%)	30
	PDID	319 (66.6%)	160 (33.4%)	660 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0
	PMID	3,067,454 (88.9%)	383,415 (11.1%)	4,561,948 (100.0%)	131 (0.0%)	13

## French

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens		uniq
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)	
M	PMID	2,520,288 (75.3%)	824,711 (24.7%)	5,508,721 (92.9%)	419,105 (7.1%)	961
O	PMID	2,648,537 (79.2%)	696,462 (20.8%)	5,737,329 (96.8%)	190,497 (3.2%)	334

Table 5: Number of CTlanL translated with the multilingual MeSH and the full QuadLex-  
icon for English, German and French. There are no entries for Spanish. A CT term is  
splitted into two parts (the descriptor and the class specification), and in case of no-  
matching it is further splitted into tokens.

of the PubPsych database. The complete translation pipeline going from downloading  
the field data for all the documents in the database, to translate them and uploading the  
translations is run by `tradCTs.sh`:

```
user@machine:~/home/DBtranslator/scripts/$ bash tradCTs.sh -h
tradCTs.sh -f CTH|CTL|ITH|ITL [-h]
```

where:

```
-h show this help text
-f field to translate [CTH|CTL|ITH|ITL]
```

Example:

```
bash tradCTs.sh -f CTH
```

If you want to consider a new field, add it to `preproField4trad.py`. If you want to

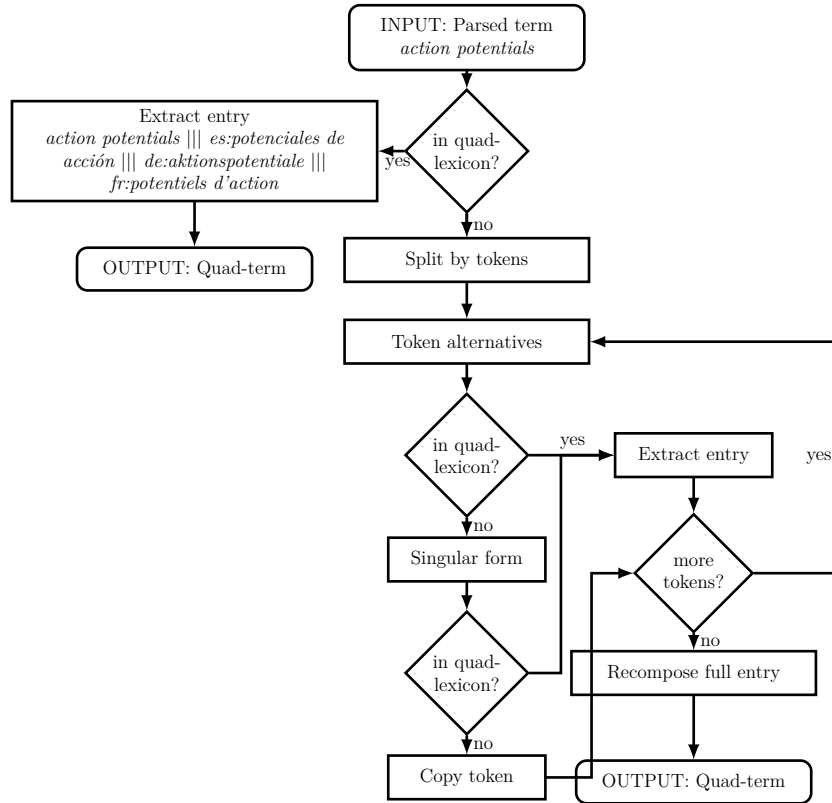


Figure 2: Flowchart for query term translation. If a complete term cannot be matched, a token by token translation is applied.

use the script only on a subset of the database, please, modify the Solr query accordingly in the same file.

