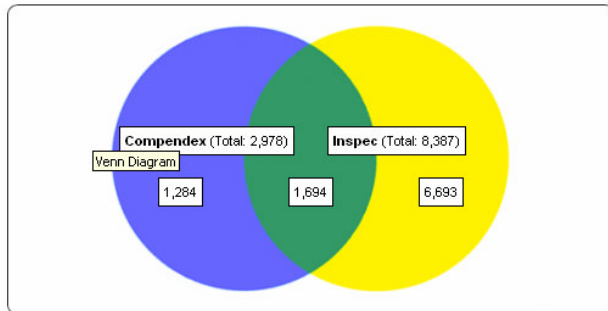


Ever wondered?



Comparison of the overlap between Compendex and INSPEC journal coverage

Ever wondered just how much overlap there is between certain databases? Do they cover roughly the same journals or are their

sources very different?

A new JISC tool can help compare databases, their search options, ebook platforms and so on. It's

called ADAT— Academic Database Assessment Tool and it can be found here:

<http://www.jisc-adat.com/adat/home.pl>

At present the number of databases it can compare is fairly limited but it's still a useful tool and hopefully this coverage will expand in the future.

Comparisons of two sources can even be seen visually such as the dia-



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gram on the left (although note that the venn diagram overlap is only a representation rather than indicative of the actual results). Three or more databases can be compared but only via tables.



spotlight

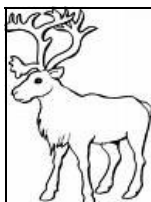
Biological Sciences

11 hits for 'reindeer' in 2007 (79 for 'ungulates')

12 for 'fir tree*' in 2007 (224 for 'conifer*')

This database (from CSA or Cambridge Scientific Abstracts) will be available along with all the other electronic resources the library subscribes to, throughout the Christmas/New Year period. See: <http://www.port.ac.uk/library/subject>

(Click on 'Sciences' or use the search box)



TOTD

Engaging with students is often a tough proposition - particularly when it comes to all things library. To that end, and growing out of our Freshers' Fayre success with Red Dalek and facebook, the Library has started a blog called 'Thing of the Day' and a facebook group the replicates the same information. The aim is to find fun/bizarre/interesting and just possibly library or information related things from around the web. Feel free to contribute items

In just 6 weeks we've covered everything from the Muppets to Stephen Fry, from YouTube videos such as *Information R/Evolution* to an item on virtual identity.

You can find the blog at:

<http://reden.wordpress.com/>

And the facebook group at:

<http://port.facebook.com/group.php?gid=7565060459>

ELIN — cut through the confusion?

Students and staff alike find the proliferation of databases and electronic resources something of a labyrinth to negotiate. Not to mention the library catalogue, ebooks and more. Wouldn't it be great if you could search everything in one go?

Such tools are beginning to appear (it's called Federated Searching) but they're often not cheap. *Primo*, evaluated over the summer, costs almost £100,000.

ELIN is a much cheaper alternative from Sweden

and is currently being trialed by the Library. However, it only covers some 50 of the main databases we subscribe to - not everything. Why not take a look via its link on the library homepage under 'Try before we buy!'.