

GACS Survey results, part 1:

General questions

Osma Suominen
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About the survey

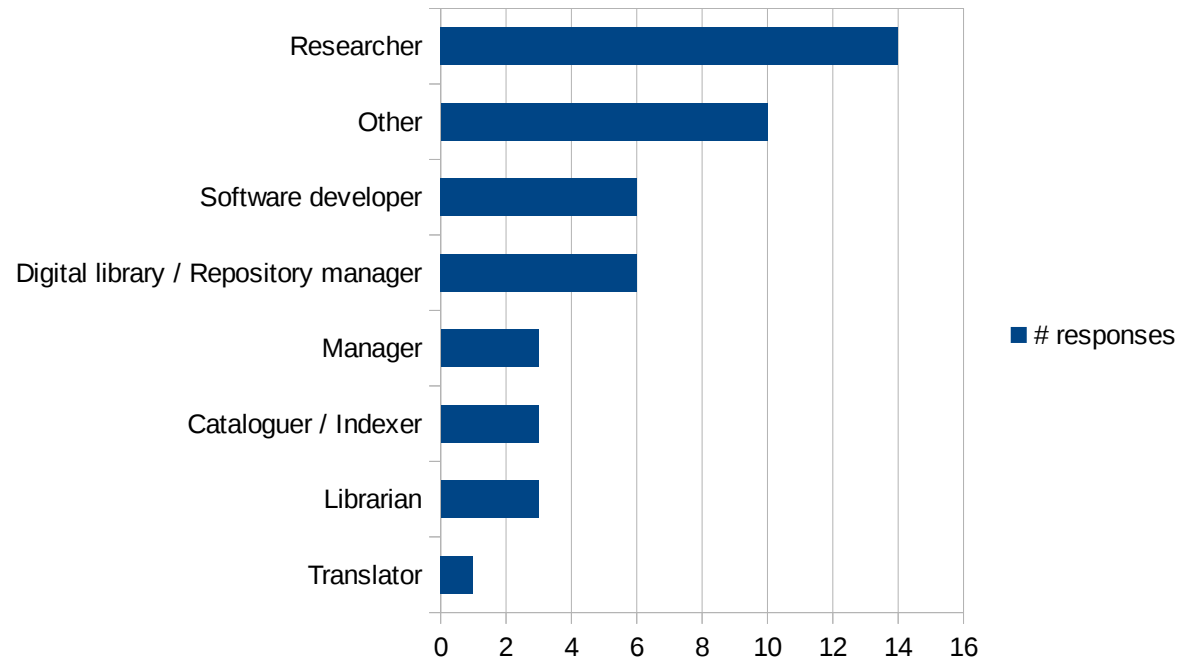
- We wanted to hear thoughts about how GACS should be **structured** so that it best serves the **needs of users** as well as **applications** that make use of GACS.
- [Blog post](#) on AIMS with background & scenarios
- [Actual survey](#) using Google Forms
 - open November 3 to November 20 (21)
- Advertised on many forums including: MTSR workshop participants, RDA Agrisemantics WG, NKOS community
- Commissioned with funding from CABI

Responses (n = 26)

Where do you work?

- Bioversity International
- CREA, Italy
- CSIRO Australia
- Europeana
- FAO
- Goettingen University
- Industry R&D department
- INRA
- IRIT (Computer Science lab in Toulouse, France)
- Land Portal Foundation
- National Library of Finland
- Self-employed, in Bonn
- UK
- US National Agriculture Library