The up-to-date instructions for installing and using the software can be found in the git repository:

<https://github.com/clubs-project/DBtranslator>

## 4 Query Translation

### 4.1 Methodology

### 4.2 Off-line Software

### 4.3 Online Integration into PubPsych

The approach has been implemented with respect to Solr 6.6.5. We have added four classes to the existing PubPsych backend:

- **QueryFieldRewriter:** This is the main class of the translation module where the actual translation takes place. In a *QueryFieldRewriter* object, the two dictionaries (high-quality and low-quality) and a mapping of field names to language-specific field names are stored. We map field names to language-specific field names, because if a language-specific version of a field exists, we can directly query the correct field with the translation. Since the database schema does not follow a strict pattern in the mapping of these language-specific field names, we need to store the mapping.
- **QueryNode:** The purpose of the *QueryNode* class is to provide an interface to manipulate the queries more easily than with Solr's *Query* class. The main advantage

is that one only has to deal with one class for all query objects (and not with the many subclasses of *Query* that all provide different methods/fields). This way, one does not have to build new *Query* objects for each change, but change the respective *QueryNode* object instead and then map it back to a *Query* object once all changes due to translation have been performed.

- **Translation:** The *Translation* class is used to store information about the translation of a specific field and string. More precisely, we store the original field name and a mapping of language-specific field names to translation strings in the respective target language. For some fields (e.g. *text*), there are no language-specific field names. In this case, we have to use dummy field names that do not exist in the database schema to have different keys for the different languages. We store in an additional map whether a field name actually exists in the schema in order to search only existing fields in the final query.
- **PreTranslationInfo:** This classed is used to store information on the query before the actual translation happens. We concatenate the strings of all subqueries that fulfill certain conditions and store to which subqueries the concatenation belongs.

For more details on fields and methods of the classes, see

## 4.4 Evaluation of the Queries

We have gathered approximately 100 real-life queries in each of the languages of the PubPsych database (English, German, French and Spanish) and another 100 real-life queries whose language could not be classified. These queries are the same as in [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-14401-2\\_4](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-14401-2_4).

The experiments were run on a machine with 96 cores at 2.4 gigahertz and 1 terabyte memory, but processes were not parallelized and the Java VM was only given 10 gigabyte memory each time a new Solr instance was initialized (which had to be done for every collection of 100 queries to reset the statistics, see below). We had six different settings. For each setting, the JAR files had to be built anew, and we let the software translate all 500 queries in each setting. Running a script that performed all these actions took a bit more than half an hour.

In each of the six settings, we have used a different combination of dictionaries. If not mentioned otherwise, the dictionaries were used in their “non-diff” version, which means that entries that are the same in all languages were kept (e.g. “Ich bin ein Berliner” is translated in all languages as “Ich bin ein Berliner” since it is the title of a Wikipedia article), whereas they were deleted in the “diff” version. In addition to the MeSh dictionary and the quad-lexicon described in section 2.5 we have built another dictionary by extracting entities in all the Wikidata dump that exist simultaneously in the four languages.

1. High-quality dictionary: MeSh, low-quality dictionary: the concatenation of the quad-lexicon from section 2.5 and the Wikidata dictionary
2. High-quality dictionary: none, low-quality dictionary: Wikidata dictionary
3. High-quality dictionary: none, low-quality dictionary: Wikidata dictionary (“diff” version)
4. High-quality dictionary: none, low-quality dictionary: quad-lexicon from section 2.5 (“diff” version)

5. High-quality dictionary: none, low-quality dictionary: quad-lexicon from section 2.5
6. High-quality dictionary: MeSh, low-quality dictionary: none

We do not only evaluate the actual translations of the queries, but have also acquired some statistics for each combination of query collection and setting. The numbers collected are the following:

