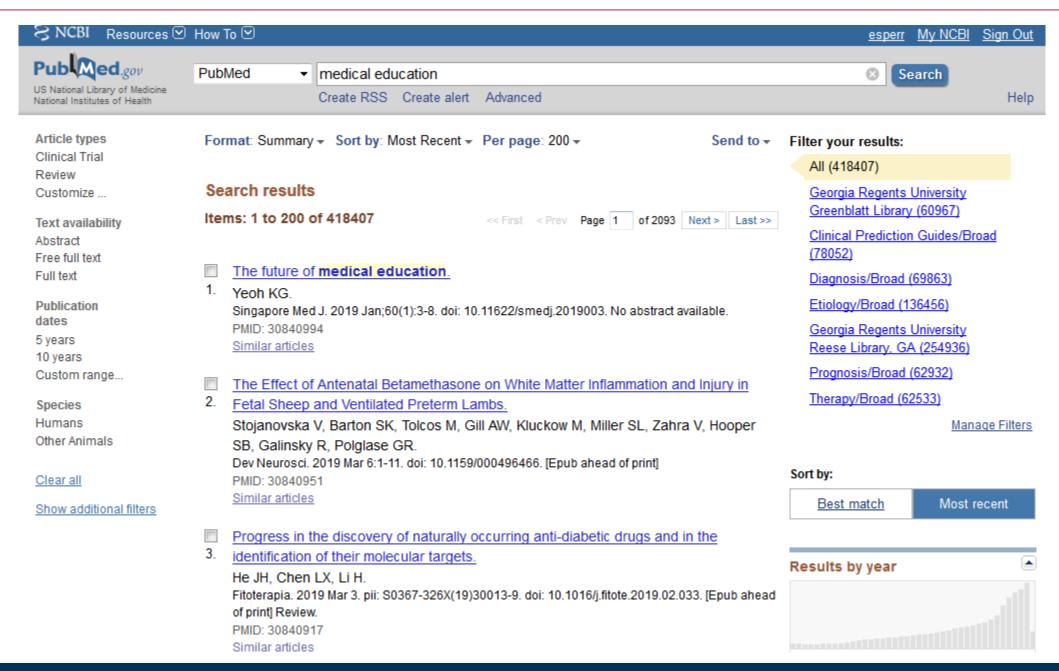
# Beyond the List:

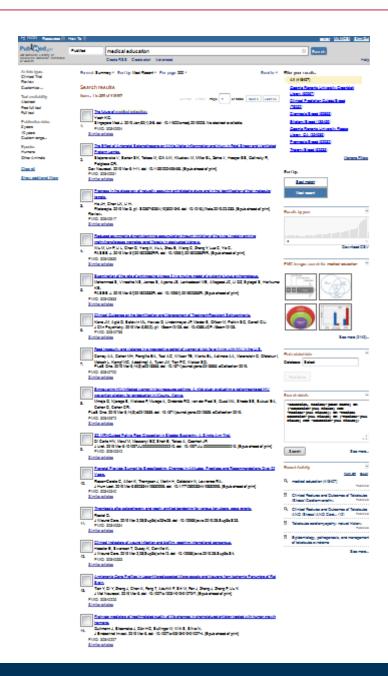
Refining your PubMed searches with interactive visualizations

### **Edwin Sperr**

Clinical Information Librarian esperr@uga.edu









## Lists

### Pro

- Simple
- Great for providing access

### Con

- Are only ordered on one axis
- Don't show context

Can we do better?

"The fundamental task in data analysis is to make smart comparisons."

We are always trying to ask the question, 'Compared with what?' "

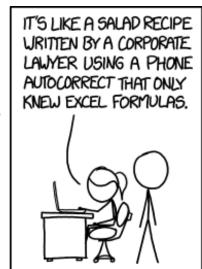
-- Edward Tufte

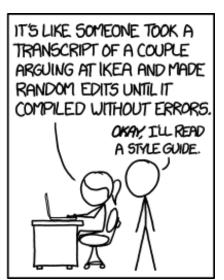
# Design Principles: Fast, Cheap and Out of Control

- Use existing libraries whenever possible
- Push as much out to the browser as possible
- Working code will work just fine...





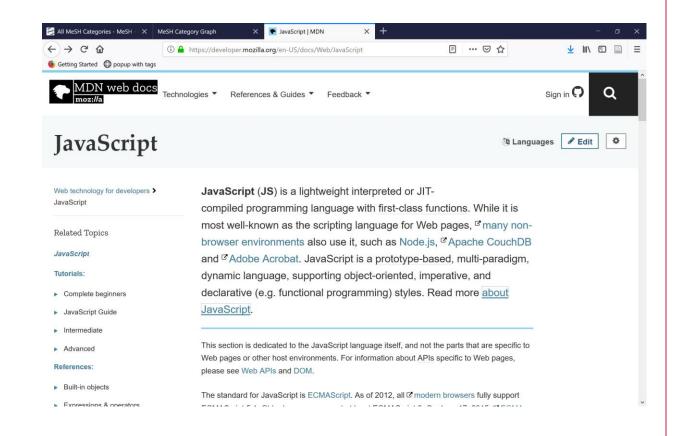




https://xkcd.com/1513/

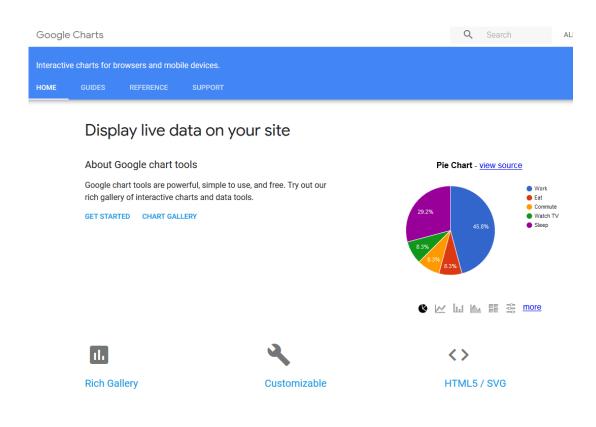
## Fun with JavaScript!

- Runs in the browser
  - Many browsers have builtin "developer" tools
- Lots of self-study materials available online
- Readily extendable using external libraries and frameworks



# **Google Charts**

- Relatively simple
- Free!
- Can use with static tables of data or interactive data that you grab on the fly



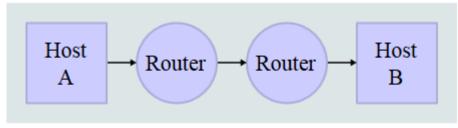
https://developers.google.com/chart/

### **Basic Pattern**

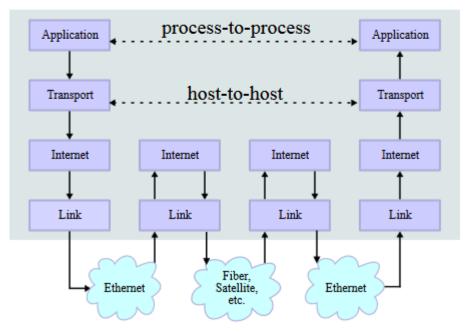
- 1. Send search to PubMed
- 2. Retrieve counts
- 3. Compare them to a baseline of some kind
- 4. Graph the difference
- 5. ???
- 6. Profit

### **APIs**

### Network Topology



### Data Flow



Kbrose -- Wikimedia

### **APIs**

```
"header": {
     "type": "esearch",
     "version": "0.3"
  "esearchresult": {
     "count": "20648",
     "retmax": "0",
     "retstart": "0",
     "querykey": "1",
     "webeny":
"NCID_1_65988278_130.14.22.33_9001_15519
95173_1918872135_0MetA0_S_MegaStore",
     "idlist": [ ...
```

