



# The Cross Language Image Retrieval Track: ImageCLEF 2006

**Paul Clough<sup>1</sup>, Henning Müller<sup>2</sup>, Thomas Deselaers<sup>3</sup>, Michael Grubinger<sup>4</sup>,  
Thomas M. Lehmann<sup>5</sup>, Allan Hanbury<sup>6</sup> Bill Hersh<sup>7</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Sheffield University, UK

<sup>2</sup>University and Hospitals of Geneva, Switzerland

<sup>3</sup>RWTH Aachen University, Computer Science Dep. Germany

<sup>4</sup>Victoria University, Australia

<sup>5</sup>RWTH Aachen University, Medical Informatics, Germany

<sup>6</sup>Vienna University, Austria

<sup>7</sup>Oregon Health Science University



# Overview

- General overview
  - Image retrieval and CLEF
- Tasks in 2006
  - Photographic image retrieval task
  - Medical image retrieval task
  - Medical image annotation and object classification tasks
- Summary
  - Overall achievements



# Image Retrieval and CLEF

- Cross-language image retrieval
  - Images often accompanied by text
    - can be annotated automatically
- Began in 2003 as pilot experiment
  - In 2006, 47 groups registered from 18 countries
- Aims of ImageCLEF
  - Promote & initiate research for cross language image retrieval
  - Further understanding of the relationships between multilingual texts and images for retrieval
  - Create useful resources for the research community



# Photographic Retrieval Task



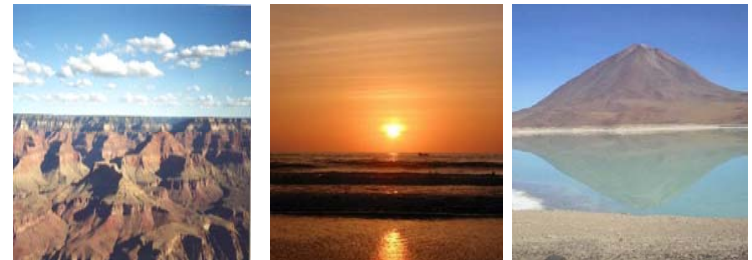
# Photographic Retrieval task

- New collection of 20,000 photographs (mainly) from an independent German travel company (viventura)
  - IAPR-TC12 Benchmark
  - Replaces St Andrews collection of historic photographs
- Set of 60 topics for ad-hoc retrieval task
  - Based on realistic topics (log-file analysis and interviews)
  - Based on testing various types of linguistic and pictorial attributes, e.g. visual vs. semantic, specific vs. general objects and use of proper names
- Submissions categorised by
  - Manual or automatic
  - Source and target languages (English/German)
  - Use of visual and text features (modality)
  - Use of feedback (e.g. for query expansion)



# Image Collection

- 20,000 colour photographs
  - Wide variety
  - Global scope
- Accompanied by semi-structured captions
  - English and German
- Many images have similar visual content but varying
  - illumination
  - viewing angle
  - background





# Images and captions

- Created as a resource for evaluation



keywords describing image, location,  
and date as supplied by photographer

description of image supplied by  
benchmark authors

```
<DOC>
<DOCNO>annotations/16/16019.png</DOCNO>
<TITLE>Flamingo Beach</TITLE>
<DESCRIPTION> a photo of a brown sandy beach; the dark blue sea with small
breaking waves behind it; a dark green palm tree in the foreground on the
left; a blue sky with clouds on the horizon in the background;
</DESCRIPTION>
<NOTES> Original name in Portuguese: "Praia do Flamengo"; Flamingo Beach is
considered as one of the most beautiful beaches of Brazil; </NOTES>
<LOCATION>Salvador, Brazil</LOCATION>
<DATE>2 October 2002</DATE>
<IMAGE>images/16/16019.jpg</IMAGE>
<THUMBNAIL>thumbnails/16/16019.jpg</THUMBNAIL>
</DOC>
```



# Example topic

- 60 topics created
  - Balance between realism and controlled parameters
- Varied according to
  - Whether derived directly from log file
  - Whether containing geographical constraint
  - Notions of “visualness” and linguistic complexity
  - Completeness of annotations
- Titles translated into 15 languages

```
<top>
<num> Number: 1 </num>
<title> accommodation with swimming
pool </title>
<narr> Relevant images will show the
building of an accommodation facility
(e.g. hotels, hostels, etc.) with a
swimming pool. Pictures without
swimming pools or without buildings
are not relevant. </narr>
<image> images/03/3793.jpg </image>
<image> images/06/6321.jpg </image>
<image> images/06/6395.jpg </image>
</top>
```







