Rutgers TREC8 Rich Format Data

1. Characteristics of searchers

Data from Common Searcher Questionnaires

Total Number of Subjects: 36

Number of searches performed by each searcher: 6

Pre−Search Questionnaire

1. What high school/college/university degrees/diplomas do you have or expect to have?

Bachelors Exp.	MLS Exp.	PharmD. Exp.
27 (75%)	7 (19%)	2 (6%)

2. What is your occupation?

Student	Librarian	Other
32 (89%)	1 (3%)	3 (8%)

3. What is your gender?

Female	Male
30 (83%)	6 (17%)

4. What is your age?

Minimum	Maximum	Mean	SD
18	55	23.86	9.47

5. Have you participated in previous TREC Searching Studies?

No	Yes
36 (100%)	0 (0%)

6. Overall, for how many years have you been doing online searching? (Only those years reported appear below)

   M=3.48, SD=1.92

0	1	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	5	6	10
1 (3%)	3 (8%)	5 (14%)	1 (3%)	7 (19%)	2 (6%)	4 (11%)	6 (17%)	2 (6%)	1 (3%)

   Missing: 4 (11%)

The following questions were answered using a five–point scale where 1=no experience; 3=some experience; and 5=a great deal of experience.

1. How much experience have you had using a point and click interface?

   M=4.19, SD=.86

1	2	3	4	5
0 (0%)	0 (0%)	10 (28%)	9 (25%)	17 (47%)

2. How much experience have you had searching on computerized library catalogs either locally or remotely?

   M=3.22, SD=.99

1	2	3	4	5
2 (6%)	4 (11%)	18 (50%)	8 (22%)	4 (11%)

3. How much experience have you had searching on CD ROM systems?

   M=3.0, SD=.99

1	2	3	4	5
2 (6%)	9 (25%)	14 (39%)	9 (25%)	2 (6%)

4. How much experience have you had searching on commercial online systems?

   M=2.19, SD=1.09

1	2	3	4	5
11 (30%)	13 (36%)	7 (19%)	4 (11%)	1 (3%)

5. How much experience have you had searching on World Wide Web search services?

   M=4.06, SD=.89

1	2	3	4	5
0 (0%)	1 (3%)	10 (28%)	11 (31%)	14 (39%)

6. How much experience have you had searching on other systems?

   M=1.19, SD=.82

1	2	3	4	5
34 (94%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)

The following question was answered using a five–point scale where 1=never; 2=once of twice a year; 3=once or twice a month; 4=once of twice a week; and 5=once or twice a day.

7. How often do you conduct a search on any kind of system?

   M=3.83, SD=.97

1	2	3	4	5
0 (0%)	4 (11%)	8 (22%)	14 (39%)	10 (28%)

The following statement was rated using a five–point scale where 1=strongly disagree; 2=disagree; 3=neutral; 4=agree; 5=strongly agree.

8. I enjoy carrying out information searches.

   M=3.56, SD=.81

1	2	3	4	5
0 (0%)	1 (3%)	20 (56%)	9 (25%)	6 (17%)

2. Characteristics of searches

	LCA Mean (SD)	RF Mean (SD)	TOTAL Mean (SD)
Iterations	5.93 (3.25)	5.76 (3.95)	5.84 (3.61)
Number of documents retrieved	653.59 (383.88)	655.49 (533.83)	
Unique titles shown	123.53 (60.77)	128.81 (69.86)	126.17 (65.37)
Full documents displayed	22.98 (11.38)	26.69 (19.41)	24.84 (15.49)
Documents saved	8.48 (4.33)	8.49 (4.72)	8.49 (4.52)
Instances saved	9.19 (4.81)	9.56 (5.55)	9.38 (5.18)
Total terms in queries	23.14 (18.24)	26.81 (39.08)	24.97 (30.48)
Unique terms in queries	10.0 (5.60)	8.91 (5.71)	
User generated terms	5.59 (5.70)	7.04 (4.63)	6.31 (5.23)
Selected suggested terms	4.41 (5.23)	1.87 (2.65)	3.14 (4.33)
Total suggested terms	126.61 (83.82)	113.03 (148.93)	119.82 (120.75)
Unique suggested terms	62.73 (33.59)	22.81 (24.62)	
Documents marked good	–	2.87 (3.39)	2.87 (3.39)

Post Search Questionnaire

The following questions were answered using a five–point scale where 1=not at all; 3=somewhat; 5=extremely.