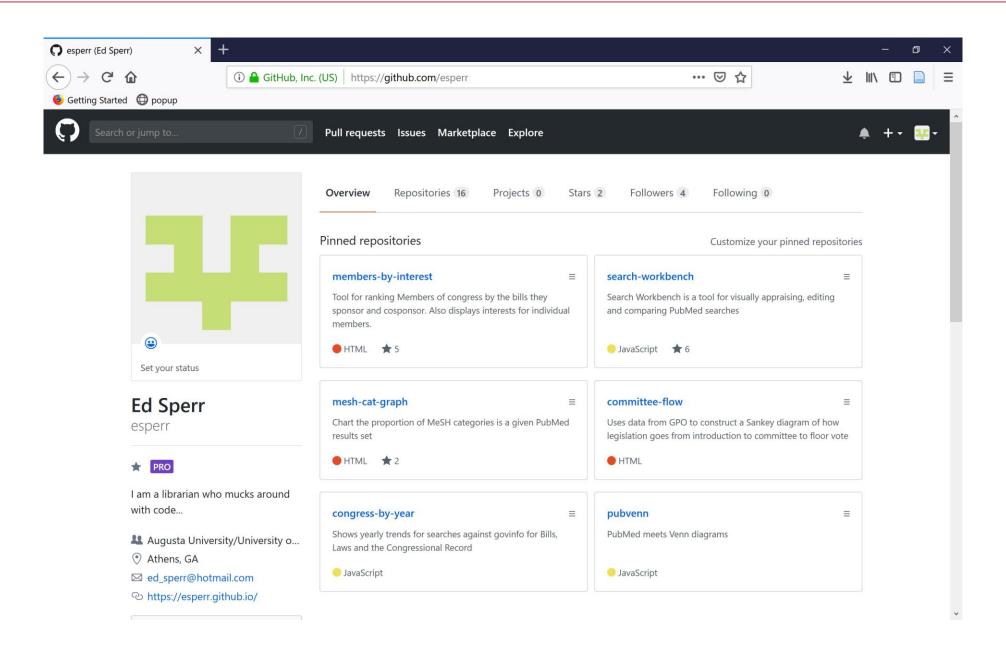
https://eutils.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/eutils/e search.fcgi?db=pubmed&usehistory=y&term =dengue+OR+dengue+fever&retmode=json &retmax=0&email=ed\_sperr%40hotmail.com &tool=pmsearchbench

## **E-Utilities**

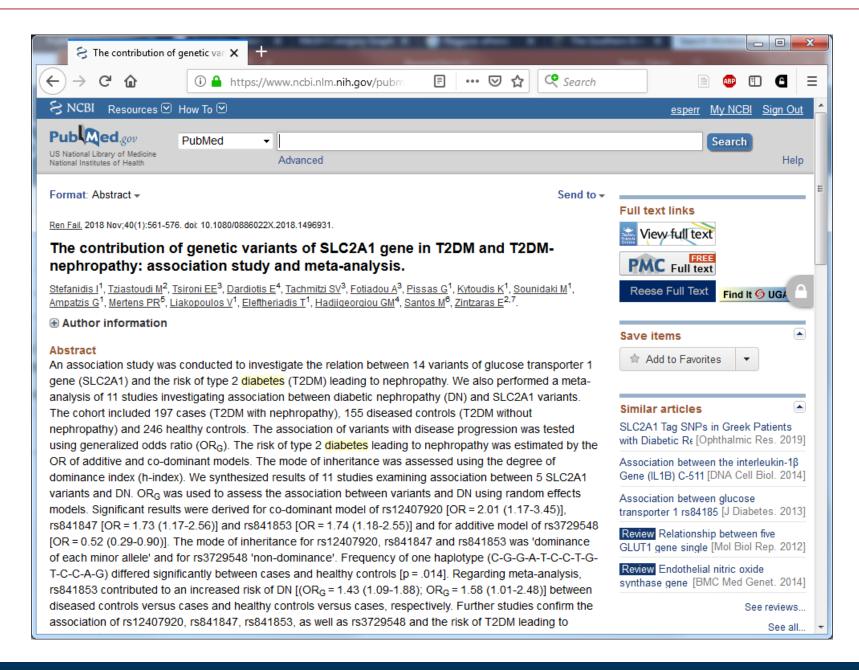
- API to NCBI databases
- Maintained by NLM
- Simple syntax for calls easy to implement in many environments

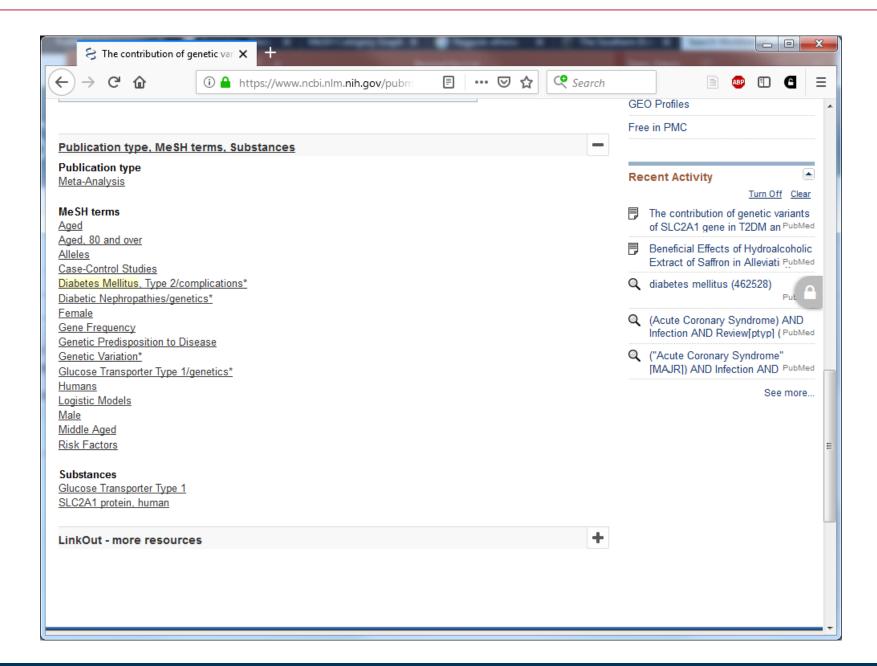
https://eutils.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/eutils/esearch.fcgi?db=pubmed&term=diabetes&retmode=json&rettype=count

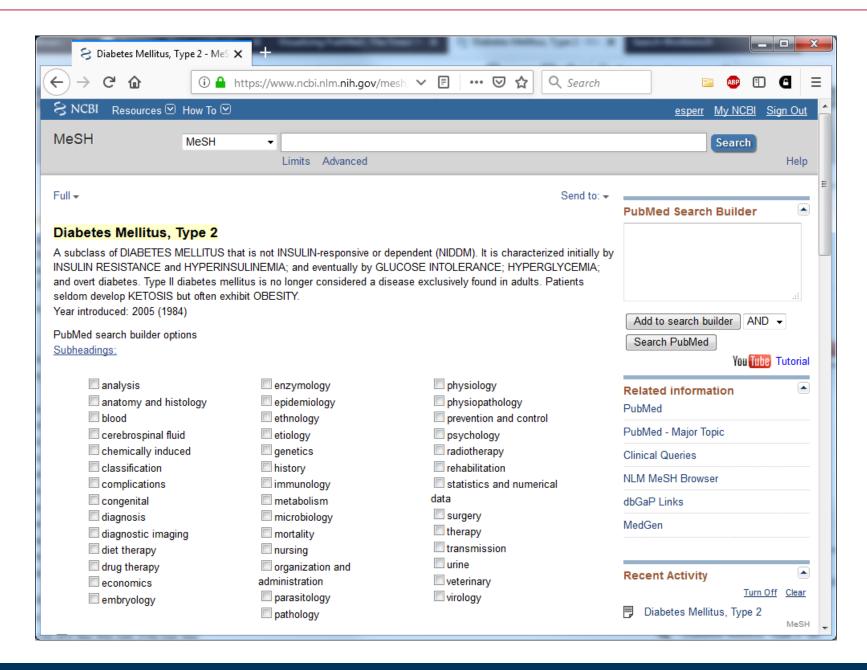
• Brand-new documentation at <a href="https://dataguide.nlm.nih.gov/">https://dataguide.nlm.nih.gov/</a>

