# Redesigning our Combine Harvester

## Experimenting with Metalib's X-server: ideas, attempts and realisations

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# Outline

- Introductory
- Our Metalib
- Statistics-modules

Metalib Statistics

(SFX-statistics)

- Experimenting with the X-server: LiveTrix

Demo
Summarizing: Front features
Summarizing: Rear features
Under the hood

- Concluding

(if time allows)

- Extras


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# Introductory

University of Groningen –
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen (RUG)

- founded 1614
- 22,000 students, 6,000 staff
- 494.2 mln EUR expenditure (2005) (632 mUSD, 4.5 mdSEK)

University Library

- Central library, in addition to 10 faculty libraries
- 130 staff
- Collection: 2.2 mln printed vols., 24,000 e-journals, 450 licenced electronic databases
- 1.36 mln EUR expenditure on collection development (incl. co-financing of electronic resources by faculty libraries) (1.74 mUSD, 12.53 mSEK)


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# Our Metalib: RUG Combine

- Introduced v2 as pilot 2004, Faculty of Medicine and University Medical Centre (Hospital staff)
- Migrated to v3 in January 2005, completing introduction to the whole of the University september 2005
- NOT only gateway (OPAC, Guide, Lists); usage *modest* so far

## Our SFX: RUGlinks

- Introduced 2002, v3 since 2005


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# Statistics (1)

2 Modules: RUGlinks and RUG Combine

- Built upon logfiles, stored in MySQL-database
- Home made search software
- Available through HTML-webapplication
- Extract data that meet our needs and wishes
- Database and software on separate server
- Not interfering with production environment for Metalib and SFX
- Online webinterface; moved away from admin-module
- Username/Password access for library staff and management


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# Statistics (2)

## What we found

15% errors:
technical measures > reducing to 1.5% errors/flaws

50% zero or false results:

- Misspellings and typos in search terms
- Picking databases at random
- Unable to understand QuickSearch, MetaSearch, Find Database
- Using the wrong search keys
- Using search keys wrong
- Using Dutch search terms in English language databases
- Using non-specific terms, phrases that are too broad
- Lack of understanding of Boolean logic or database peculiarities

Metalib statistics


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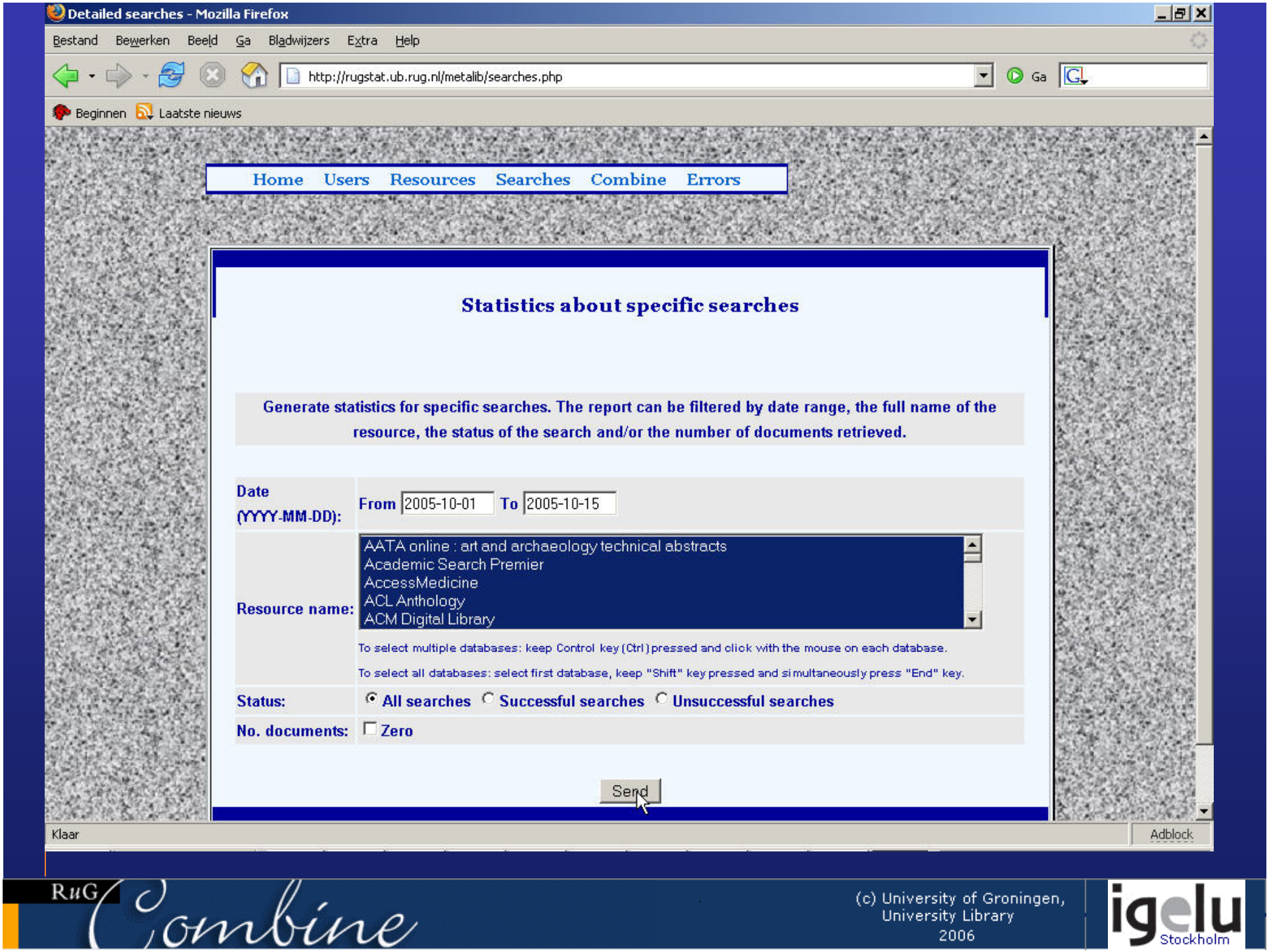



