

An Analysis of the Abstracts Presented at the Annual Meetings of the Society for Neuroscience from 2001 to 2006

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Abstract

Annual meeting abstracts published by scientific societies often contain rich arrays of information that can be computationally mined and distilled to elucidate the state and dynamics of the subject field. We extracted and processed abstract data from the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) annual meeting abstracts during the period 2001–2006 in order to gain an objective view of contemporary neuroscience. An important first step in the process was the application of data cleaning and disambiguation methods to construct a unified database, since the data were too noisy to be of full utility in the raw form initially available. Using natural language processing, text mining, and other data analysis techniques, we then examined the demographics and structure of the scientific collaboration network, the dynamics of the field over time, major research trends, and the structure of the sources of research funding. Some interesting findings include a high geographical concentration of neuroscience research in the north eastern United States, a surprisingly large transient population (66% of the authors appear in only one out of the six studied years), the central role played by the study of neurodegenerative disorders in the neuroscience community, and an apparent growth of behavioral/systems neuroscience with a corresponding shrinkage of cellular/molecular neuroscience over the six year period. The results from this work will prove useful for scientists, policy makers, and funding agencies seeking to gain a complete and unbiased picture of the community structure and body of knowledge encapsulated by a specific scientific domain.

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Introduction

Continuing exponential growth in the volume of science as measured by number of scientists or by publications has made it virtually impossible for individual researchers to keep track of the totality of knowledge and major progress areas in a research field using the traditional modes of scholarly research. This is individually frustrating for researchers not satisfied with exploring increasingly hyper-specialized niches, and also has negative implications for broader questions relating to the efficiency of the research enterprise and for science policy. Automated or semi-automated methods using natural language processing, applied to the scientific literature, provide a potential avenue to address this problem. Indeed, such bibliometric analysis forms the groundwork for search engines such as Google. However, most of the scientific literature exists behind a series of online firewalls which prevent efficient utilization of automated tools by the average researcher. Meeting abstracts published by scientific societies are often available freely in electronic form on the web or in the form of media distributed at annual meetings, and these form an attractive starting point for the construction and mining of knowledge bases about specific scientific domains. In particular, the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience

(SfN) is a large-scale, international event that is arguably the most influential single meeting within the subject. The abstracts of presentation at this meeting are not peer-reviewed publications, but nonetheless, due to their volume and diversity, provide a unique global survey of the state of the subject of neuroscience each year.

Much recent work has used textual data in the form of abstracts or full-text publications in order to draw inferences about the structure of a research domain. Many such efforts have been focused on citation analysis [e.g. 1], including reputational indices such as highly cited papers [2–4] or scientist and journal impact factors [5–7]. An additional area of large concentration has been in the extraction of graphs or networks representing scientific collaborations or co-citations, and analysis of the overall statistical properties of these networks [8–12]. To a lesser extent researchers have worked on the problem of visualizing complex knowledge spaces through the creation of visual maps [13–17] and literature navigation tools [18,19]. In contrast, there has been relatively less work on community demographics, the dynamics of fields over time to examine major research trends, or the structure of the sources of research funding. In this paper we examined each of these areas in order to obtain a broad and objective overview of contemporary neuroscience research. We believe that the volume and breadth of

Society For Neuroscience Abstracts 14th Annual Meeting 1984 Part 1

Nicolas G. Bazan, David C. U'Prichard



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Society for Neuroscience Abstracts Society for Neuroscience. Annual Meeting, 1984 **International Bibliography of Alzheimer's Disease and Senile Dementias, 1976-1985**, 1986 Lists 2 739 entries to literature published between 1976 1985 Also contains foreign language titles Arranged under 28 topics ranging from behavioral biology through urinary system and external secretions Entries give titles keywords author s journal source original language and volume number and reference number to original cite in Biological abstracts or Biological abstracts RRM Author and subject indexes Index of Conference Proceedings Received British Library. Document Supply Centre, 1987 **Index of Conference Proceedings Received** British Library. Lending Division, 1988 **Cumulated Index Medicus**, 1985 *National Library of Medicine Current Catalog* National Library of Medicine (U.S.), **Beta-blockers in Clinical Practice** J. M. Cruickshank, B. N. C. Prichard, 1994 Discusses this important class of drugs which are the subject of considerable on going research Includes an expanded pharmacopoeia new chapters on physiology and health economics and major changes in the chapters on the prevention of heart attacks and the athermatous process *Current Catalog* National Library of Medicine (U.S.), 1993-04

