



**HAL**  
open science

## Comparisons of the strengths and weakness of the available commercial discovery tools

M.P. Baligand, Colette Cadiou

### ► To cite this version:

M.P. Baligand, Colette Cadiou. Comparisons of the strengths and weakness of the available commercial discovery tools. Exploring new frontiers in aquatic sciences information management, 38th Iamslic Annual conference, Aug 2012, Anchorage, Alaska, United States. p. - p. hal-00763330

**HAL Id: hal-00763330**

**<https://hal.science/hal-00763330>**

Submitted on 15 May 2020

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



# Comparisons of the strengths and weakness of the available commercial discovery services

*Marie Pascale Baligand, Irstea Lyon, France*

*Colette Cadiou, Irstea Aubière, France*



[www.irstea.fr](http://www.irstea.fr)

38th IAMSLIC conference, Anchorage, Alaska, August 26-30, 2012

# Basic requirements for discovery tools



- Easiest place to start the research process
- Simultaneous search through multiple data sources (library catalogues, databases, ebooks, libguides...)
- Global search index instead of federated searches
- Hosted instead of local installation ( human resources for IT are often limited)



# Main criteria analysis for a discovery tool



1. First, it should enable our users to explore the full extent of the library resources, and offer relevant content within these resources (*content and relevance*)
2. Second it should offer simple and powerful search capabilities – faceted navigation (*search functions*)
3. Third, search results should be attractive and allow the user to interact efficiently with them (*interface*)
4. Simple system administration (*administration*)



# Four commercial discovery tools will be compared

1. EBSCO Discovery Service (EBSCO)
2. Summon : (Serial solutions – Proquest)
3. Primo Central (Exlibris)
4. WorldCat local (OCLC)

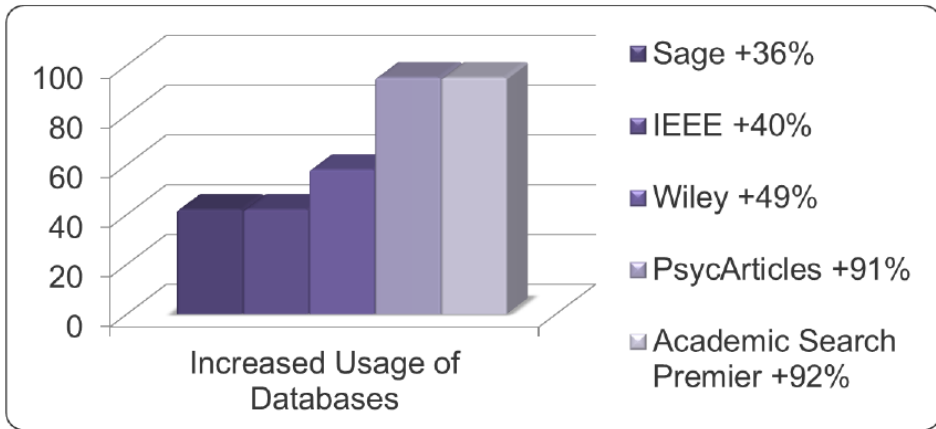


	<i>Content and relevance</i>	<i>Search functions</i>	<i>Interface</i>	<i>administration</i>
<b>EDS</b> <i>(EBSCO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ EBSCO Databases content (Global Search index), Connectors for other databases ( federated research)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Weakness of EDS's faceted navigation (impossible to keep selected facets when performing a new search)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Friendly interface (widgets)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Problematic upload of the catalog data</li> </ul>
<b>Summon</b> <i>(Serial Solutions)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ One Global index : Rich up to date content for articles , no federated research</li> <li>☺ Relevance ranking satisfactory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Fast search</li> <li>☺ « Database recommender » and « did you mean » are appreciated</li> <li>☺ Faceted navigation appreciated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☹ Advanced research less friendly and intuitive than EDS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Usage statistics available</li> <li>☹ Not directly compatible with the existing link solver</li> <li>☹ No Web 2.0 functionalities</li> </ul>



	<i>Content and relevance</i>	<i>Search functions</i>	<i>Interface</i>	<i>administration</i>
<b>Primo Central</b> <i>(Exlibris)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ☹️ No central index ( catalog on one side and Primo central index)</li> <li>▪ ☹️ Relevance ranking is unsatisfactory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ☹️ Primo Central don't de – duplicate the results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ☹️ No export BibTex</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ☹️ Poor customization</li> </ul>
<b>Worldcat Local</b> <i>(OCLC)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 😊 Excellent database for books</li> <li>▪ ☹️ Central index limited, often federated research</li> <li>▪ Less journals articles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 😊 More sort options than the other one</li> <li>▪ ☹️ Slow search</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 😊 Well designed facets</li> <li>▪ 😊 Pleasant display of results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 😊 Web 2.0 fonctionnalités</li> </ul>

# The most popular in USA: Summon



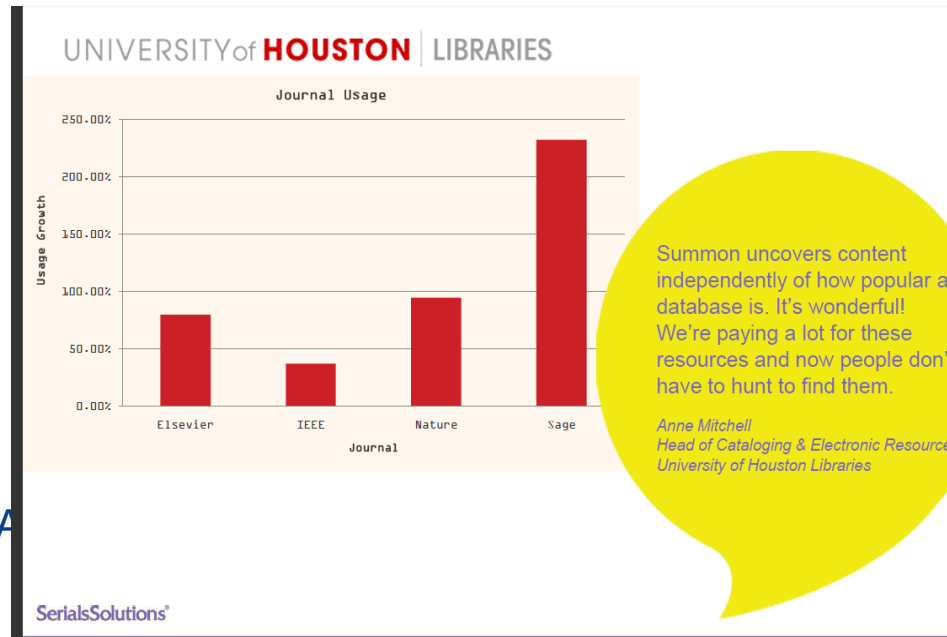
LexisNexus up 642%

JSTOR up 146%



www.irstea.fr

38th IAMSLIC conference, A





# In conclusion, for discussion

No suitable candidats : severe shortcomings found in all products (*Mancton university Canada, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Swizerland*)

- With this study , we realized that we're not players in the discovery game – We're pawns !  
Web can't foresee a time when the major database vendors will find it profitable to combine their metadata for our benefit
- It's an end-user tool, not a replacement for any databases or OPAC.

c2



[www.irstea.fr](http://www.irstea.fr)

38th IAMSLIC conference, Anchorage, Alaska, August 26-30, 2012

## Diapositive 8

---

c2

Terminer par une ouverture sur le futur : les hubs de metadonnées au niveau national ( ABES en France... ) ?

colette.cadiou; 20/07/2012