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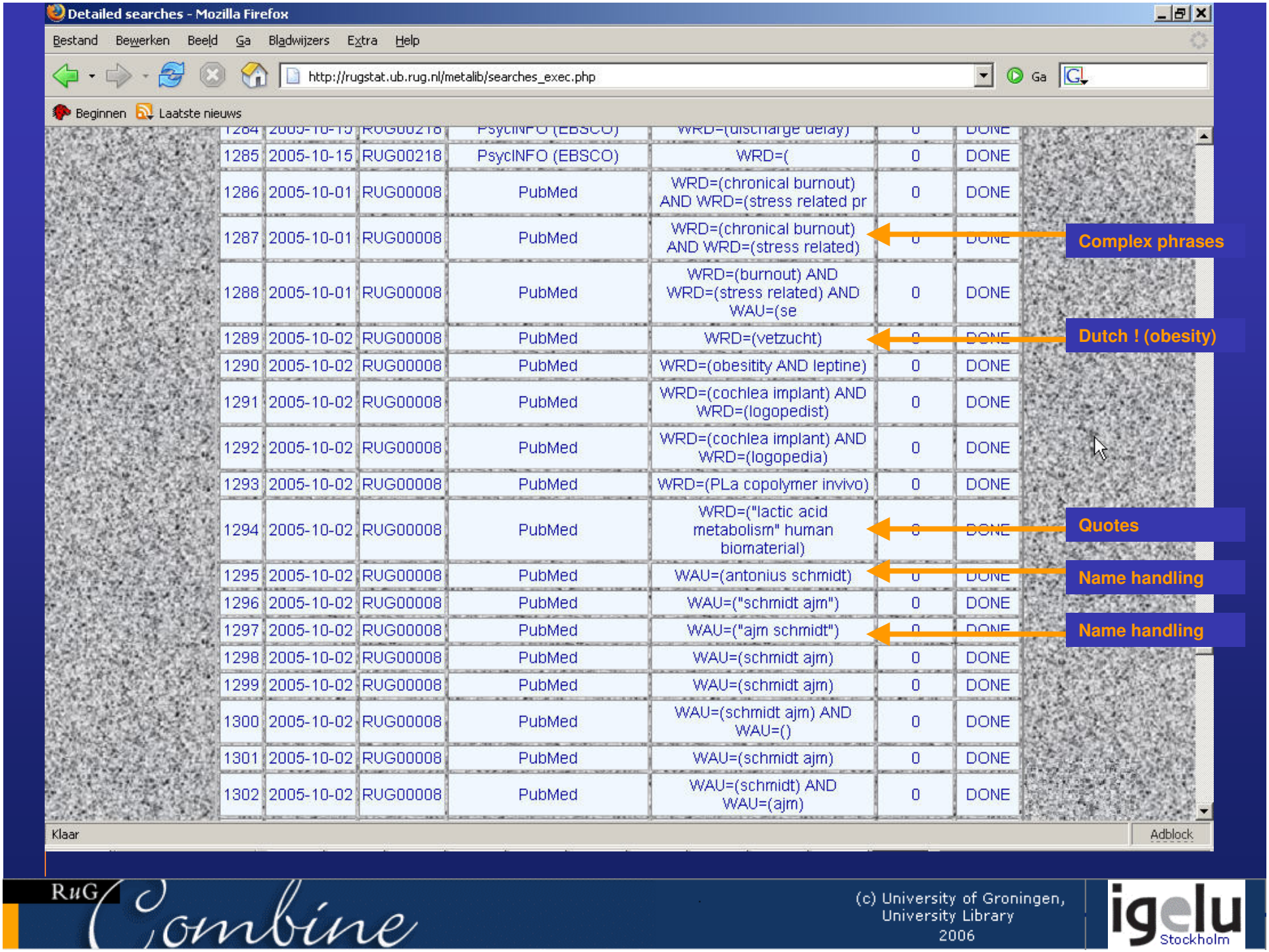



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# What if...