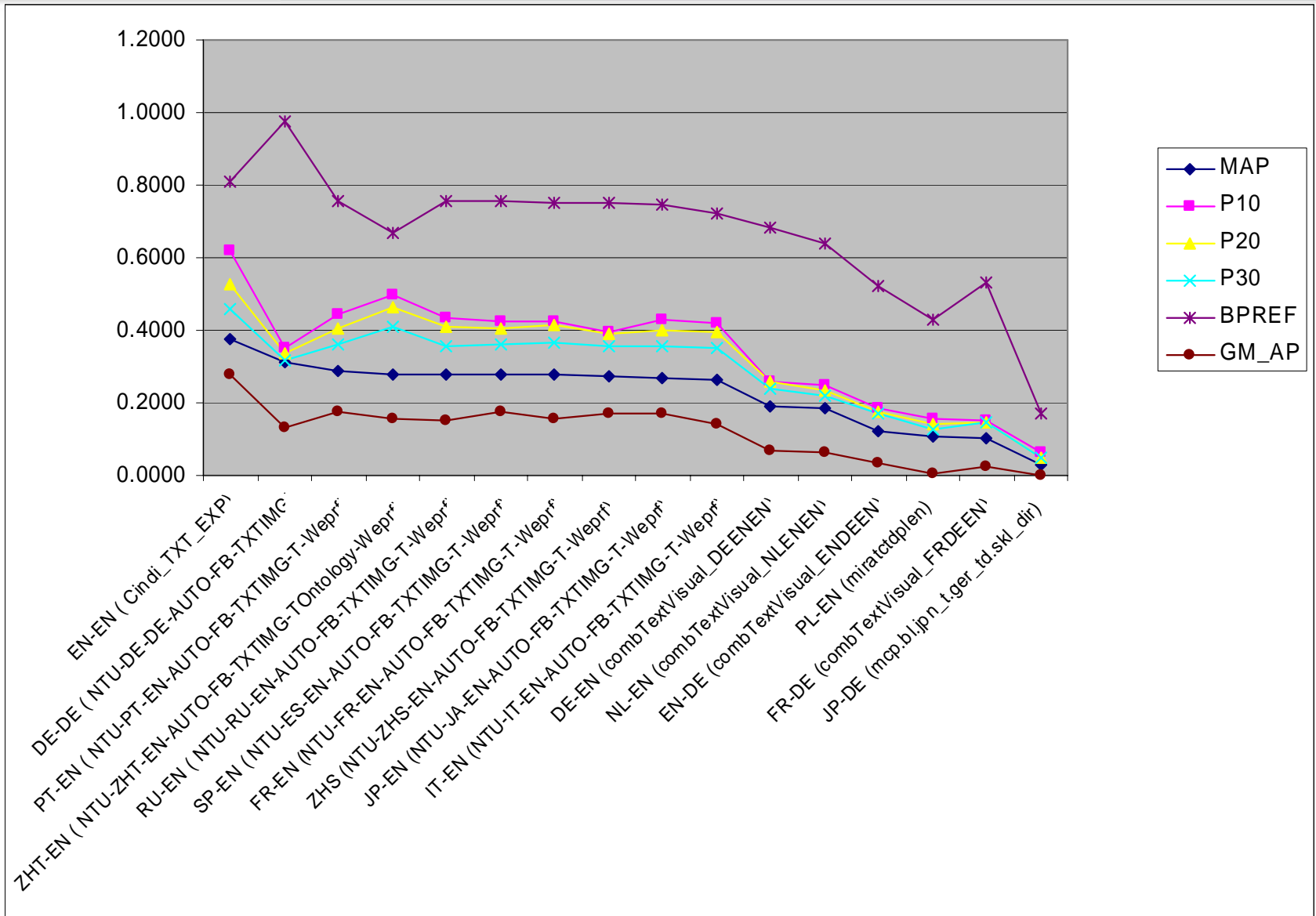
# Registration and Participation

- 36 groups registered
  - 12 participated (5 new)
- 157 runs submitted
  - variety of approaches
- 59% runs bilingual
  - 85% X-English
  - 15% X-German
- 31% runs involved use of image retrieval
  - 27% mixed text and visual
- 46% runs with feedback
- 1 manual run

NTU	National Taiwan U. - NLP	Taiwan
<b>Berkeley</b>	UC-Berkeley-Inf.Management	USA
<b>CINDI</b>	Concordia U.	Canada
Daedalus	Daedalus Consortium	Spain
Jaen	U.Jaen-Intell.Systems	Spain
<b>RWTH-Comp.Sci</b>	RWTH Aachen U. - comp-sci.	Germany
<b>CELI</b>	CELI- srl, Torini	Italy
DCU	Dublin City U.- Computing	Ireland
NII-1	Nat.Inst.Informatics (Testbeds)	Japan
IPAL-I2R	Inst.for Infocomm Research	Singapore
<b>TU Chemnitz</b>	TU Chemnitz - Comp.Sci	Germany
LIC2M-CEA	Centre CEA Saclay	France



# Results – automatic *highest MAP per language pair*





# Results – automatic

- For *highest* MAP per language pair
  - English-English 19% higher than German-German
    - particularly noticeable for languages with limited language resources (e.g. JP-EN)
  - Highest X-English 74% monolingual
    - PT-EN
  - Highest X-German 39% monolingual
    - EN-DE
  - 83% use feedback
  - 82% use mixed visual and textual features