1. Are you familiar with this topic?

   TOTAL: M=2.66, SD=1.20

1	2	3	4	5
47 (23%)	44 (20%)	79 (37%)	27 (13%)	19 (9%)

2. Was it easy to get started on this search?

   TOTAL: M=3.84, SD=.99

1	2	3	4	5
5 (2%)	13 (6%)	57 (26%)	77 (36%)	64 (30%)

3. Was it easy to do the search on this topic?

   TOTAL: M=3.54, SD=1.15

1	2	3	4	5
12 (6%)	29 (13%)	56 (26%)	68 (32%)	51 (24%)

4. Are you satisfied with you search results?

   TOTAL: M=3.45, SD=1.16

1	2	3	4	5
14 (7%)	29 (13%)	64 (30%)	63 (29%)	46 (21%)

5. Are you confident that you identified all the different instances for this topic?

   TOTAL: M=2.96, SD=1.22

1	2	3	4	5
28 (13%)	56 (26%)	54 (25%)	53 (25%)	25 (12%)

6. Did you have enough time to do an effective search?

   TOTAL: M=3.73, SD=1.14

1	2	3	4	5
9 (4%)	27 (13%)	41 (19%)	75 (35%)	64 (30%)

3. Narrative of search

Transcript for Topic 408i (Searcher 005)

What follows is search 005's log of system interaction for topic 408i: What tropical storms (hurricanes and typhoons) have caused property damage and/or loss of life? Given are the elapsed time, a description o the searcher's action, system responses, and extracts from the searcher's verbal protocol (enclosed in quotation marks). The document title followed by its first two sentences of full text is shown (enclosed in curly brackets) for each document that the searcher selected to view.

00:00 USER: Start search: reads topic description
"Here we go. I'm just going to limit the search and do a search for just tropical storms and then work from there."

00:29 SYS: Submitted query: tropical storms
0 positive marked documents, 0 positive feedback terms
0 negative marked documents, 0 negative feedback terms
Result of query evaluation: 150 documents retrieved
Summary display

00:31 USER: "Storm hits Philippines. Oh. Okay."

00:38 USER: Display full text of document ranked 1: FT923−1747
{FT 22 SEP 92 / World News in Brief: Storm hits Philippines
Tropical Storm Ted ripped across the Philippines, killing five people, demolishing houses and causing floods, landslides and volcanic mudflows.}
"Tropical storm Ted ripped across the Philippines. What tropical storms have caused property damage and/or loss of life? Demolishing house. "

00:49 USER: Mark as Save document ranked 1: FT923−1747
"Okay. So I'll put this as Tropical Storm Ted. Thank you."
Label instance: tropical storm Ted
01:04 USER: "Let me see what I got here as far as words."
Mark as Good document

01:06 SYS: Display term suggestions: mudflow philippines landslide demolish rip flood kill brief hit cause

01:07 USER: "Landslide, demolish. Great. Kill. Great. Oh, those are great.
Move term suggestion demolish to query
Move term suggestion kill to query

01:19 SYS: Submitted query: tropical storms demolish kill
1 positive marked documents, 2 positive feedback terms
0 negative marked documents, 0 negative feedback terms
Result of query evaluation: 150 documents retrieved
Summary display

01:20 USER: "High death toll in Caracas storm. Oh, I'm going to find so much on this one, I think.
Display full text of document ranked 2: FT933−9488
{FT 10 AUG 93 / High death toll in Caracas storm
VENEZUELAN firemen and civil defence crews were yesterday pulling bodies out
of the wreckage of shanty towns ringing Caracas, after tropical storm Bret hit at the}
"VENEZUELAN firemen and civil defence crews were yesterday pulling bodies out
of the wreckage of shanty towns ringing Caracas, after tropical storm Bret. About 150 people. How much damage did it cause? "
Scroll to line 10 (end of document)
Scroll to line 1 (top of document)
"Alright, tropical storm Bret. Thank you."