- we could users make to understand the work flow
- we could clear away misspellings
- we could suggest other or related search terms
- we could make users pick the right databases

or better still…

- users wouldn't have to bother which databases to choose

## We can!

By building new applications around Metalib's XML-server (X-server)


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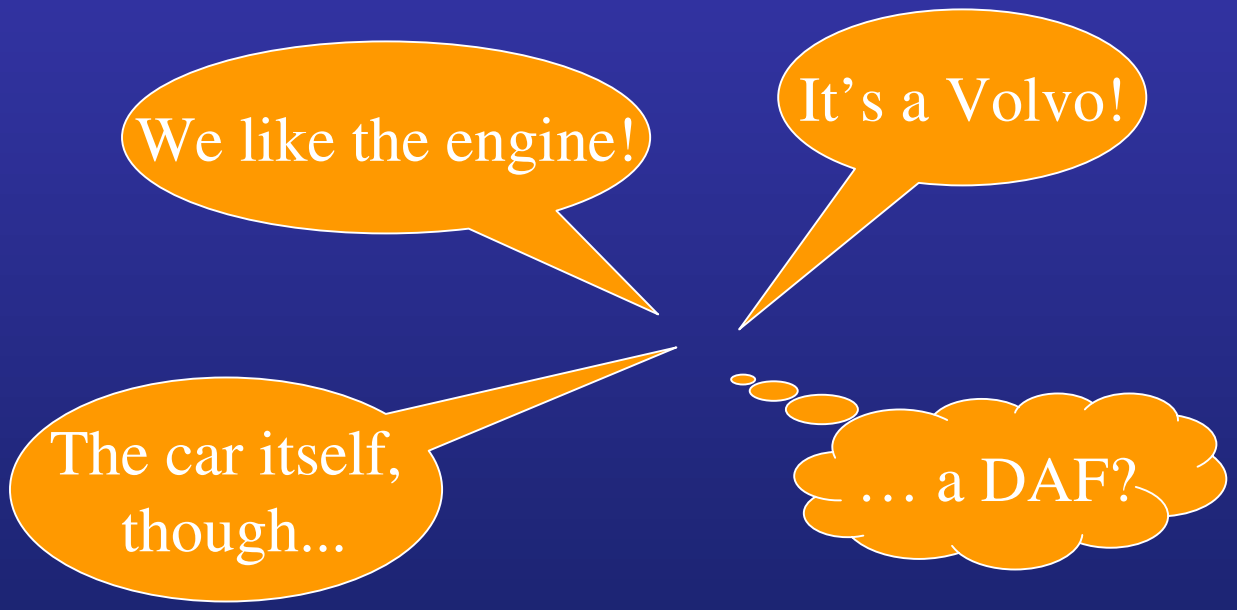
# X-server

If Metalib is the car, then the X-server is the engine.




We could have power steering, ABS, a navigation system, cruise control, keyless entry, air bags all around us and a nice car stereo. We build our own car!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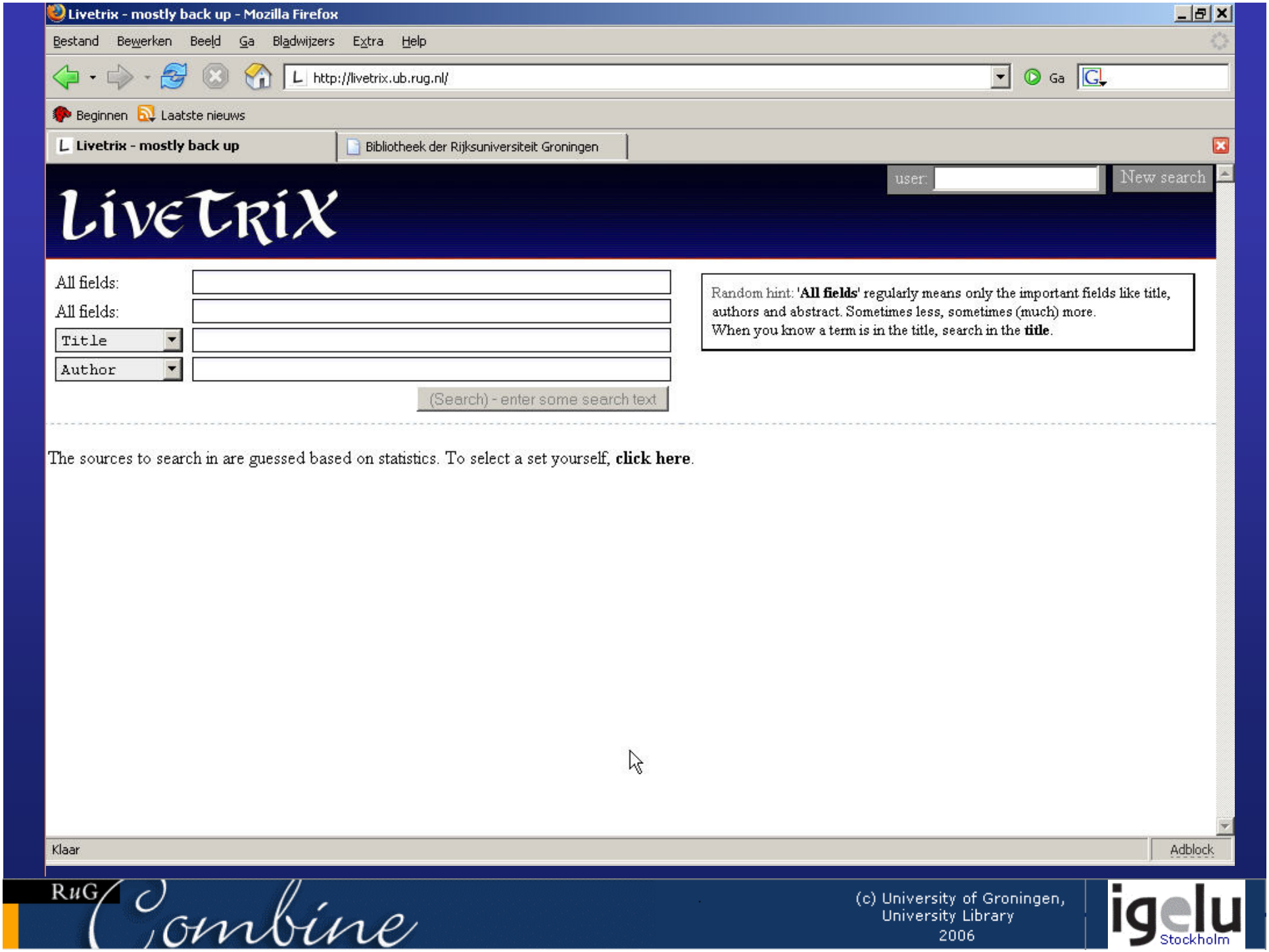