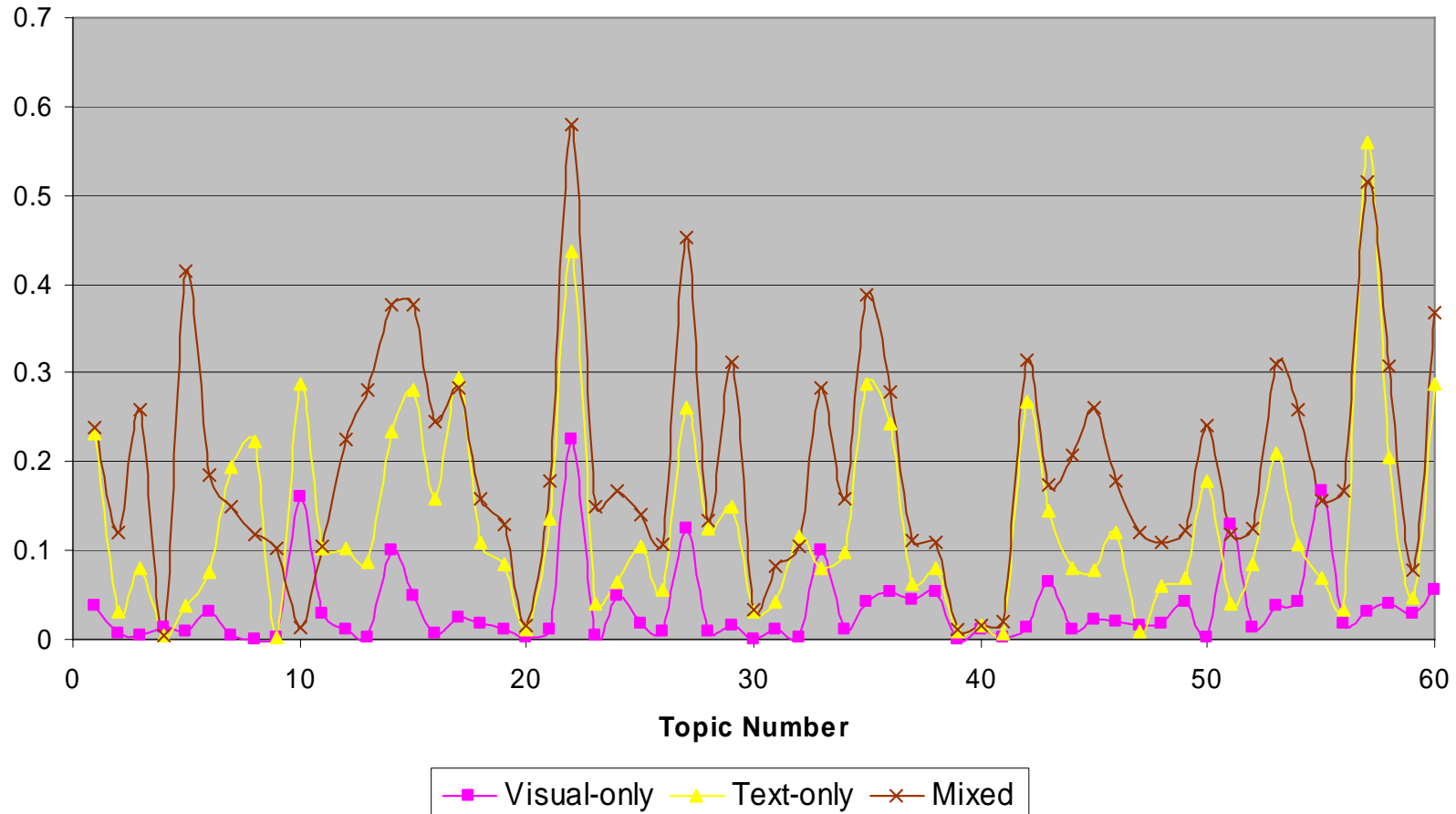
# Average MAP results

- Combining visual features from image and semantic information from text
  - on average 54% improvement over text alone
- Feedback (generally in form of PRF)
  - on average 39% improvement with
- Bilingual retrieval performs
  - 7% lower than monolingual
- Target language
  - Results for English annotations are 26% higher than German