Axolotl Newsletter, 1986 **Schizophrenia Bulletin**, 1987 Investigations Into the Possible Role of Endogenous Cochlear Opioids on Lateral Efferent Olivocochlear Modulation of Auditory Nerve Activity in the Chincilla Tony L. Sahley, 1992 **Index of Conference Proceedings**, 1993 **The Zoological Record**, 1993 *Neurochemical Techniques in Insect Research* H. Breer, T.A. Miller, 2012-12-06 Neurochemical Techniques in Insect Research properly emphasizes the insect It only scratches the surface of the exploding repertoire of general neuro chemical techniques that can be applied to insect research in 1985 But it al so presents the advantages of using insects for studying certain biological questions that are approachable by neurochemical techniques Even more so it summarizes the long list of unique problems encountered in attempting to study insects by neurochemical techniques As in other volumes of this series the contributors to this volume are the authorities in the field They themselves have developed much of the material presented Thus the sum effort provides a true description of the state of the art and pleasantly it does so in a very complete and clear manner Readers of this series will not need to be reminded that despite the fact that vertebrates make up only about 3% of all animal species research in in vertebrates such as insects has lagged behind that on vertebrates at least in the neurochemistry area the relative simplicity and large cell size of the in sect nervous system has always provided incentive for work in neurophysiology and neuroanatomy Toxicology interests will always stimulate a certain amount of work on insect neuropharmacology and insects are extremely suitable for several areas of toxin research Last but not least the insects are beautiful organisms for which the applications of genetics can be made to the study of nervous system function **International Bibliography of Fertility Technology, 1983-1987**, 1988 Isting of 4049 references to literature consisting mostly of journal articles Alphabetical arrangement by primary authors Entries give bibliographical information and abstracts as well as subject areas

and taxonomic categories Author subject indexes **Molecular Neurobiology** Nicolas G. Bazan, David C. U'Prichard, 2012-12-06 IRCS Medical Science, 1985 Compiled from papers published in various IRCS medical science specialist journals **Neurophilosophy** Patricia Smith Churchland, 1989 A Bradford book Bibliography p 491 523 Includes index **Dynamic Interactions in Neural Networks: Models and Data** Michael A. Arbib, 1989 The study of neural networks is enjoying a great renaissance both in computational neuroscience the development of information processing models of living brains and in neural computing the use of neurally inspired concepts in the construction of intelligent machines Thus the title of this volume has two interpretations It presents models and data on the dynamic interactions occurring in the brain and it exhibits the dynamic interactions between research in computational neuroscience and in neural computing as scientists seek to find common principles to guide the understanding of the living brain and the design of artificial neural networks This collection of contributions presents the current state of research future trends and open problems in an exciting field of today's science **Neurobehavioral Plasticity** Norman E. Spear, Linda P. Spear, Michael L. Woodruff, 2013-06-17 This book describes a unique combination of research programs based on a striking variety of hypotheses and procedures directed toward understanding the sources and consequences of neurobehavioral plasticity This remarkable attribute of the nervous system to be pliable and capable of being shaped or formed by natural or artificial sources toward adaptation or maladaptation is considered in terms of the neurochemical forces and neuroanatomical structure that has been found to be pivotal for this function The impetus for this volume was a symposium held to honor Robert L Isaacson for his scientific and pedagogical achievements as well as his contributions to behavioral neuroscience Corresponding to his three major research interests the book is divided into three sections as follows the first explores the relationship between the limbic system and behavior with an emphasis on learning and memory the second considers through a wide range of approaches issues of plasticity in behavior and brain and the third deals with neural and chemical determinants of normal and abnormal behavior This volume is not only a fitting tribute to Isaacson but also an unusual collection of new evidence procedures and theories destined to have significant influence on behavioral neuroscience

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Art: An Emotional Sojourn through **Society For Neuroscience Abstracts 14th Annual Meeting 1984 Part 1**

In some sort of inundated with displays and the cacophony of immediate connection, the profound energy and emotional resonance of verbal artistry usually diminish into obscurity, eclipsed by the continuous barrage of sound and distractions. However, located within the lyrical pages of **Society For Neuroscience Abstracts 14th Annual Meeting 1984 Part 1**, a fascinating function of fictional beauty that pulses with raw feelings, lies an memorable trip waiting to be embarked upon. Written by way of a virtuoso wordsmith, this mesmerizing opus manuals readers on a psychological odyssey, delicately exposing the latent possible and profound affect stuck within the complex web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse with this evocative examination, we shall embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is central styles, dissect its charming publishing model, and immerse ourselves in the indelible impression it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

<https://archive.kdd.org/About/virtual-library/Documents/Super%20Power.pdf>

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