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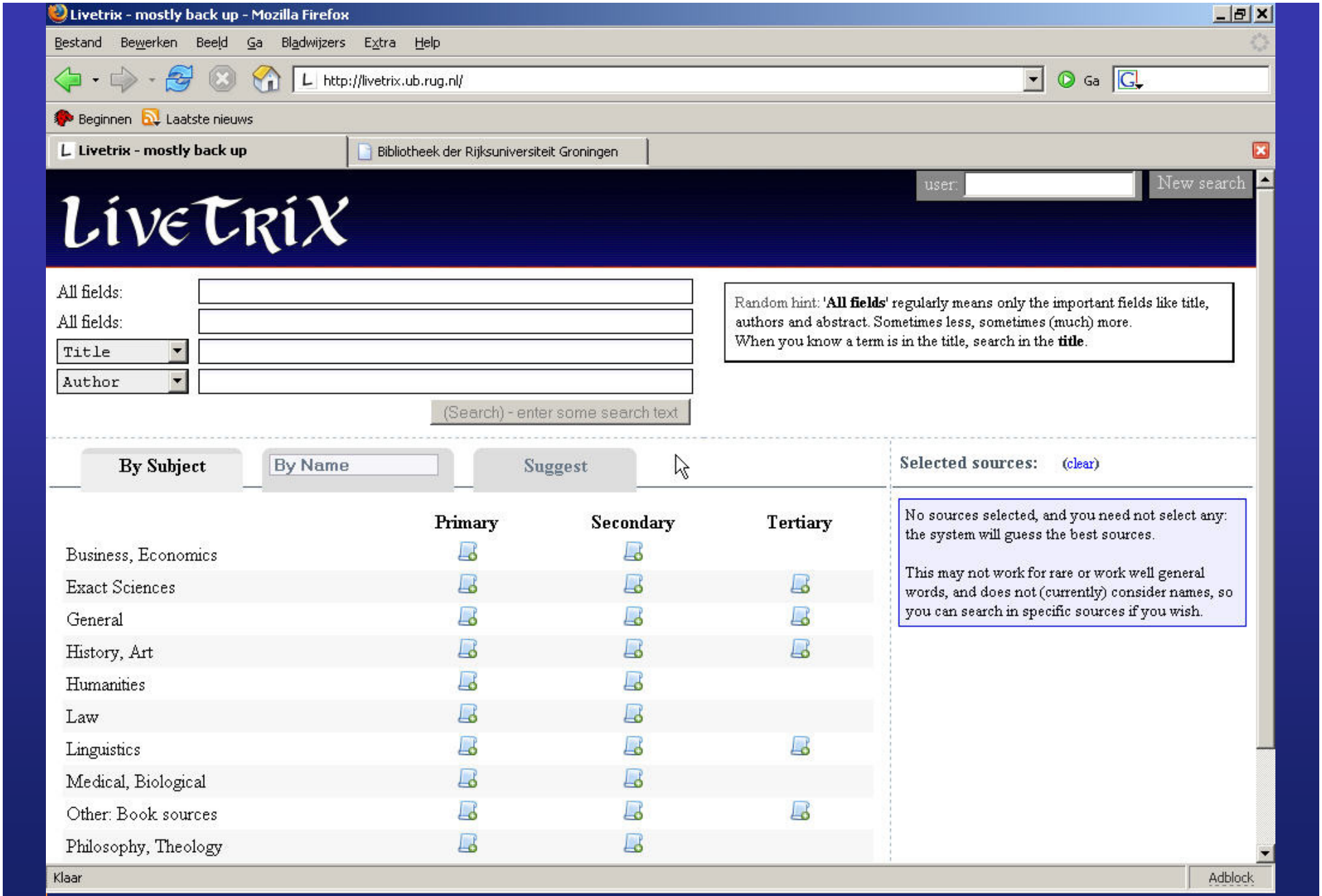