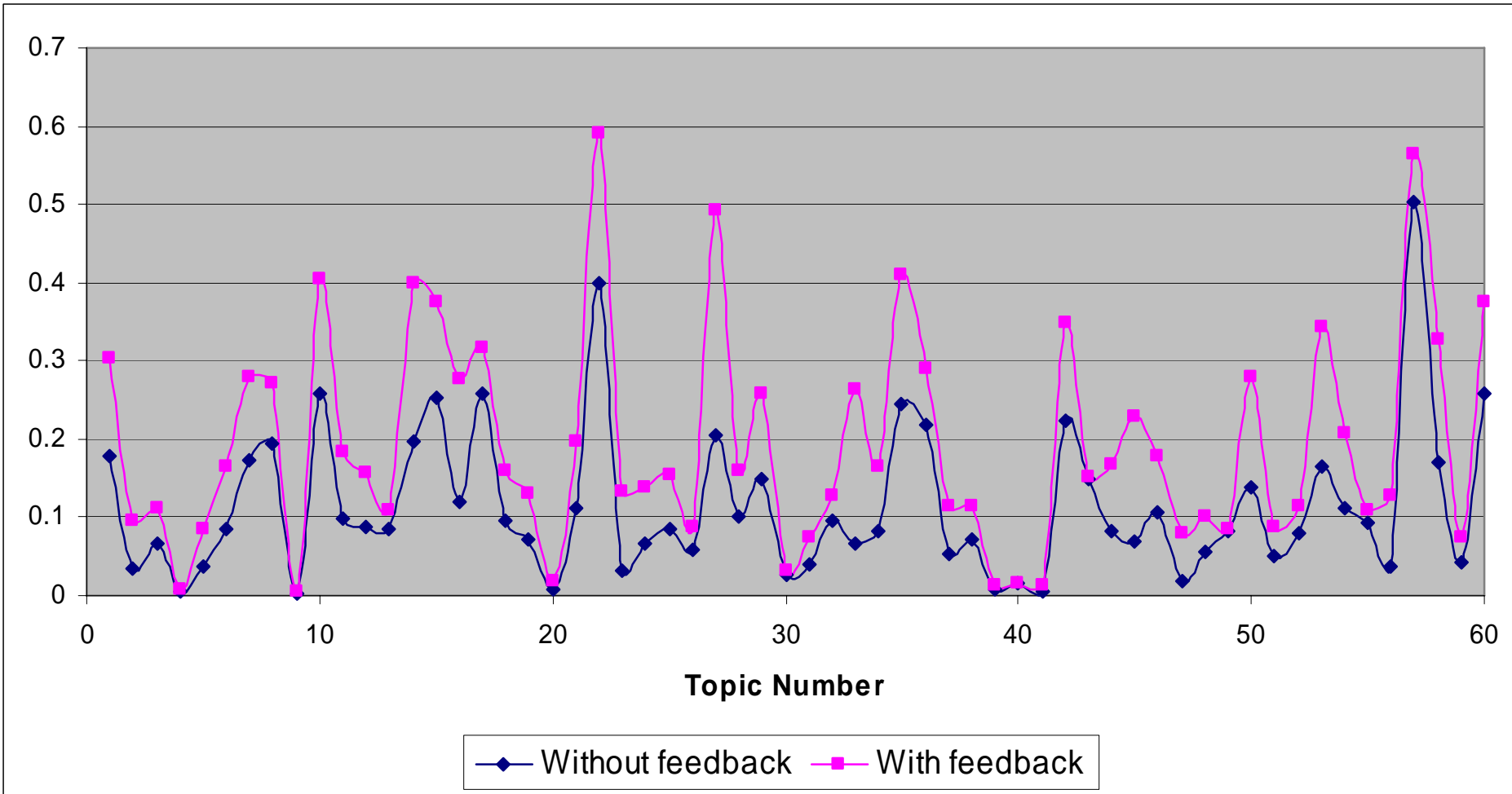
# Average MAP by topic

*Visual-only, text-only, mixed/combined*





# Average MAP by topic *Without and with feedback*





# Visual topics subtask

- Aimed to evaluate success of Content-Based IR techniques on IAPR collection
- 30 topics selected from ad hoc and made more “visual”
  - Topics consisted of 3 example images only
- Two groups participated in this task
  - IPAL and RWTH
- Results for 30 topics are low
  - Highest MAP 0.1010 (RWTH)
  - Results better at higher precision
- Results may reflect difficulty of domain (generic)



# Summary

- New collection in response to feedback
  - Real-life collection
  - English *and* German captions
  - Benchmark collection and very flexible for research and evaluation
- Challenging for both text and visual retrieval
  - Limited amount of text for retrieval
  - Heterogeneous content
  - German target language
- Retrieval varies widely according to topic
  - But generally runs with relevance feedback and combination of visual and text retrieval perform best





# Medical Retrieval Task



# Medical Retrieval Task

- Same **databases** as in 2005
  - 50'000 images, four sets of annotations, partly in French, German, English
  - Large variety, 2005 data for training
- **Topics** based on survey and log file analysis (medical web media search)
  - Categories for visual, semantic and mixed retrieval
- **Submissions** rated for two axes
  - Interaction (automatic, manual, interactive), media used for retrieval (visual, textual, mixed)



# Registration and Participation

- 37 registered groups
  - 12 groups from 8 countries submitted results
  - Lack of time, too large databases, but useful!
- 101 runs submitted
- Large variety of techniques
  - Visual, textual, and combinations
- Most often automatic runs
- Textual and multimodal runs are most frequent, a few purely visual runs



# Participants

- CINDI group, Concordia University, Canada.
- Microsoft Research, China. Microsoft research, China
- Institute for Infocomm Research I2R - IPAL, Singapore.
- University Hospitals of Freiburg, Germany
- Jaen University (SINAI), Spain
- Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), USA.
- I2R Medical Analysis Lab, Singapore
- MedGIFT, University and Hospitals of Geneva, Switzerland
- RWTH Aachen University - Computer Science, Germany
- RWTH Aachen University - Medical Informatics, Germany
- State University New York, Buffalo, USA
- LITIS Lab, INSA Rouen, France.