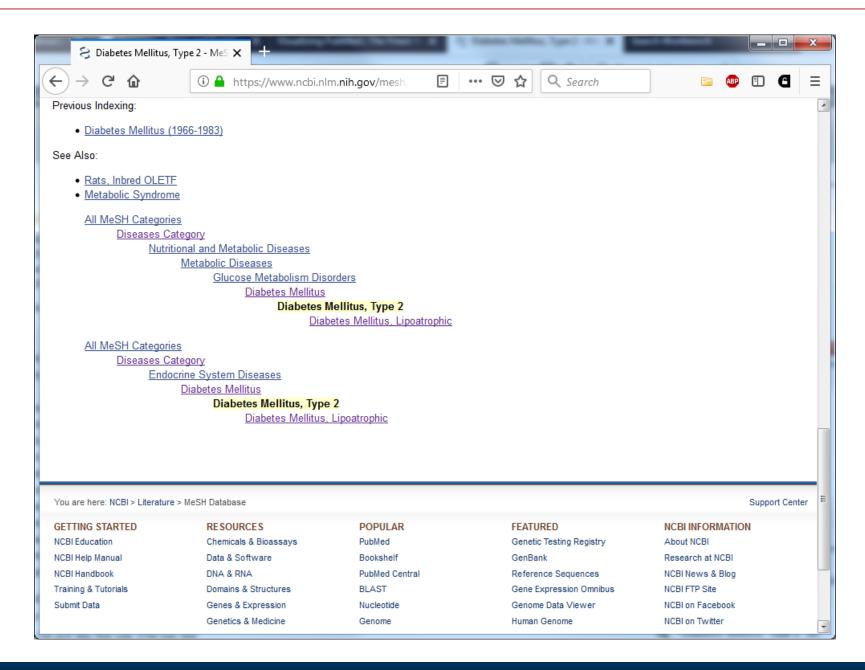


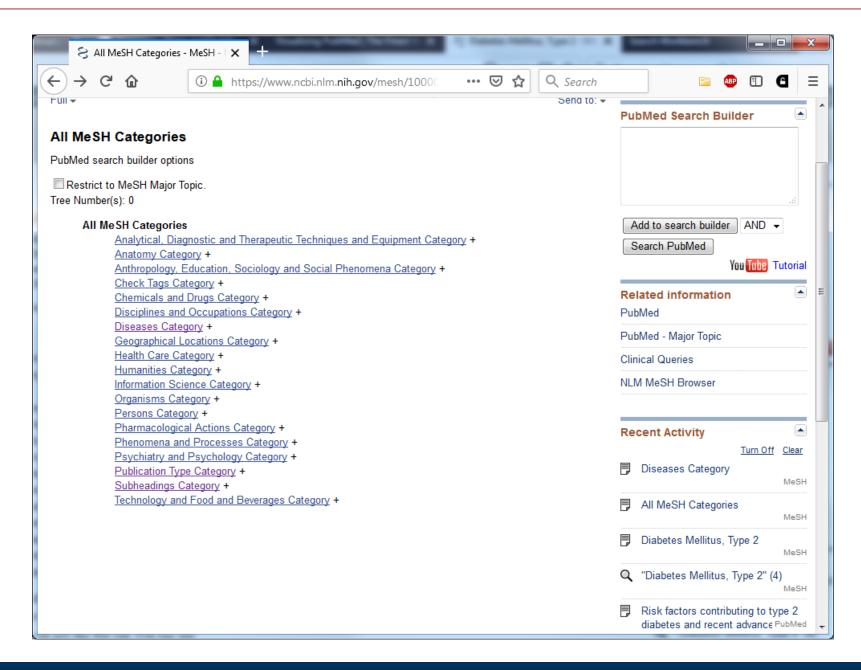
# Can we group citations by subject?