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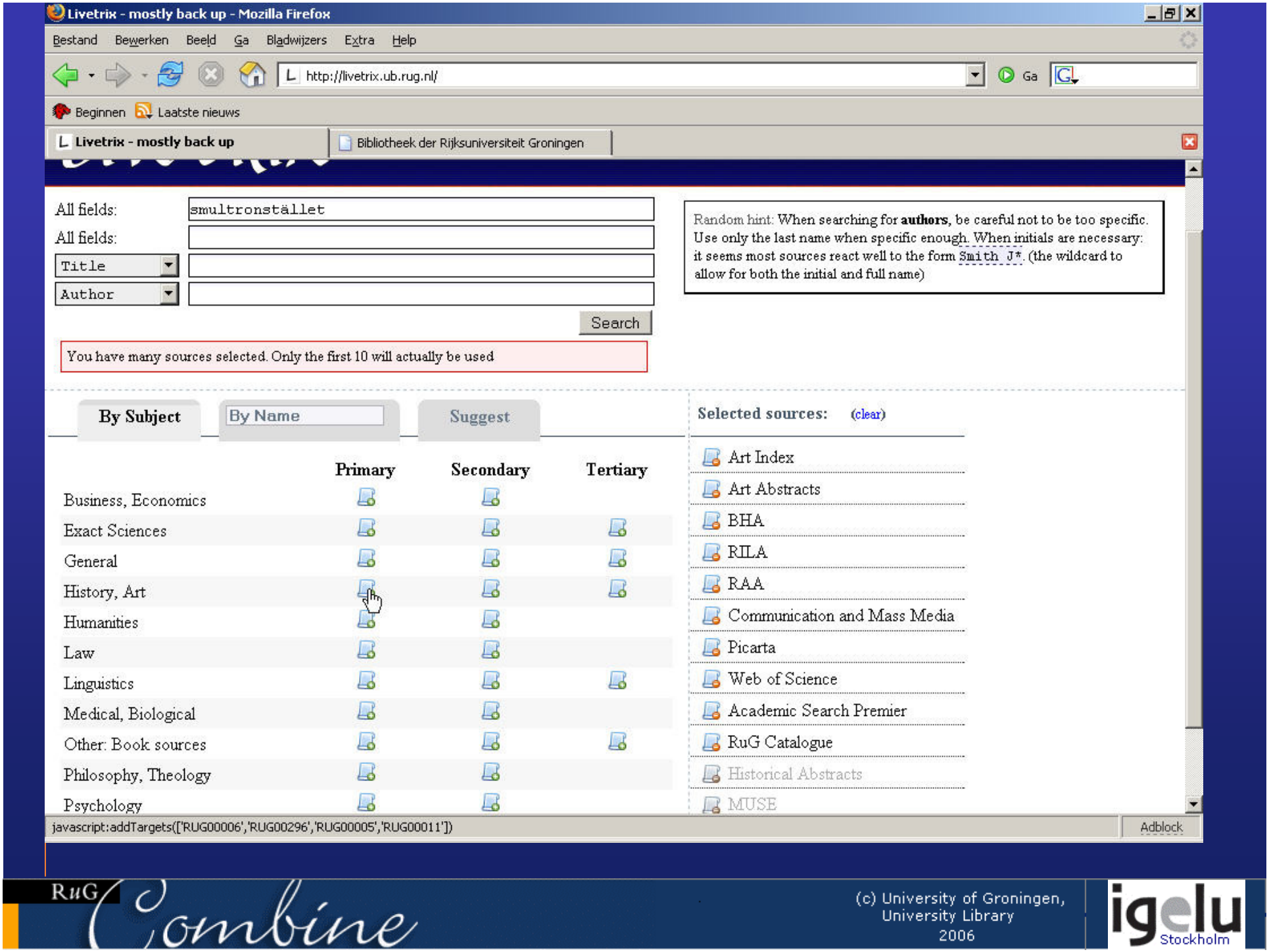