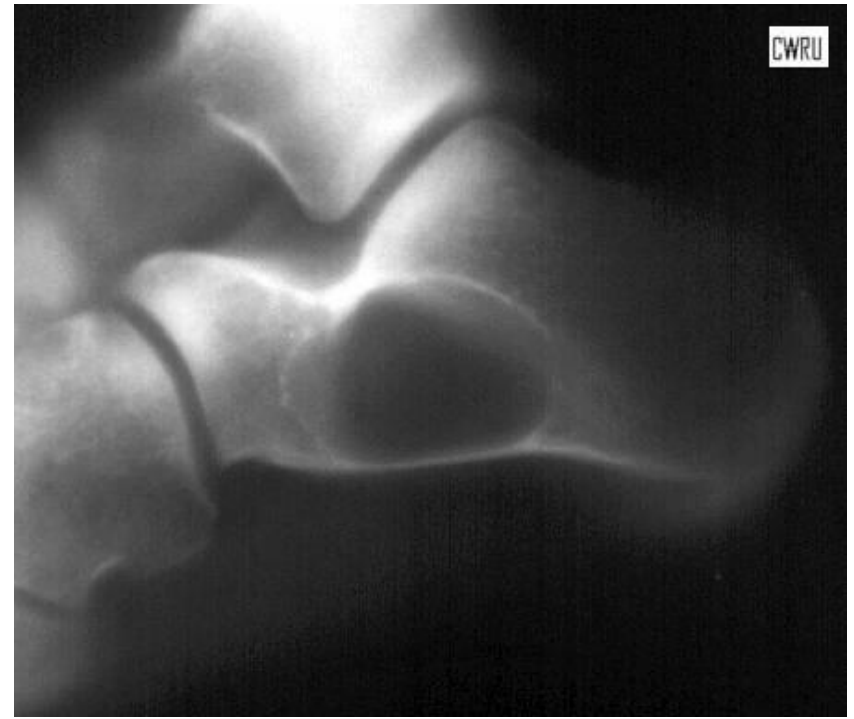
# An example topic

3.6

Show me x-ray images of bone cysts.

Zeige mir Röntgenbilder von Knochenzysten.

Montre-moi des radiographies de kystes d'os.





# Results - automatic

Run	Topic	System	MAP	R-prec	B-pref
IPAL-IPAL_Cpt_Im.eval	automatic	mixed	0.3095	0.3459	0.3922
UB-UBmedVT2.eval	automatic	mixed	0.2027	0.2225	0.2947
RWTHi6-EnFrGePatches.eval	automatic	mixed	0.1696	0.2078	0.2499
GE_vt10.treceval.eval	automatic	mixed	0.12	0.1703	0.1717
SINAI-SinaiGiftT50L20.eval	automatic	mixed	0.0467	0.095	0.1246
UKLFR-UKLFR_mids_en_all_co.eval	automatic	mixed	0.0167	0.0145	0.1568
IPAL-IPAL_Textual_CDW.eval	automatic	textual	0.2646	0.3093	0.354
GE_8EN.treceval.eval	automatic	textual	0.2255	0.2678	0.301
UB-UBmedT1.eval	automatic	textual	0.1965	0.2256	0.2881
UKLFR-UKLFR_origmids_en_en.eval	automatic	textual	0.1698	0.2127	0.2434
RWTHi6-En.eval	automatic	textual	0.1543	0.1911	0.2308
OHSU_baseline_trans.eval	automatic	textual	0.1264	0.1563	0.1827
SINAI-SinaiOnlytL30.eval	automatic	textual	0.1178	0.1534	0.2001
cindi-CINDI_Fusion_Visual.eval	automatic	visual	0.0753	0.1311	0.166
MSRA_WSM-msra_wsm.eval	automatic	visual	0.0681	0.1136	0.1551
IPAL-IPAL_Visual_SPC+MC.eval	automatic	visual	0.0634	0.1048	0.1398
RWTHi6-SimpleUni.eval	automatic	visual	0.0499	0.0849	0.1208
GE-GE_gift.eval	automatic	visual	0.0467	0.095	0.1246