01:47 USER: Mark as Save document ranked 1: FT923−1747
Label instance: tropical storm Bret

02:04 USER: "Storm hits Martinique."
Mark as Save document ranked 3: FT933−8357
"Oh no, what am I doing? Cancel this. I didn't even look at the article, yet."
Cancel out of Save document ranked 3: FT933−8357

02:14 USER: Display full text of document ranked 3: FT933−8357
{ FT 16 AUG 93 / World News in Brief: Storm hits Martinique
A three−year−old girl was missing, believed drowned, and about 10 people
were injured as tropical storm Cindy swept the French Caribbean island of}
"A three−year−old girl was missing, believed drowned, and about 10 people
were injured as tropical storm Cindy."

02:21 USER: Mark as Save document ranked 3: FT933−8357
Label instance: tropical storm Cindy

02:37 USER: "Tropical storm disrupts Geest's. What's Geest's?"
Display full text of document ranked 5: FT943−2749
{ FT 17 SEP 94 / UK Company News: Tropical storm disrupts Geest's banana
Banana supplies to Geest, whose shares fell sharply early in the year
following disease on its Costa Rican plantations, have been hit by a}
Scroll to line 17 (end of document)
"Oh no, that doesn't sound interesting"

03:07 USER: “Storm killls 410 in Egypt. Is that a tropical storm?”
Display full text of document ranked 7: FT944−12149
{ FT 03 NOV 94 / World News in Brief: Storms kills 410 in Egypt
More 410 people died as a result of storms in southern Egypt. Hundreds were
killed when fuel from a military depot, set ablaze by lightning, flooded}
“No.”

03:20 USER: “Okay, that’s not the same thing. Storms kill six. No.”
Display full text of document ranked 8: FT921−9069
{ FT 14 FEB 92 / World News in Brief: Storms kill six
Southern California’s worst storms for 100 years have killed at least six people. Many more are feared swept away by sudden torrents gushing along}
“worst storm, killed at least six people. No. Not tropical storms.
Maybe I should get rid of storms. Clear query.”

03:45 USER: Clear query
“Put in tropical. Nah, forget that. Tropical can mean so much.
Hurricane. Typhoons. Um. Damage and kill. That will work fine.
Search.”

04:14 SYS: Submitted query: hurricane typhoons damage kill
0 positive marked documents, 0 positive feedback terms
0 negative marked documents, 0 negative feedback terms
Result of query evaluation: 150 documents retrieved
Summary display

04:17 USER: “Business Travel. Typhoon hits Taiwan. Here we go.
Display full text of document ranked 1: FT944−17187
{ FT 10 OCT 94 / Business Travel (Update): Typhoon hits Taiwan
Typhoon Seth, with winds of 107mph, struck Taiwan yesterday, leaving one
person dead. Four domestic airports in eastern Taiwan were closed but}
Typhoon Seth. Killed 30 people and caused extensive damage. Save.”

04:30 USER: Mark as Save document ranked 1: FT944−17187
Label instance: typhoon seth

04:55 USER: “Ummm. Hurricane hits Bahamas.”
Mark as Save document ranked 8: FT923−6038
“Now what am I doing? Cancel this.”
Cancel out of Save document ranked 8: FT923−6038

05:04 USER: Display full text of document ranked 8: FT923−6038
{ FT 27 AUG 92 / Hurricane batters southern US but lets insurers off lightly
HURRICANE Andrew, claimed to be the costliest natural disaster in US history, yesterday smashed its way through the state of Louisiana,}
"No. I don't want that one. I want this one."

05:08 USER: Display full text of document ranked 9: FT923−6592
{ FT 24 AUG 92 / World News In Brief: Hurricane hits Bahamas
Hurricane Andrew tore across the Bahamas with 150mph winds. Four people were
reported killed. About a million south Florida residents were ordered to}
"Hurricane Andrew tore across the Bahamas. Hurricane Andrew. Okay"

05:21 USER: Mark as Save document ranked 9: FT923−6592
Label instance: Hurricane Andrew

06:06 "Excuse me. Can I end this if I wanted to? I don't have to do the full 20 minutes? Okay.

06:54 USER: Stop search
Exit system