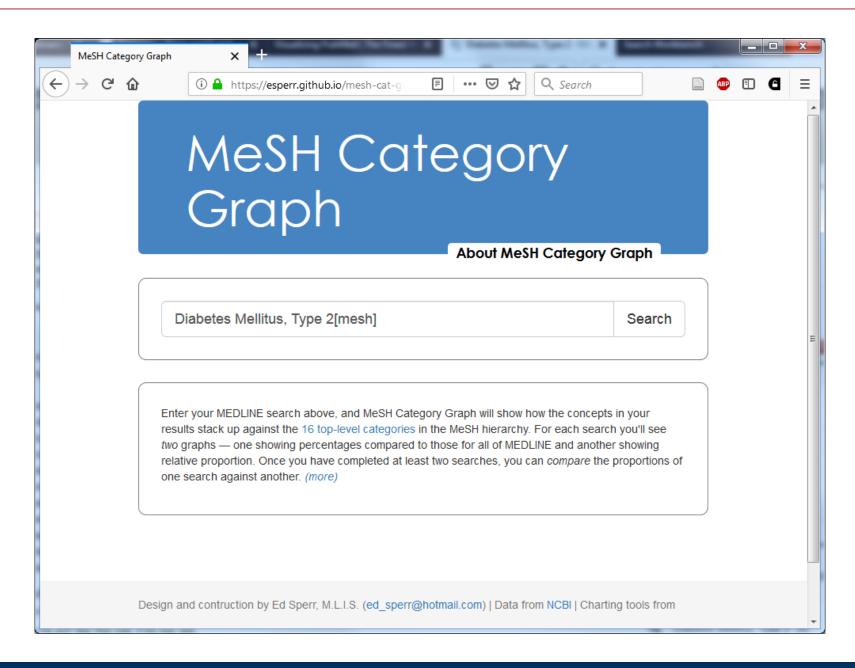


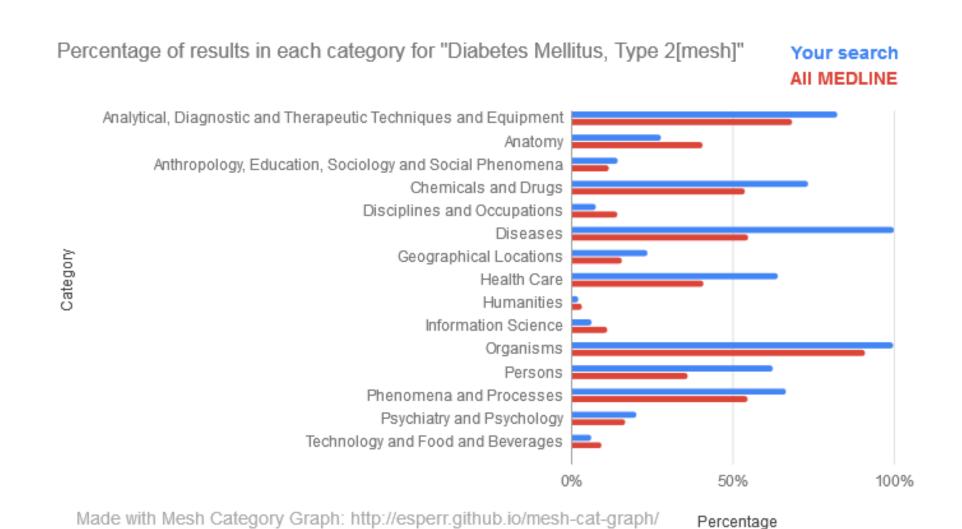




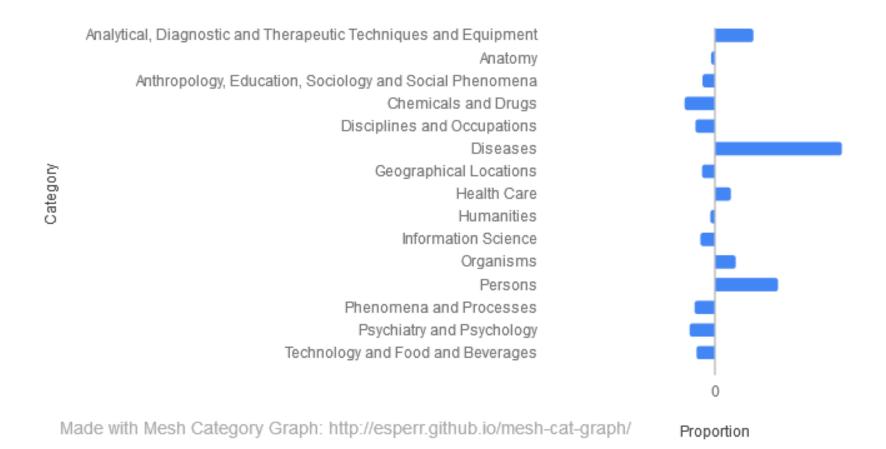








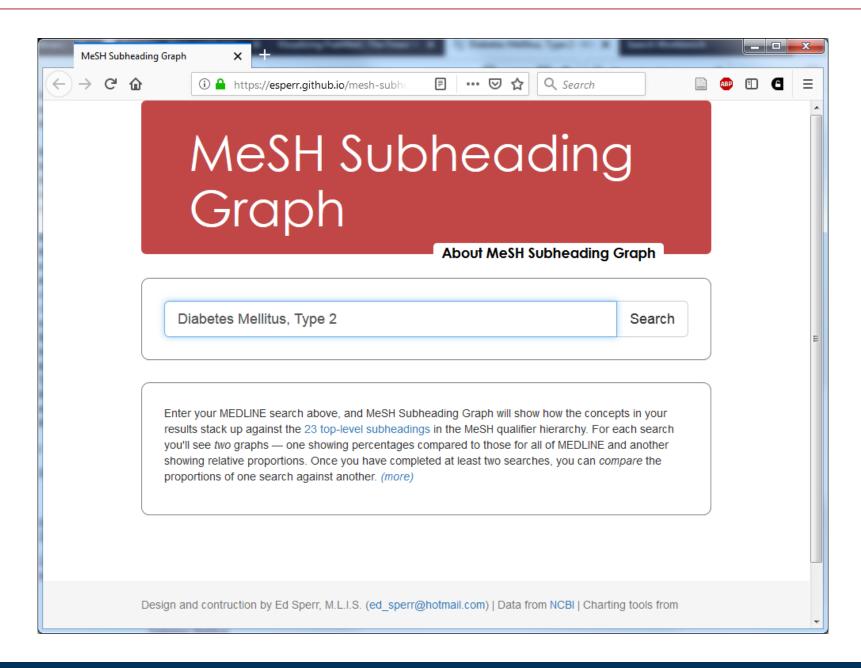
#### Proportion of results for "Heart Diseases[mesh]" in each category compared to baseline



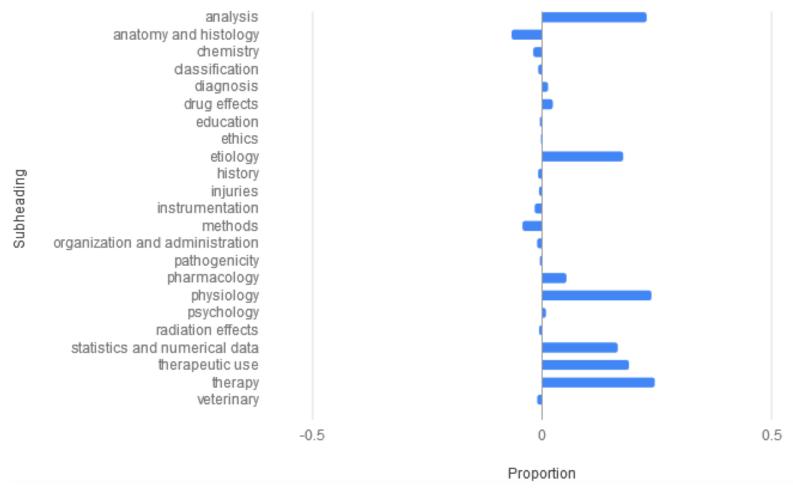


Sperr – Beyond the List

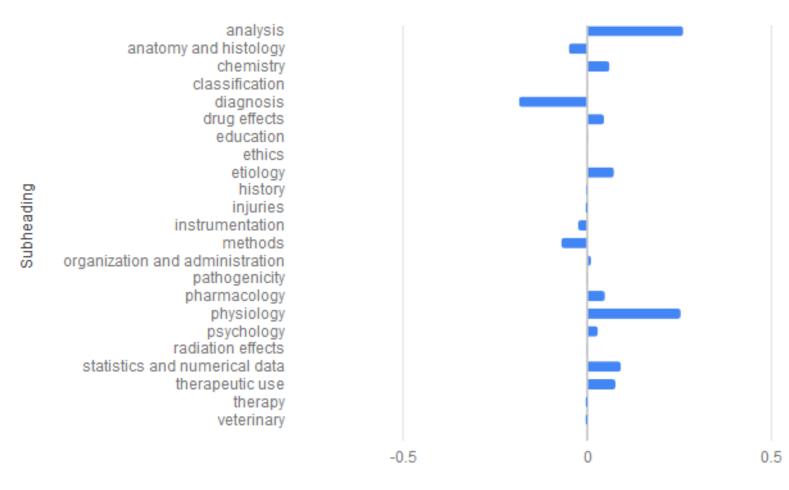
GHSLA March 12, 2019



#### Proportion of subheadings for "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2[mesh]" compared to baseline

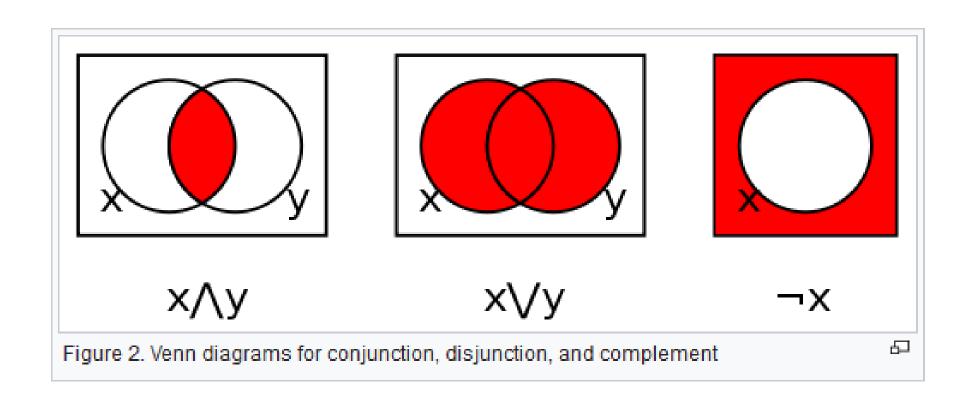


Made with Mesh Subheading Graph: http://esperr.github.io/mesh-subhead-graph/

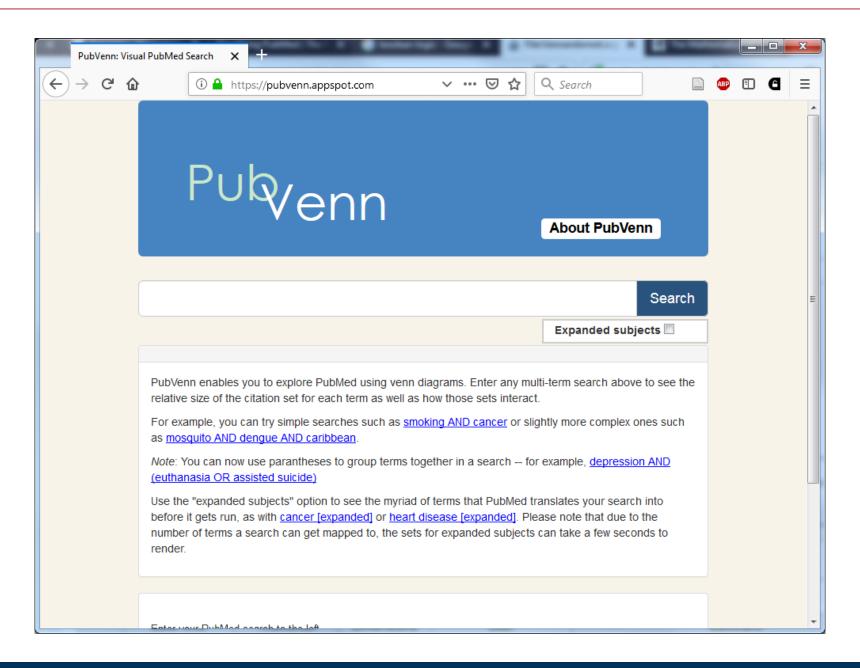


heart diseases[mesh] | Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2[mesh]