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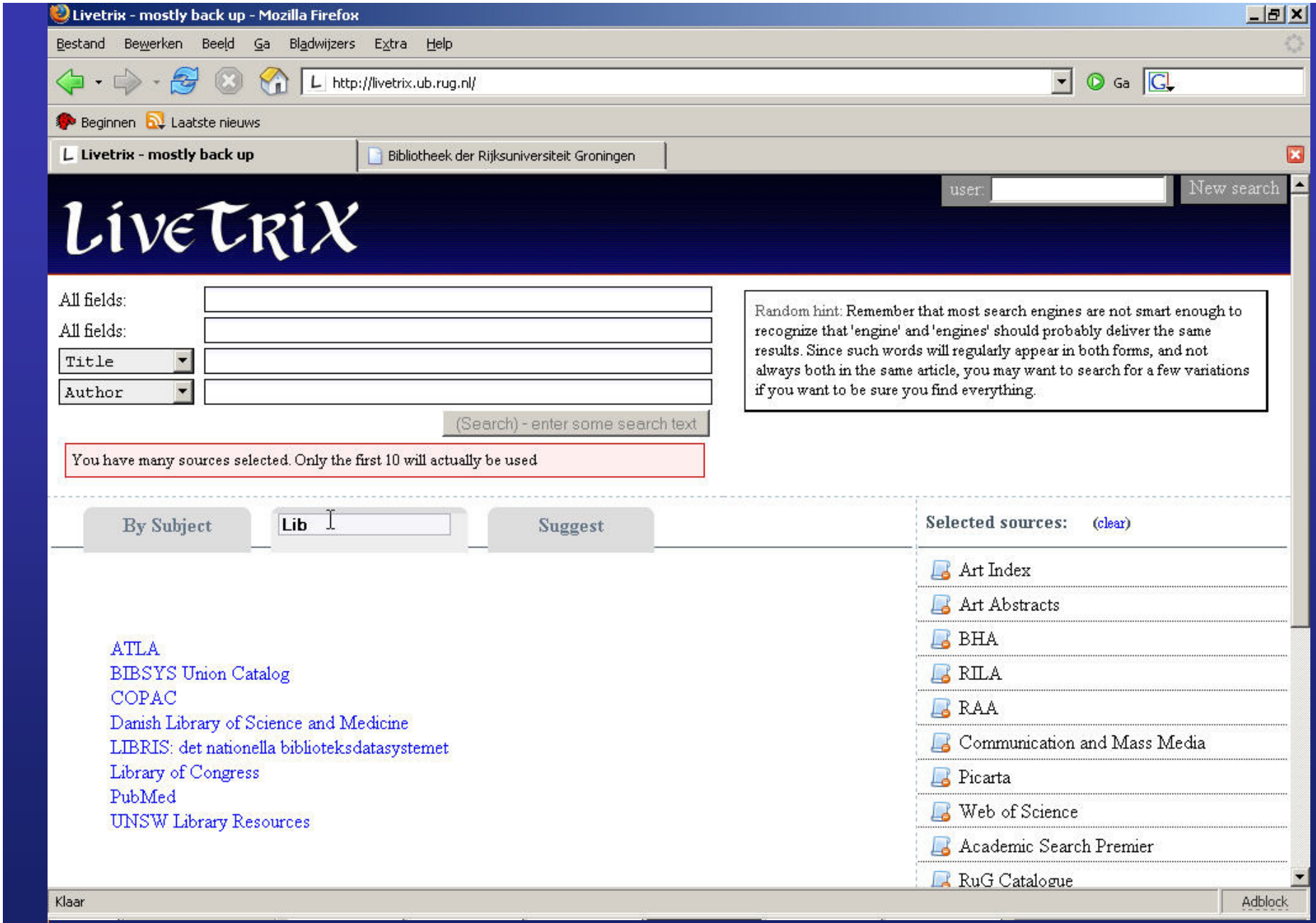