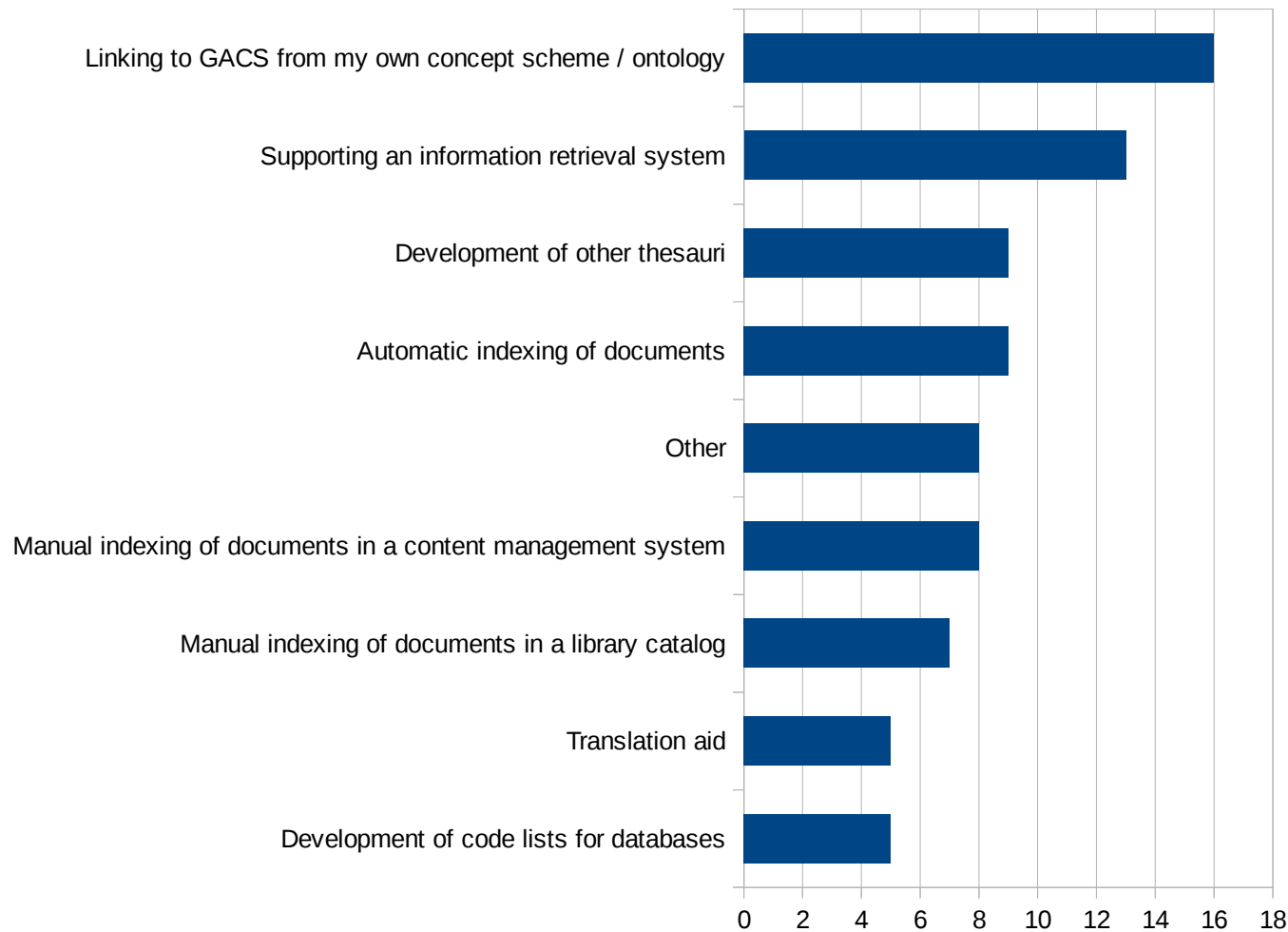
What is your role?



Other roles...

- consultant (3)
- thesaurus editor (2)
- knowledge manager / modeller (2)
- lexicographer
- PostDoc