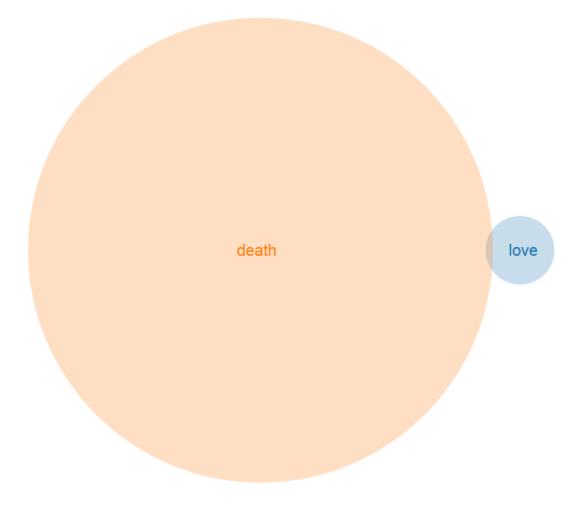
# Can we tell something about how the parts of a search are connected?



Watchduck -- Wikimedia

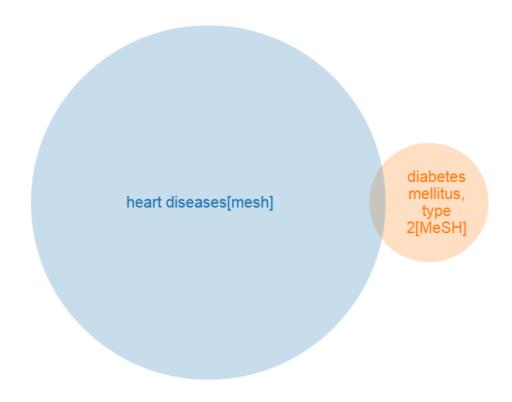


### love AND death



Made with PubVenn: https://pubvenn.appspot.com/

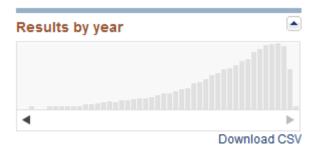
### heart diseases[mesh] AND diabetes mellitus, type 2[MeSH]



Made with PubVenn: https://pubvenn.appspot.com/

# Can we show trends for a search over time?

### Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2[mesh]



#### malaria



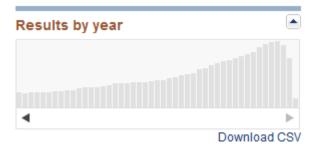
#### tuberculosis



### surgery

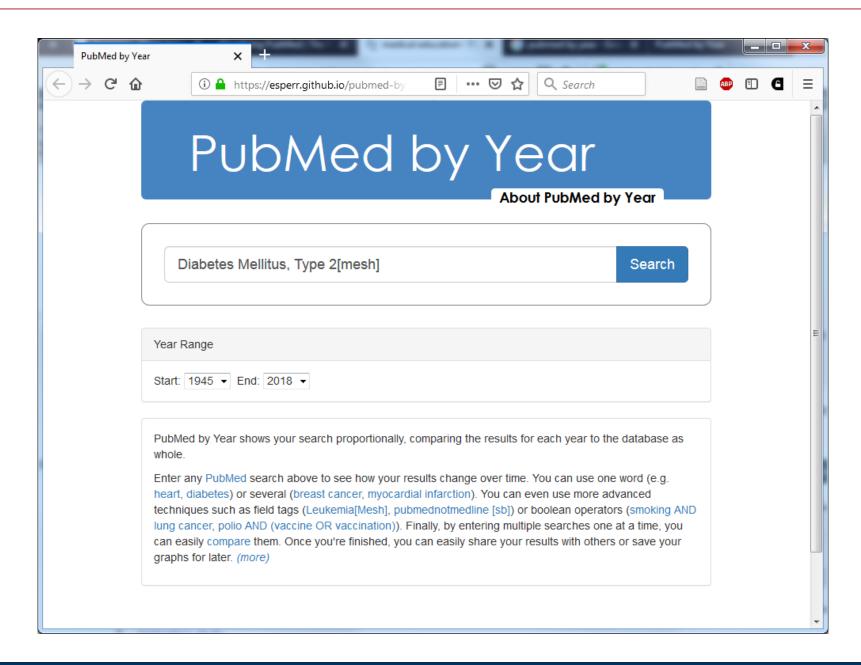


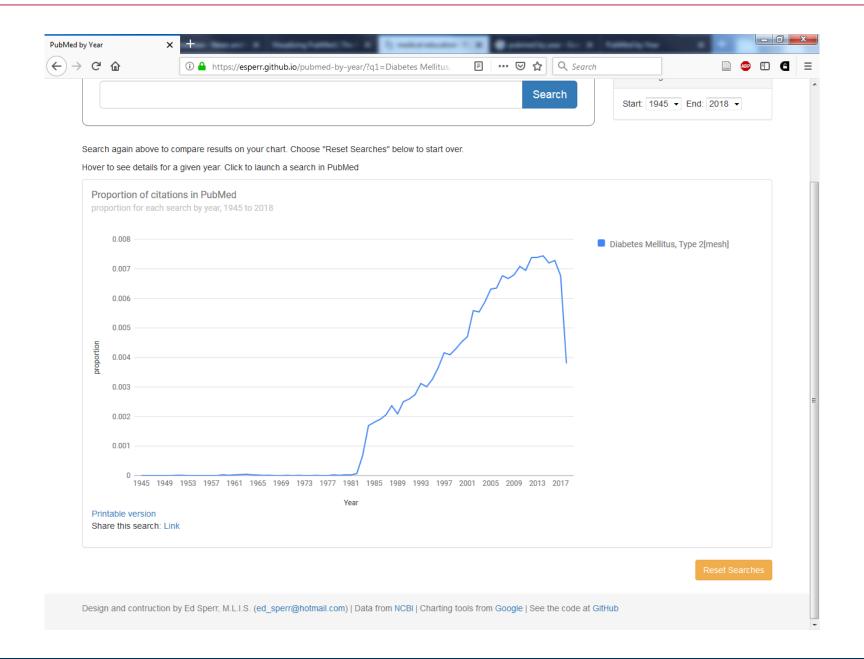
### heart diseases[mesh]