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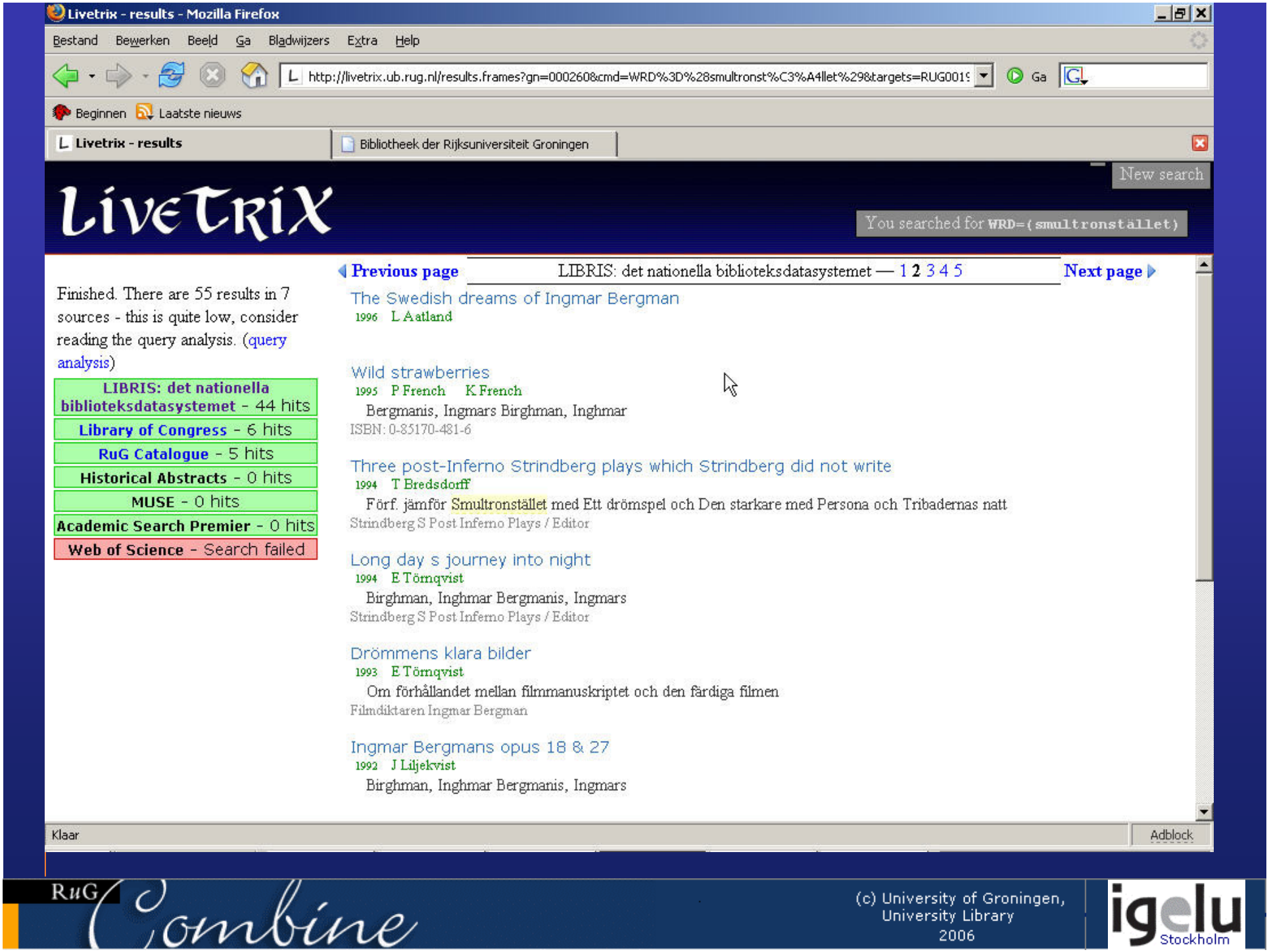



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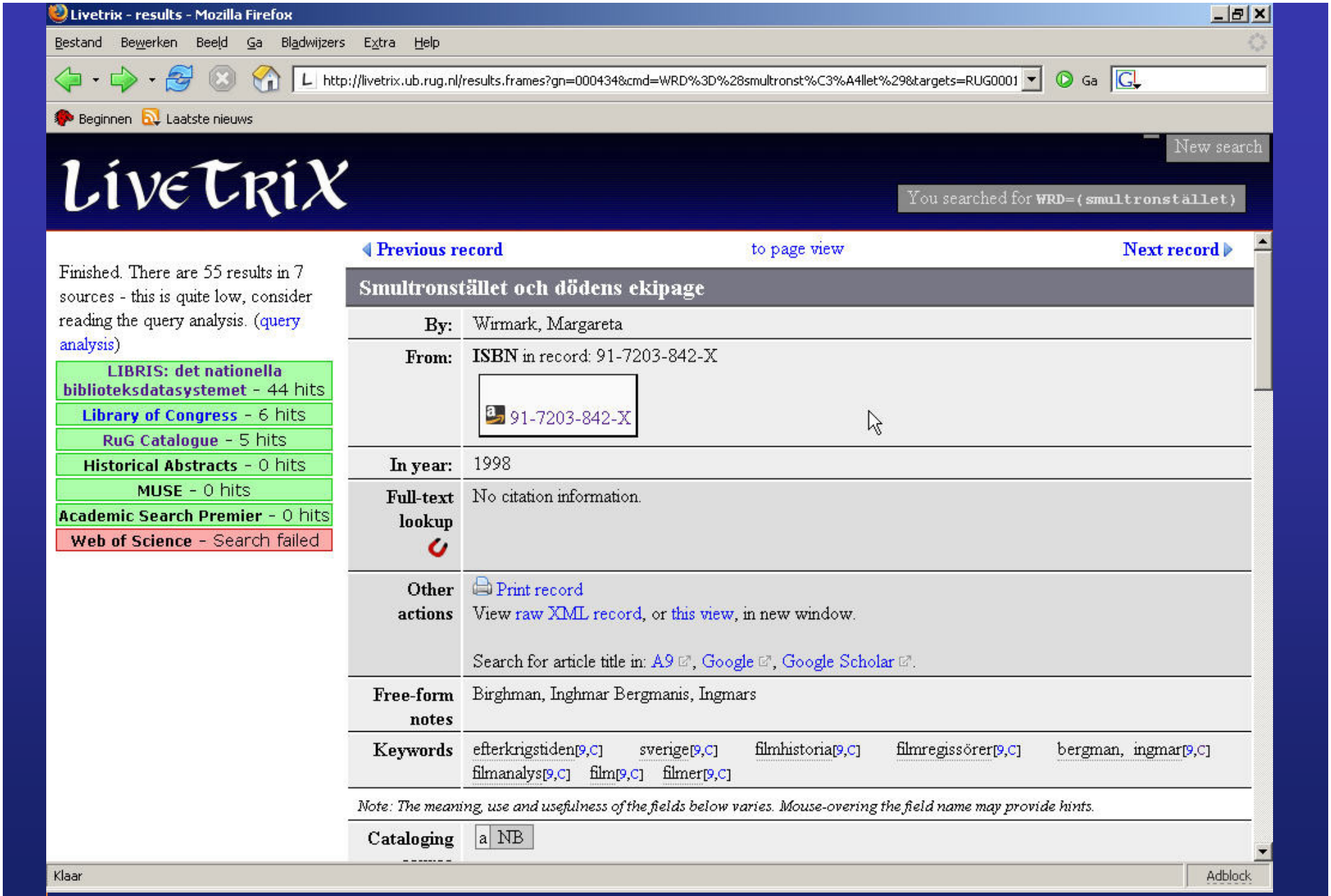