- **MeSh usage word level** (muw): Number of words that could be translated with the MeSh dictionary (inside *translate*). This number is incremented when a string that either is the result of a concatenation of subqueries or a multi-token phrase is split into tokens (because it could not be translated as a whole) and a token or a possible singular form of it could be translated using the MeSh dictionary. If the MeSh dictionary is not used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **MeSh usage string level** (mus): Number of whole strings that could be translated with the MeSh dictionary (with only one lookup of the whole string, does *not* get incremented when all tokens could be separately looked up in the MeSh dictionary). The *whole strings* include concatenations of several subqueries (according to the criteria mentioned in the detailed implementation explanation) and multi-word phrases, but also single-token queries and single-token subqueries which did not satisfy the conditions for concatenation with other subqueries. If the MeSh dictionary is not used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **MeSh usage query level** (muq): Number of queries that could entirely (including all subqueries) be translated using only the MeSh dictionary. If a token could not be translated, but a possible singular form of it and this singular form was found in MeSh, then the whole query would still count as “translated only with MeSh” (assuming that everything else or a singular form of each token was found in MeSh). If the MeSh dictionary is not used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **Backoff usage word level** (buw): Number of words that could be translated with the low-quality dictionary. The conditions are the same as for MeSh usage word level. If no low-quality dictionary is used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **Backoff usage string level** (bus): Number of whole strings that could be translated with the low-quality dictionary. The conditions are the same as for MeSh usage string level. If no low-quality dictionary is used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **Backoff usage query level** (buq): Number of queries that could entirely (including all subqueries) be translated only using the low-quality dictionary. This implies that none of the strings or tokens could be found in the MeSh dictionary, since we always try that one first. The conditions are the same as for MeSh usage query level. If no low-quality dictionary is used in a setting, this number is 0.
- **Number of entire copies at query level** (neq): Number of queries where nothing could be translated, not even a possible singular form.
- **Number of entire copies at string level** (nes): Number of whole strings where nothing could be translated, not even a possible singular form (cf. MeSh usage string level for what “whole string” refers to).
- **Number of partial copies at string level** (nps): Number of whole strings where at least one token could not be translated, not even a possible singular form of it.

	muw	mus	muq	buw	bus	buq	neq	nes	nps	ncw	suw	sus	suq
1e	0	101	15	2	149	17	7	46	0	44	2	2	0
1d	0	49	9	7	91	21	17	86	0	79	7	7	0
1s	5	98	12	15	113	13	10	127	0	107	20	20	0
1f	1	84	5	13	124	10	12	126	0	112	14	14	0
1n	0	13	8	0	106	47	23	43	0	43	0	0	0
2e	0	0	0	7	213	46	8	84	0	77	7	7	0
2d	0	0	0	4	104	24	31	123	0	119	4	4	0
2s	0	0	0	43	159	26	14	185	0	142	43	43	0
2f	0	0	0	18	181	24	13	159	0	141	18	18	0
2n	0	0	0	0	115	55	25	46	0	46	0	0	0
3e	0	0	0	11	167	28	14	131	0	120	11	11	0
3d	0	0	0	10	83	22	39	143	0	133	10	10	0
3s	0	0	0	38	141	20	17	202	0	164	38	38	0
3f	0	0	0	21	150	15	22	192	0	171	21	21	0
3n	0	0	0	1	49	10	61	115	0	114	1	1	0
4e	0	0	0	6	224	50	5	83	0	77	6	6	0
4d	0	0	0	10	107	31	31	120	0	110	10	10	0
4s	0	0	0	24	181	28	9	168	0	144	24	24	0
4f	0	0	0	20	173	25	11	176	0	156	20	20	0
4n	0	0	0	2	21	5	85	149	0	147	2	2	0
5e	0	0	0	6	228	52	5	79	0	73	6	6	0
5d	0	0	0	10	109	31	31	118	0	108	10	10	0
5s	0	0	0	24	181	28	9	168	0	144	24	24	0
5f	0	0	0	19	181	25	11	168	0	149	19	19	0
5n	0	0	0	3	39	8	75	127	0	124	3	3	0
6e	0	105	15	0	0	0	28	202	0	202	0	0	0
6d	3	49	9	0	0	0	59	174	0	171	3	3	0
6s	7	99	12	0	0	0	32	240	0	233	7	7	0
6f	3	86	5	0	0	0	38	250	0	247	3	3	0
6n	1	13	8	0	0	0	88	155	0	154	1	1	0

Figure 3: The number refers to the setting (see beginning of this section), the letter indicates the set of queries that has been translated (*e*: English, *d*: German, *s*: Spanish, *f*: French and *n*: language could not be classified).

- **Number of copies at word level** (ncw): Number of words that could not be translated, not even a possible singular form.
- **Singular usage word level** (suw): Number of words that could not be translated in their original form, but a possible singular form could be translated.
- **Singular usage string level** (sus): Number of whole strings where at least one token could not be translated, but a possible singular form of it. Note that this is a different counting than for the dictionaries on string level (where the numbers are increases if and only if the whole string could be translated with exactly one lookup).
- **Singular usage query level** (suq): Number of queries that were entirely translated only using possible singular forms. This also means that no token was copied at all.