### medical education

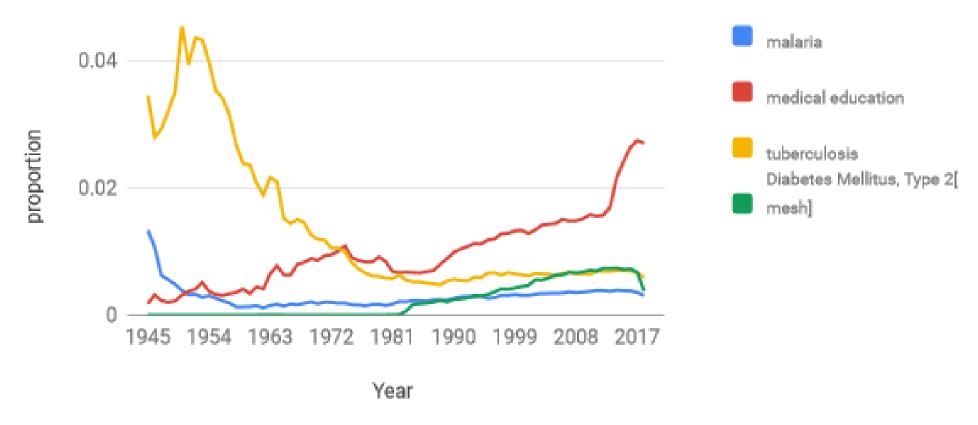






## Proportion of citations in PubMed

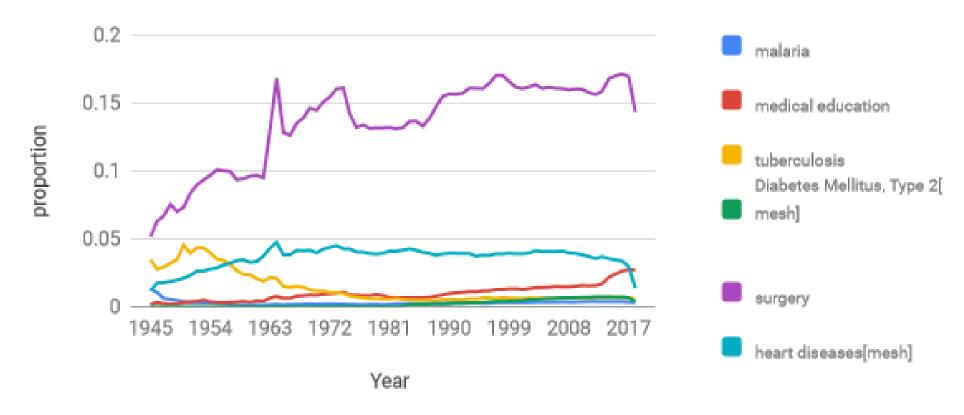
proportion for each search by year, 1945 to 2018



Made with PubMed by Year: http://esperr.github.io/pubmed-by-year

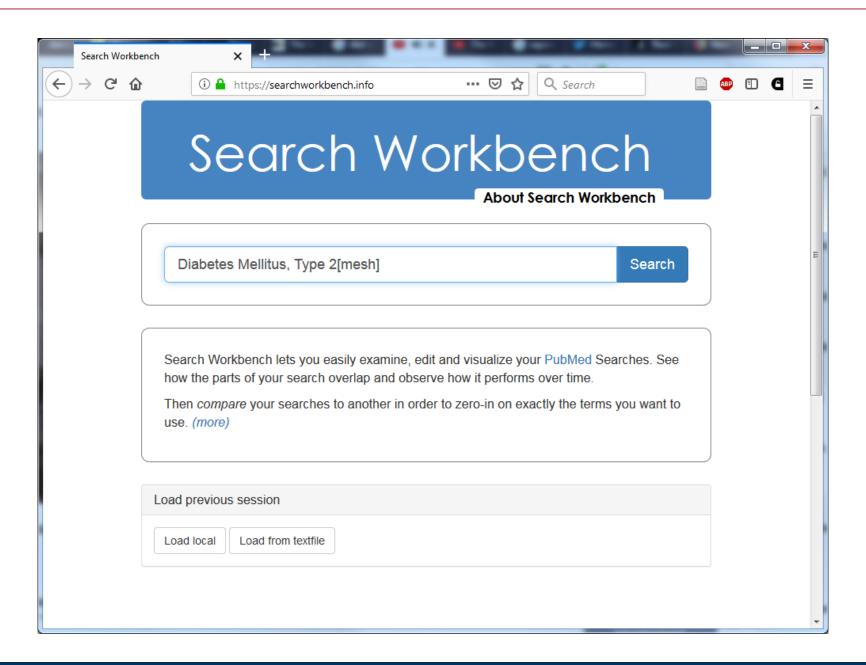
## Proportion of citations in PubMed

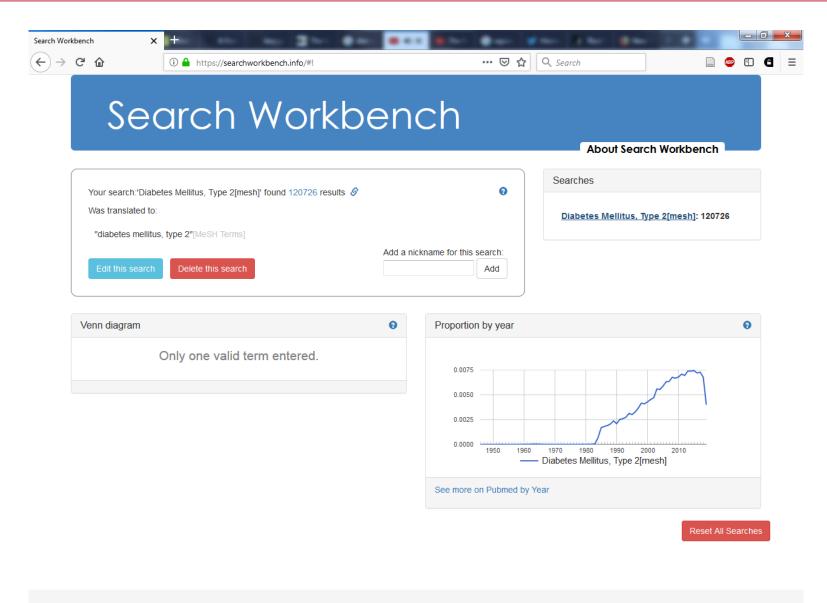
proportion for each search by year, 1945 to 2018



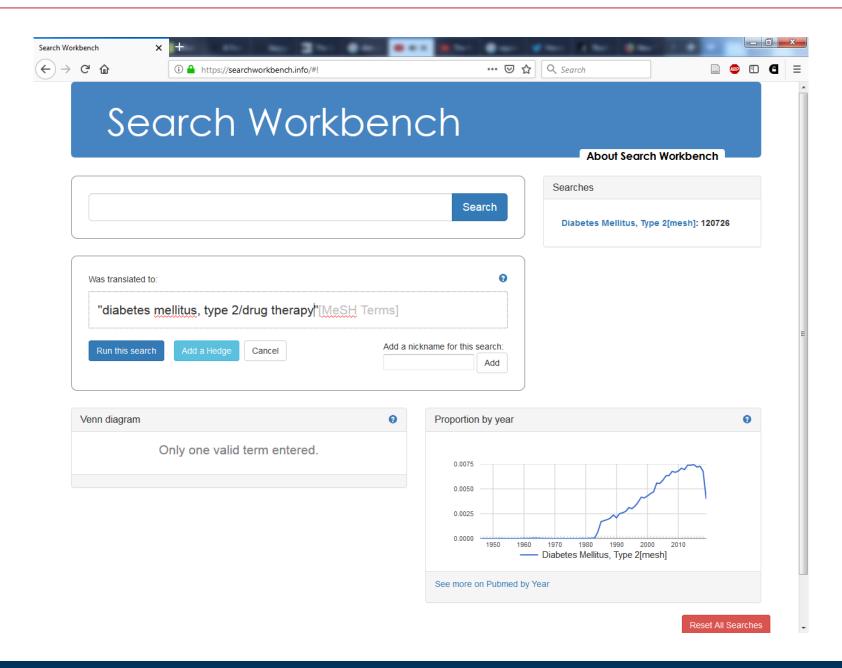
Made with PubMed by Year: http://esperr.github.io/pubmed-by-year

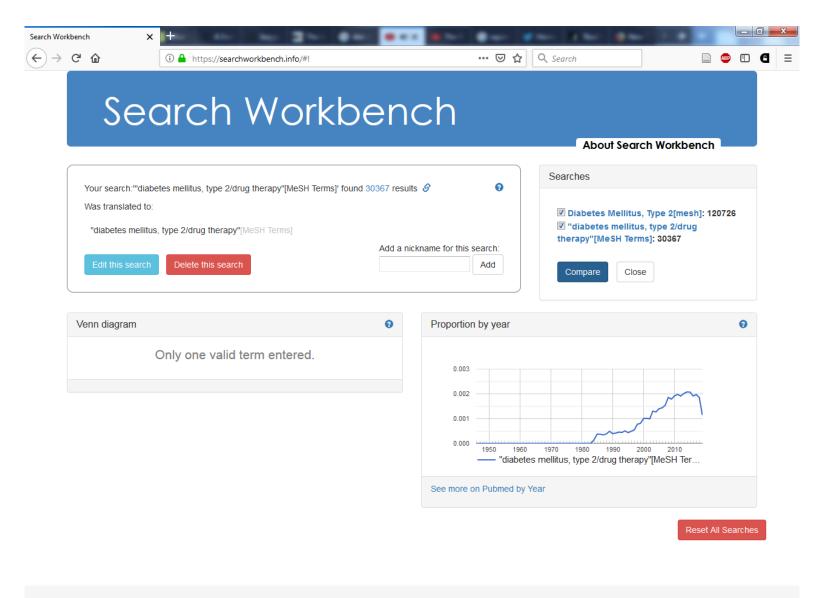
## Is it useful to combine these techniques?



