

Research Study Title: A Think-Aloud Study on Search Result Interfaces with Explanations for Result Relevance

Study Number: 21-2206

Date of IRB Exemption: Sep 2nd, 2021

Approving body: UNC IRB

Do you use a search engine in your daily life? Have you ever thought of how to judge the relevance of search results regarding certain facets? Then you can be a part of a research study that looks at how people judge whether search results are relevant to facets and how explanations help people to make judgments.

In this research study, you will be interacting with two different systems. You will be using each system to review 12 medical articles which only show titles and abstracts. For each article, you will judge whether it satisfies a pre-selected MeSH term or not. One system assists you by providing explanations of why and how confident it makes predictions, and the other does not. You are asked to think aloud as you do the task, and only your verbal comments will be recorded in audio.

This is an in-person research study, and the entire study session will be held in a research lab in the School of Information and Library Science. The study will take approximately 90 minutes. You will receive US\$30 in cash for participating.

Requirements for participation are:

- You must be at least 18 years old
- You must be a graduate student at UNC Chapel Hill from a STEM (or related) major
- You must agree to allow us to record the audio during the study
- You must be able to use a standard computer configuration

Although you will read medical articles during the study, you are ***NOT* required** to have any background knowledge. However, it is a **plus** if you have some medical knowledge.

To sign up for the study, please email jjaming@unc.edu

You will not be offered or receive any special consideration if you take part in this research; it is purely voluntary. This study has been reviewed by the UNC Non-Biomedical Institutional Review Board, IRB Study # 21-2206. This project was determined to be exempt from federal human subjects research regulations. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject, or if you would like to obtain information or offer input, you may contact the Institutional Review Board at 919-966-3113 or by email to IRB_subjects@unc.edu.

Thank you,

Dr. Yue Wang—Principal Investigator

Dr. Jaime Arguello—Co-investigator

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