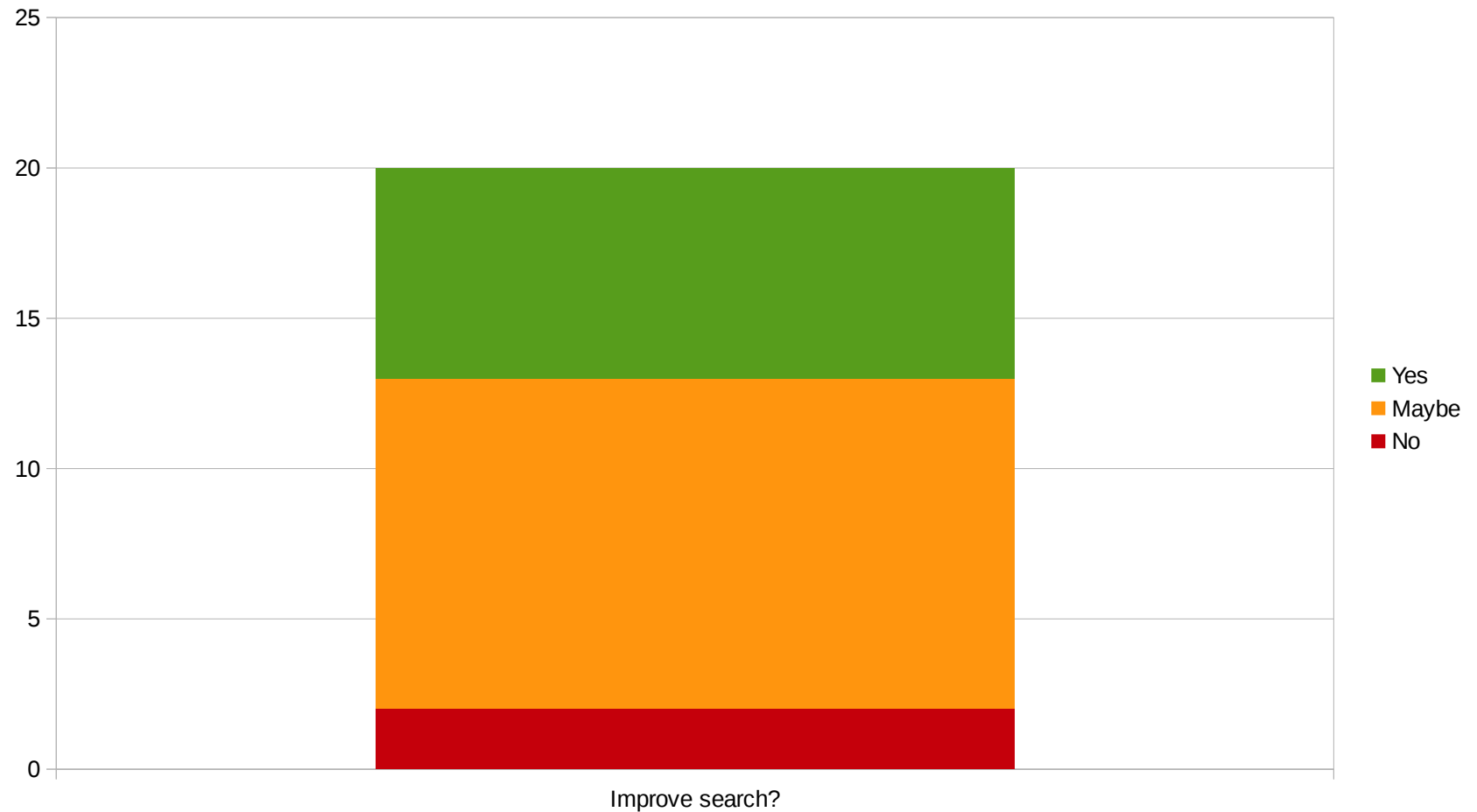
What are you using / planning to use GACS for?



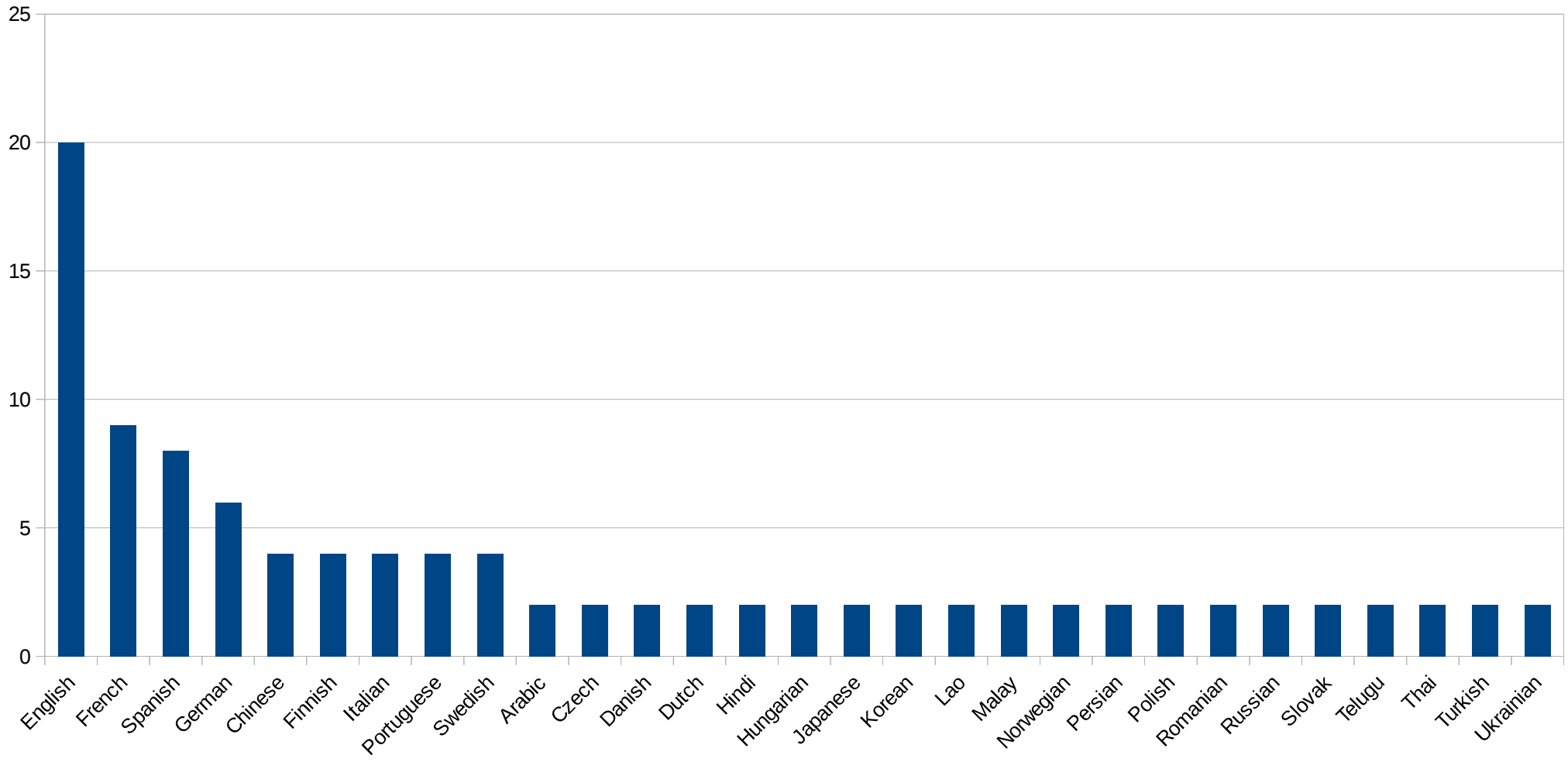
Other uses...

