

Preliminary evaluation of passage retrieval in biomedical multilingual question answering

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- Evaluated passage retrieval in QA for three languages (English, German and Spanish)
- Creation of two parallel corpora of questions for the evaluation

- Based on the CLEF-ER resources:
 - Medline documents (titles)
 - Terminology (synonyms)

- Multilingual parallel corpora for passage retrieval:
 - 50 questions (English/German), 50 questions (English/Spanish)
 - Re-phrase of the original sentences using synonyms

- System for passage retrieval:
 - query processing (query expansion)
 - in-memory database (SAP HANA)
- Experiments: 25 questions for test-dev and 25 questions for test
- Evaluation: Retrieval of the original sentences from which the questions were derived

- Results
 - Passage retrieval is not a straightforward task for none of the three languages.