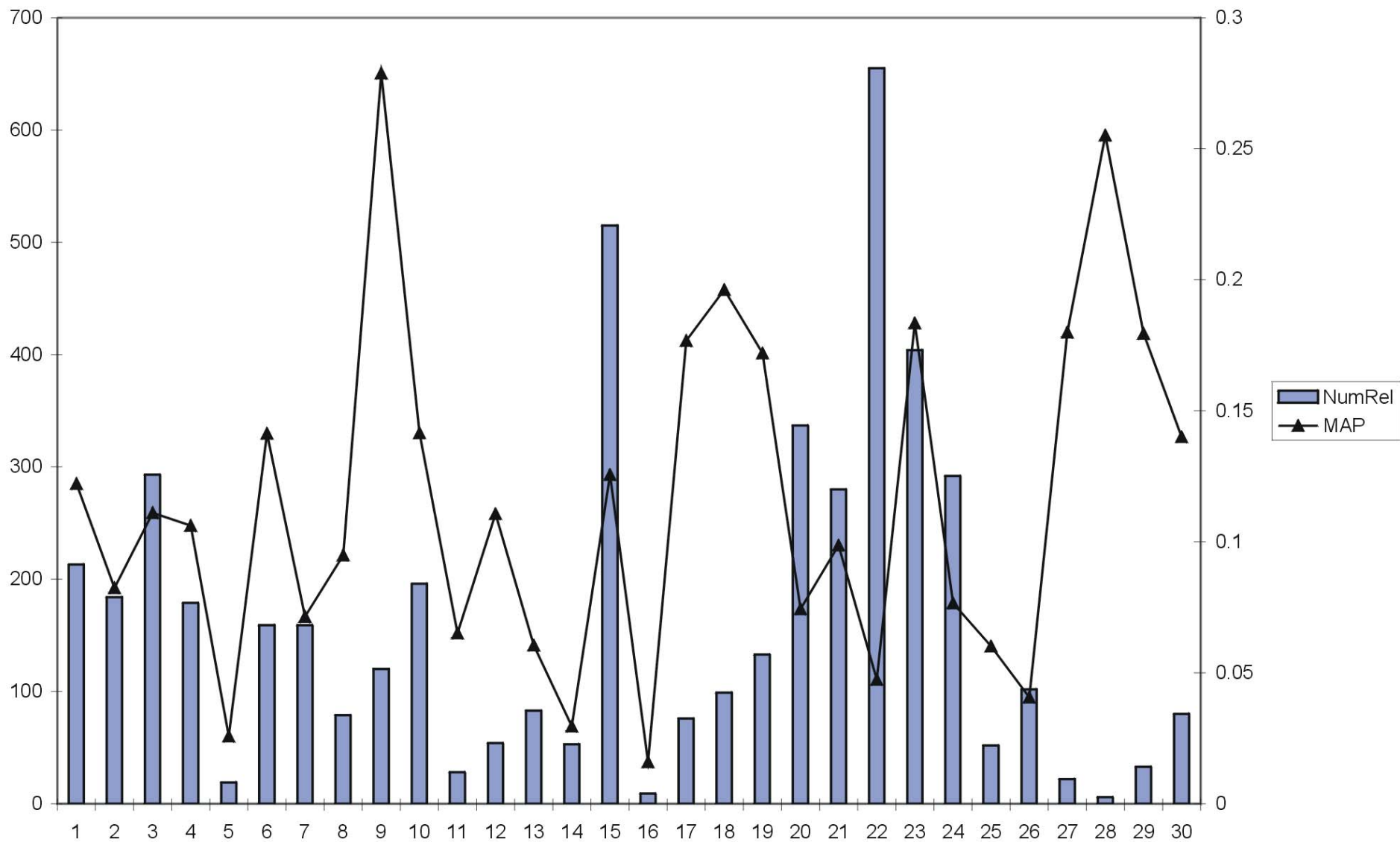


## Results (2) – manual, interaction

OHSU-OHSU_m1.eval	feedback	mixed	0.1563	0.187	0.2441
cindi-CINDI_Text_Visual_RF.eval	feedback	mixed	0.1513	0.1969	0.2397
IPAL-IPAL_Textual_CRF.eval	feedback	textual	0.2534	0.2976	0.3707
cindi-CINDI_Visual_RF.eval	feedback	visual	0.0957	0.1347	0.1796
INSA-CISMef.eval	manual	mixed	0.0531	0.0719	0.0731
OHSUeng.eval	manual	textual	0.2132	0.2554	0.2987
IPAL-IPAL_CMP_D1D2D4D5D6.eval	manual	visual	0.1596	0.1939	0.2452