## 5 Conclusions

Usage of indexing terms, either controlled or uncontrolled, differs vastly between different database segments contained in PubPsych. By just using the simplest mapping approach of the quadrilingual MeSH thesaurus, we were able to map between 30%–75% of all controlled terms and 9%–40% of free indexing terms between the four languages. A more refined mapping approach and an out-of-domain extension of the quadrilingual lexicon resulted in increased mapping of 67%–100% (controlled terms) and 62%–94% (free terms) respectively. We did not check actual translation quality, but just coverage. The worst mapping performance in all scenarios was exhibited with the PSYNDEX database segment, which uses controlled terminology from the thesaurus of the American Psychological Association. We did not include data from that thesaurus into this evaluation, because it is not available in all for languages.

## A Basic Rules for Plural Formation

In order to obtain the a possible singular form of unseen tokens we apply the following basic rules:

### English

- ★ NOUN-y  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-ies
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-es
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-s

### French

- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-s

### German

- ★ NOUN (:)  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-er
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-n
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-e
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-s

### Spanish

- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-es
- ★ NOUN  $\Leftarrow$  NOUN-s

## B Translation Coverage for CTlanH, ITlanH and ITlanL

## References

- [1] Alberto Barrón-Cedeño, Cristina España-Bonet, Josu Boldoba, and Lluís Màrquez. A Factory of Comparable Corpora from Wikipedia. In *Proceedings of the 8th Workshop on Building and Using Comparable Corpora (BUCC)*, pages 3–13, July 2015.

# English

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	ACCNO	104,815 (30.2%)	241,866 (69.8%)	426,013 (76.1%)	133,654 (23.9%)
	DFK	462,302 (35.5%)	838,814 (64.5%)	1,670,304 (81.0%)	391,538 (19.0%)
	PMID	699,993 (74.3%)	242,666 (25.7%)	1,423,324 (99.4%)	8,840 (0.6%)
Q	ACCNO	162,867 (47.0%)	183,814 (53.0%)	557,624 (99.6%)	2,043 (0.4%)
	DFK	694,203 (53.4%)	606,913 (46.6%)	2,056,459 (99.7%)	5,383 (0.3%)
	PMID	705,345 (74.8%)	237,314 (25.2%)	1,430,707 (99.9%)	1,457 (0.1%)

# German

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	DFK	393,698 (30.0%)	916,459 (70.0%)	1,123,046 (66.5%)	565,367 (33.5%)
	PMID	701,120 (73.5%)	252,731 (26.5%)	1,273,245 (99.0%)	12,373 (1.0%)
Q	DFK	747,809 (57.1%)	562,348 (42.9%)	1,686,612 (99.9%)	1,801 (0.1%)
	PMID	708,180 (74.2%)	245,671 (25.8%)	1,285,596 (100.0%)	22 (0.0%)

# French

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	PMID	649,818 (70.0%)	278,327 (30.0%)	1,572,917 (97.6%)	38,389 (2.4%)
Q	PMID	665,293 (71.7%)	262,852 (28.3%)	1,603,726 (99.5%)	7,580 (0.5%)

Table 6: Number of CTlanH translated with the multilingual MeSH (M) and the full QuadLexicon (Q) for English, German and French. There are no entries for Spanish.

- [2] Mikel L. Forcada, Mireia Ginestí-Rosell, Jacob Nordfalk, Jim O'Regan, Sergio Ortiz-Rojas, Juan Antonio Pérez-Ortiz, Felipe Sánchez-Martínez, Gema Ramírez-Sánchez, and Francis M. Tyers. Apertium: A free/open-source platform for rule-based machine translation. *Machine Translation*, 25(2):127–144, June 2011.