- bibliometric (thematic studies)
- definitions / glossary / spell checker
- development of GACS itself (2)
- not a user (2)
- research
- text mining

Do you plan to use GACS to improve search results (e.g. use of synonyms, hierarchy, RTs) in your information retrieval system?



Which languages in GACS are of most importance to you?



Do you have a need to use small subsets of GACS concepts to support an application and/or use as a code list for a database?

- automated indexing / tagging (3)
- possibly in the future (3)
- GACS is useful to inspire provision of custom developed taxonomies for public and commercial organizations
- interested in Portuguese terms and enrich them with terms used in Brazilian/tropical agriculture
- would like to export branches of GACS in SKOS
- would like to export data for specific languages
- interested in land subjects to enhance LandVoc
- list of crops for describing project in agriculture (IATI)

Strengths of GACS

- hub of most important agricultural concepts (4)
- backed by important organizations (2)
- collaborative (2)
- good linked data practices, RDF, SPARQL (2)
- international (2)
- multilingual (2)
- concepts selected by frequency of use
- could become a central place to maintain mappings
- distributed
- fewer concepts makes concept description easier
- governance
- solid understanding of vocabulary principles
- relies on reference thesauri
- rich content
- thematic groups
- partial hierarchies
- wide scope

Weaknesses of GACS

- difficulty reconciling different worldviews (3)
- gaps in completeness (3)
- taxonomic organisms difficult to maintain (3)
- quality of hierarchies (3)
- coherence of groups and levels
- kitchen sink - too much stuff crammed into one place
- limited expressivity of SKOS
- lack of continuity
- larger than needs to be
- level of abstraction
- messy in organization
- not linked to existing library categories
- partial hierarchies / holes in trees
- uneven coverage of languages
- usability needs improvement

Particularly interested in...

- Nothing specific (3)
- Everything (2)

- Agriculture
- Climate change
- Earth Science
- Fisheries
- Food
- Forestry
- Game
- Hydrology
- Land / Land use (2)
- Plant pests
- Soils (2)

- Groups, phenomena, products, properties, sites, subjects, substances

Offers to help with...

- yes for help, no particular subject (3)
- Earth Science
- Forestry
- Geology
- Hydrology
- Land-related terms
- Plant traits
- Soils (2)
- consensual definition of extracted elements
- development guidelines
- interoperability and governance
- process and policy
- cross-referencing food source/ingredient/additive/preservation/cooking method terms
- It would be a great pleasure to help maintain GACS! Brazilian Portuguese agricultural terminologies
- Content for reuse in applications such as statistics, time series, soil samples

Advice and encouragement

- GACS is important work
- I appreciate your work
- I hope GACS could have good opportunities to be developed continuously
- Hope that this will go forward and be taken into use as a recommended tool
- Look forward to seeing its evolution!
- It would be a great pleasure to help maintain GACS!
- I would definitively like to help you on this task
- GACS should not be another thesaurus, it should be an ecosystem involving other conceptual or linguistic resources