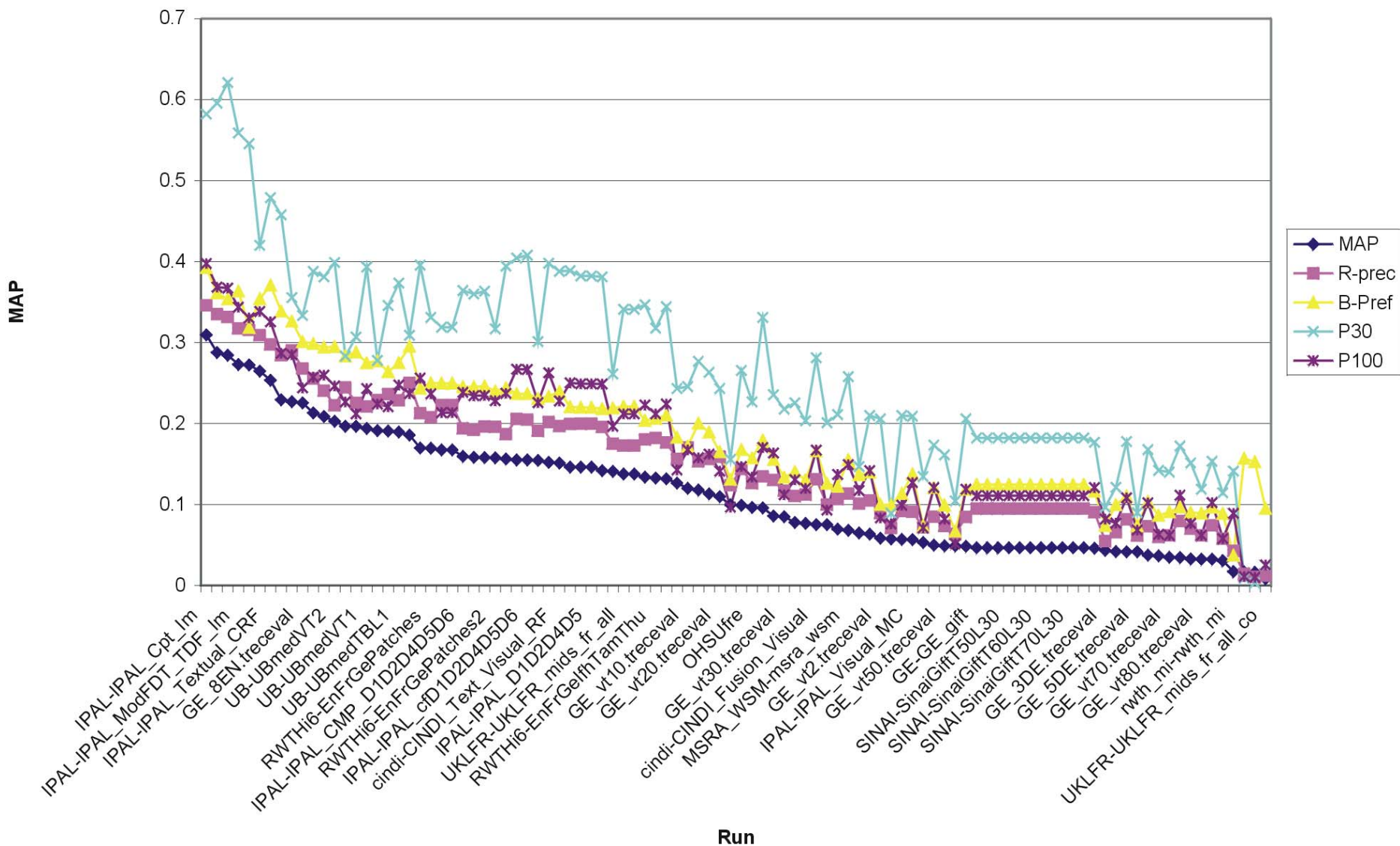
# Results (3)







# Results (4)





# Interpretation

- **Visual** retrieval works only really well on visual topics
- **Multimodal** retrieval is hard but can result in very good results
  - Fine tuning is needed
- Groups prefer **automatic** retrieval and work less on interaction
  - Automatic results are generally best



# Automatic Annotation Tasks



# Automatic Image Annotation

- 2 automatic image annotation tasks
- Purely visual tasks
- Explore the state of the art of image annotation techniques
- Aiming to be used as a first step for multi-modal retrieval



# Medical Image Annotation

- 10,000 training and 1,000 test images
- 116 classes identifying modality, body orientation, body region and biological system (IRMA code)
  - *e.g. 01: plain radiography, coronal, cranium, musculoskeletal system*
- Classes in English and German; unevenly distributed

Organized by Thomas Deselaers and Thomas Lehmann, RWTH Aachen University



# Example of IRMA code

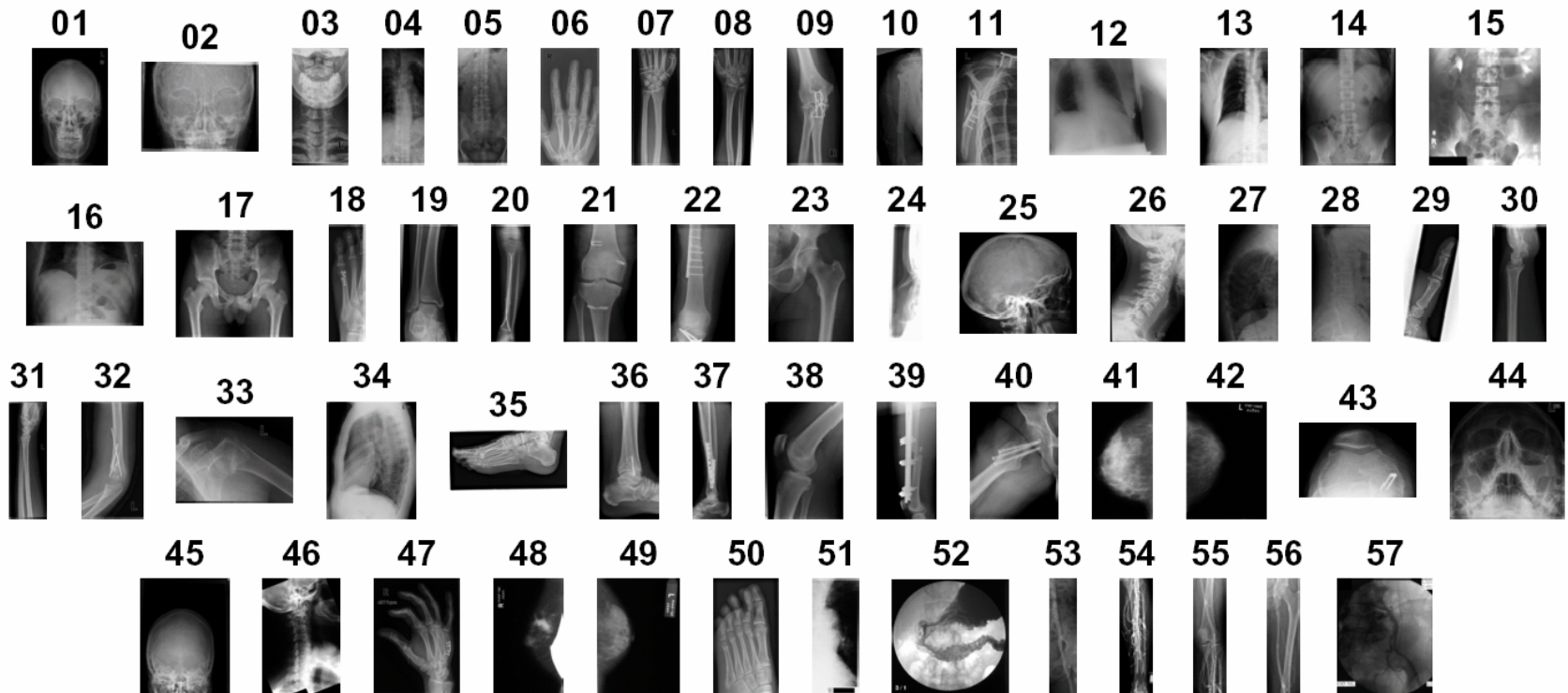
- Example: 1121-127-720-500
  - radiography, plain, analog, overview
  - coronal, AP, supine
  - abdomen, middle
  - uropoetic system
- This year: each unique code is a possible label