English

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
MeSH	ACCNO	34,613 (26.0%)	98,309 (74.0%)	176,057 (80.4%)	42,829 (19.6%)
	DFK	3,017 (9.1%)	30,288 (90.9%)	35,389 (73.1%)	13,041 (26.9%)
	NBN	42,314 (20.8%)	161,394 (79.2%)	199,607 (61.6%)	124,180 (38.4%)
	PMID	39,300 (35.4%)	71,565 (64.6%)	126,201 (79.4%)	32,820 (20.6%)
	POID	818 (14.3%)	4,906 (85.7%)	5,687 (61.5%)	3,553 (38.5%)
QuadLex	ACCNO	44,560 (33.5%)	88,362 (66.5%)	204,644 (93.5%)	14,242 (6.5%)
	DFK	6,628 (19.9%)	26,677 (80.1%)	44,678 (92.3%)	3,752 (7.7%)
	NBN	74,130 (36.4%)	129,578 (63.6%)	259,977 (80.3%)	63,810 (19.7%)
	PMID	44,686 (40.3%)	66,179 (59.7%)	146,631 (92.2%)	12,390 (7.8%)
	POID	1,878 (32.8%)	3,846 (67.2%)	8,117 (87.8%)	1,123 (12.2%)

German

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	DFK	2,246 (6.8%)	30,890 (93.2%)	22,254 (58.7%)	15,640 (41.3%)
Q	DFK	6,415 (19.4%)	26,721 (80.6%)	29,861 (78.8%)	8,033 (21.2%)

Table 7: Number of *ITlanH* translated with the multilingual MeSH (M) and the full QuadLexicon (Q) for English and German. There are no entries for Spanish or French.

English

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
MeSH	ACCNO	0 (0%)	62,937 (100.0%)	69,785 (64.5%)	38,327 (35.5%)
	DFK	1,035 (10.0%)	9,305 (90.0%)	10,316 (71.2%)	4,171 (28.8%)
	INIST	1,084,844 (34.7%)	2,042,320 (65.3%)	3,208,156 (67.6%)	1,537,860 (32.4%)
	NORART	3,740 (21.4%)	13,719 (78.6%)	18,554 (70.4%)	7,802 (29.6%)
	PMID	36,784 (24.2%)	115,237 (75.8%)	173,377 (68.8%)	78,807 (31.2%)
QuadLex	ACCNO	16,682 (26.5%)	46,255 (73.5%)	108,112 (100.0%)	0 (0%)
	DFK	2,152 (20.8%)	8,188 (79.2%)	13,419 (92.6%)	1,068 (7.4%)
	INIST	1,716,205 (54.9%)	1,410,959 (45.1%)	4,389,674 (92.5%)	356,342 (7.5%)
	NORART	6,734 (38.6%)	10,725 (61.4%)	24,382 (92.5%)	1,974 (7.5%)
	PMID	59,711 (39.3%)	92,310 (60.7%)	228,096 (90.4%)	24,088 (9.6%)

German

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	DFK	450 (4.5%)	9,626 (95.5%)	6,272 (55.3%)	5,075 (44.7%)
	INIST	1 (6.2%)	15 (93.8%)	7 (35.0%)	13 (65.0%)
Q	DFK	1,723 (17.1%)	8,353 (82.9%)	8,614 (75.9%)	2,733 (24.1%)
	INIST	2 (12.5%)	14 (87.5%)	10 (50.0%)	10 (50.0%)

French

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	INIST	1,186,988 (40.9%)	1,713,817 (59.1%)	3,214,926 (71.7%)	1,268,994 (28.3%)
Q	INIST	1,618,921 (55.8%)	1,281,884 (44.2%)	4,077,461 (90.9%)	406,459 (9.1%)

Spanish

	Source	Full descriptors, classes		Tokens	
		trad (%)	untrad (%)	trad (%)	untrad (%)
M	INIST	896,891 (32.6%)	1,851,974 (67.4%)	2,784,473 (67.3%)	1,355,955 (32.7%)
	ISOC	105,405 (28.0%)	271,601 (72.0%)	413,212 (70.4%)	174,065 (29.6%)
Q	INIST	1,331,980 (48.5%)	1,416,885 (51.5%)	3,779,837 (91.3%)	360,591 (8.7%)
	ISOC	187,681 (49.8%)	189,325 (50.2%)	544,690 (92.7%)	42,587 (7.3%)

Table 8: Number of *ITlanL* translated with the multilingual MeSH (M) and the full QuadLexicon (Q) for English, German, French and Spanish.