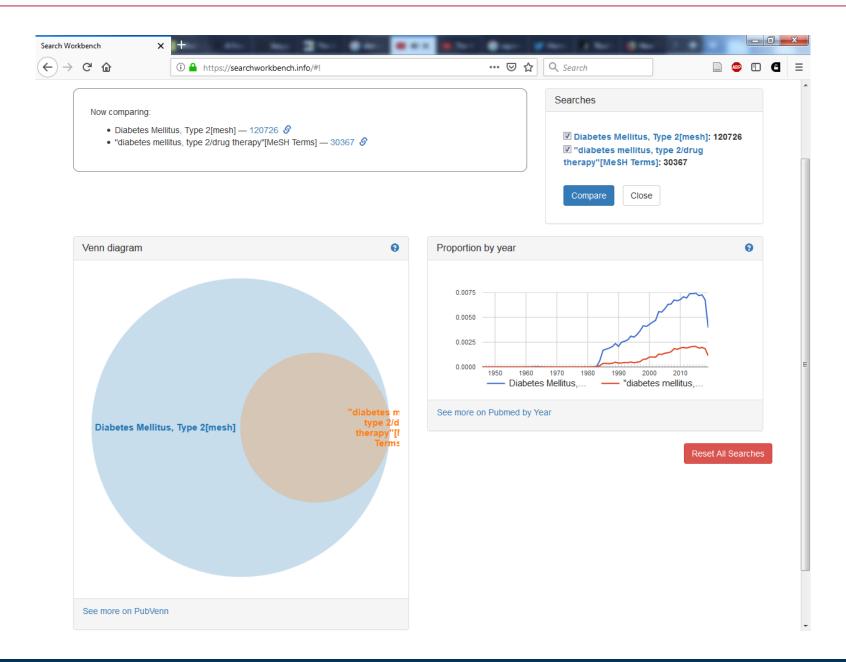


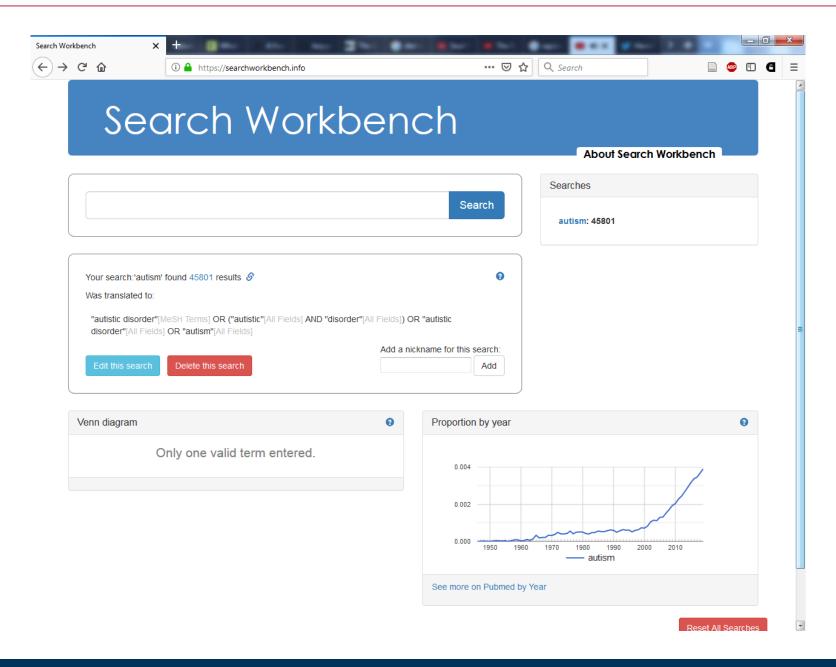
Design and contruction by Ed Sperr, M.L.I.S. | Data from NCBI | Visualization tools from Google and Ben Frederickson | See the code at GitHub