# Example Images

- 10,000 training images
- 1,000 test images
- 116 classes





# Participants

- Groups
  - 29 registered
  - 13 participated
- Runs:
  - In total 30 submitted
- Several groups participating the second time
- CINDI (Canada)
- DEU (Turkey)
- MedIC-CISMeF (France)
- MSRA (China)
- MU I2R (Singapore)
- NCTU DBLAB (Taiwan)
- OHSU (Oregon, US)
- RWTHi6 (Germany)
- RWTHmi (Germany)
- UFR (Germany)
- ULG (Belgium)
- UTD (Texas, US)
- MedGIFT (Switzerland)





# Results

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Run</b>	<b>ER</b>
1	RWTHi6	SHME	16.2
2	UFR	UFR-ns-1000-20x20x10	16.7
4	MedIC-CISMeF	local+global-PCA335	17.2
6	MSRA	WSM-msra-wsm-gray	17.6
12	RWTHmi	opt	21.5
14	CINDI	cindi-svm-sum	24.1
19	OHSU	OHSU-iconGLCM2-tr	26.3
21	NCTU	dblab-nctu-dblab2	26.7
22	MU	I2R-refine-SVM	28.0
24	ULG	SYSMOD-RANDOM-SUBWINDOWS-E	29.0
25	DEU	DEU-3NN-EDGE	29.5
-	medGIFT	combination	29.7



# Analysis of the Results

- Performance of systems strongly improved since last year:
    - the system that performed best last year is rank 11 this year
  - large variety in submitted methods
    - image retrieval approaches
    - discriminative classification approaches
  - large variety in used features
    - local features
    - global features
- ⇒ combination of good classifiers leads to even better results



# Object Annotation Task

- Database provided by LTUtech consisting of >80,000 images from 267 classes
- To ease participation, reduce dataset
  - 13,963 training images
  - 100 optimization images
  - 1,000 test images
  - 21 classes:
    - Ashtrays, Backpacks, Balls, Banknotes, Bench, Books, Bottles, Calculators, Cans, Chairs, Clocks, Coins, Computing equipment, Cups, HiFi, Cutlery, Mobile Phones, Plates, Sofas, Tables, Wallets



# Example Images





# Participants & Results

- CINDI (Canada), DEU (Turkey), RWTH (Germany), MedGIFT (Switzerland)

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Run</b>	<b>ER</b>
1	RWTHi6	SHME	77.3
2	RWTHi6	PatchHisto	80.2
3	cindi	Cindi-SVM-Product	83.2
4	cindi	Cindi-SVM-EHD	85.0
5	cindi	Cindi-SVM-SUM	85.2
6	cindi	Cindi-Fusion-knn	87.1
7	DEU-CS	edgehistogr-centroid	88.2
8	DEU-CS	colorlayout-centroid	93.2



# Conclusion and Discussion

- Two purely visual tasks
  - medical: clear progress visible
  - objects: very difficult task
- High variety in competing methods
- Future plans:
  - use image annotation as first step for multi-modal retrieval
  - allow for more complex annotations



# Conclusions

- Continued global participation from variety of research communities
- ImageCLEF has continued to improve
  - Medical retrieval task
    - realistic topics and larger medical image collection
  - General photographic retrieval task
    - new collection (IAPR) and representative topics
  - Medical annotation task
    - more training data and larger number of classes
  - Introduction of general annotation task
- Overall combining text and visual approaches works well for ad-hoc tasks