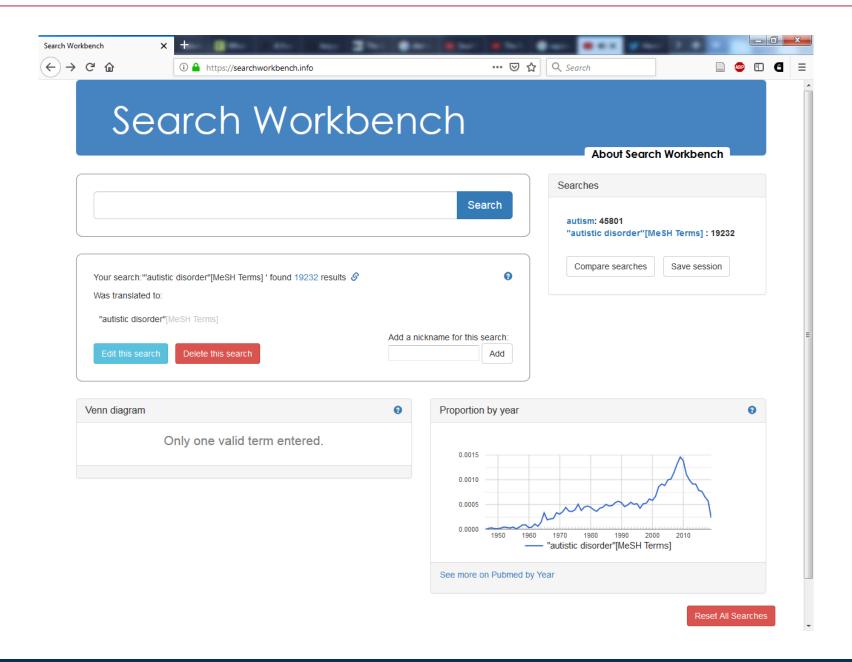


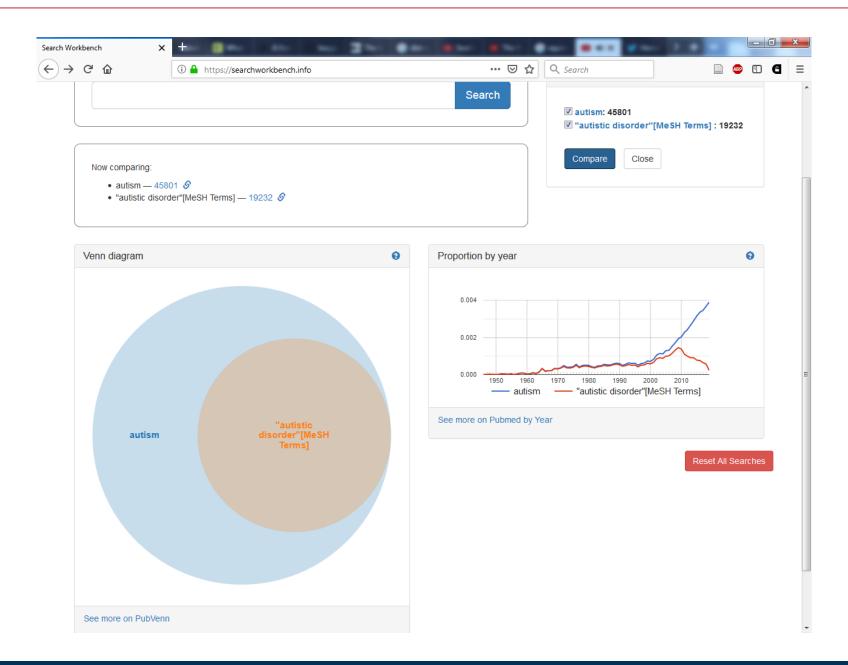


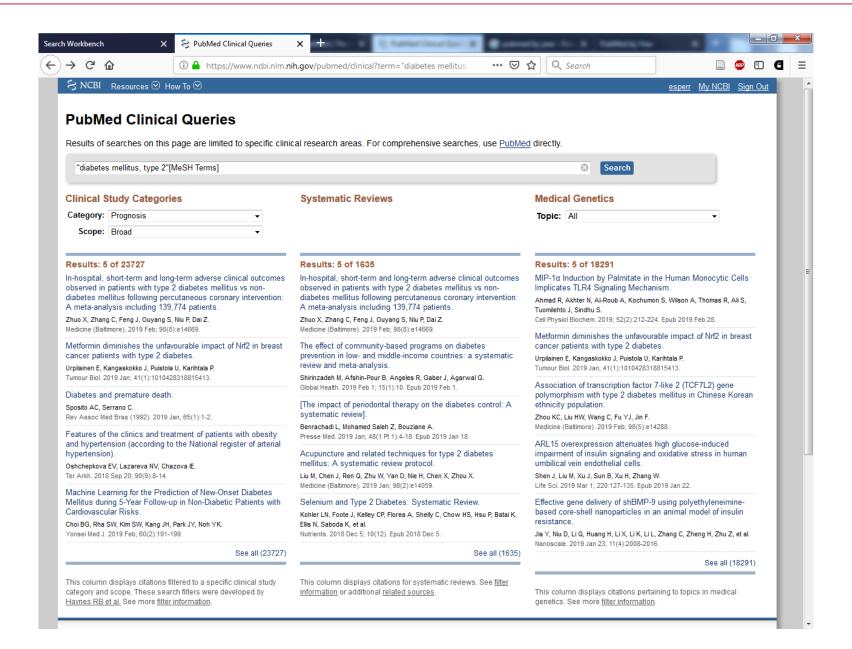
Design and contruction by Ed Sperr, M.L.I.S. | Data from NCBI | Visualization tools from Google and Ben Frederickson | See the code at GitHub

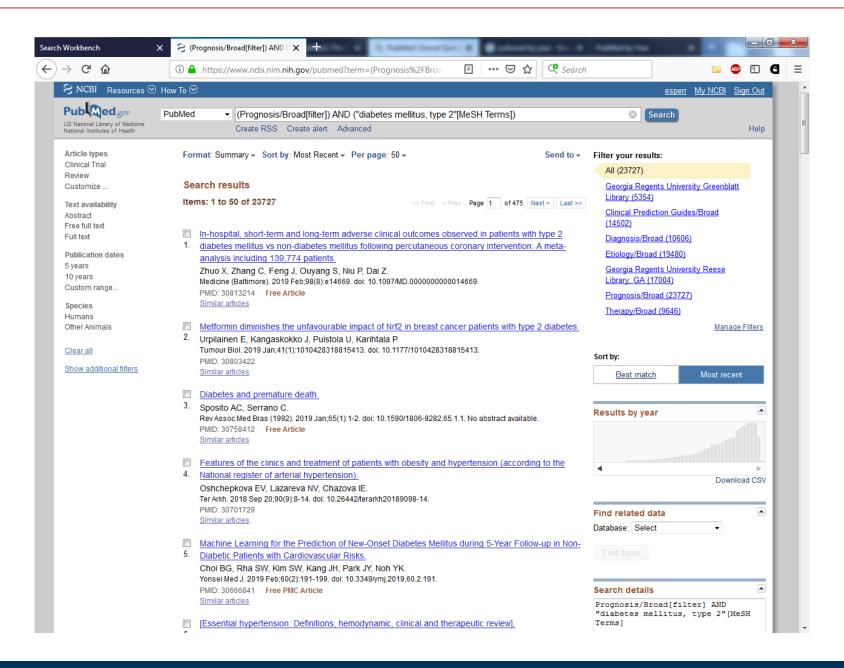


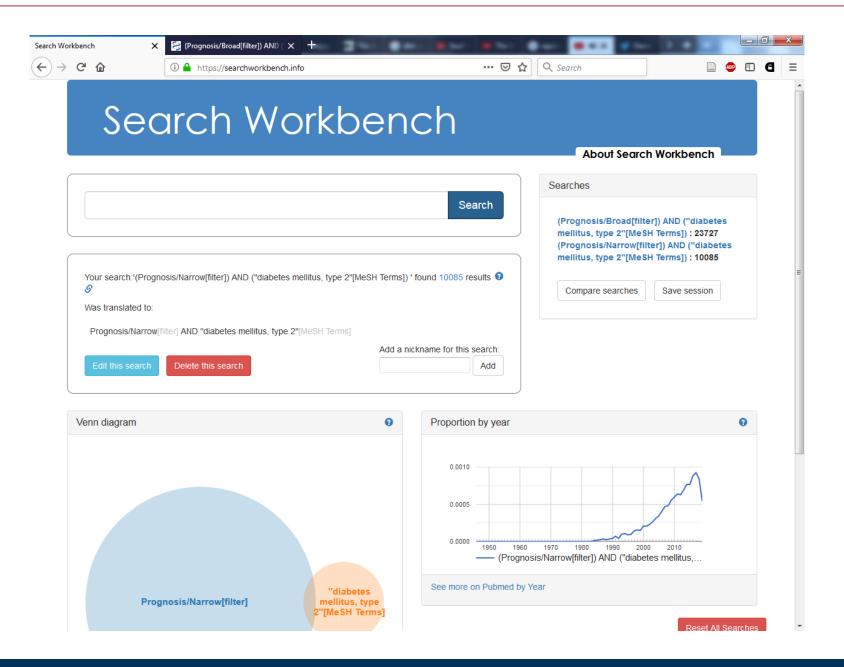


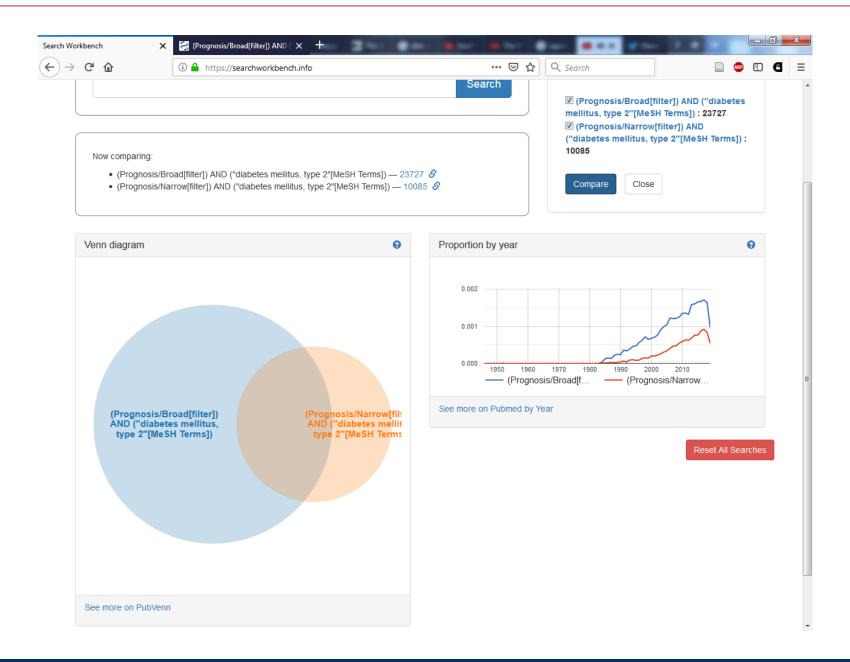












## **Questions?**

https://esperr.github.io/visualizingpubmed/https://searchworkbench.info/

https://github.com/esperr

esperr@uga.edu