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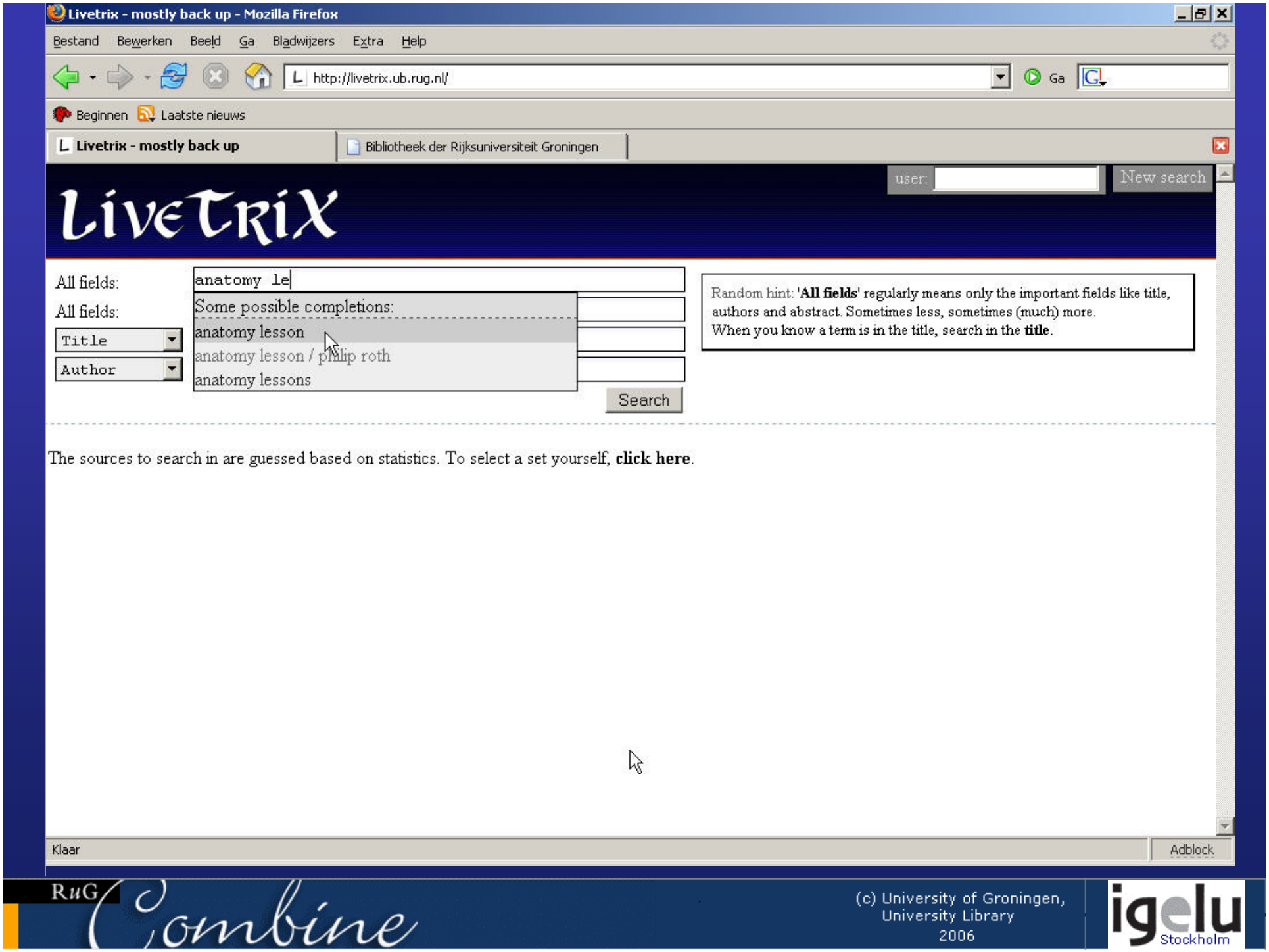



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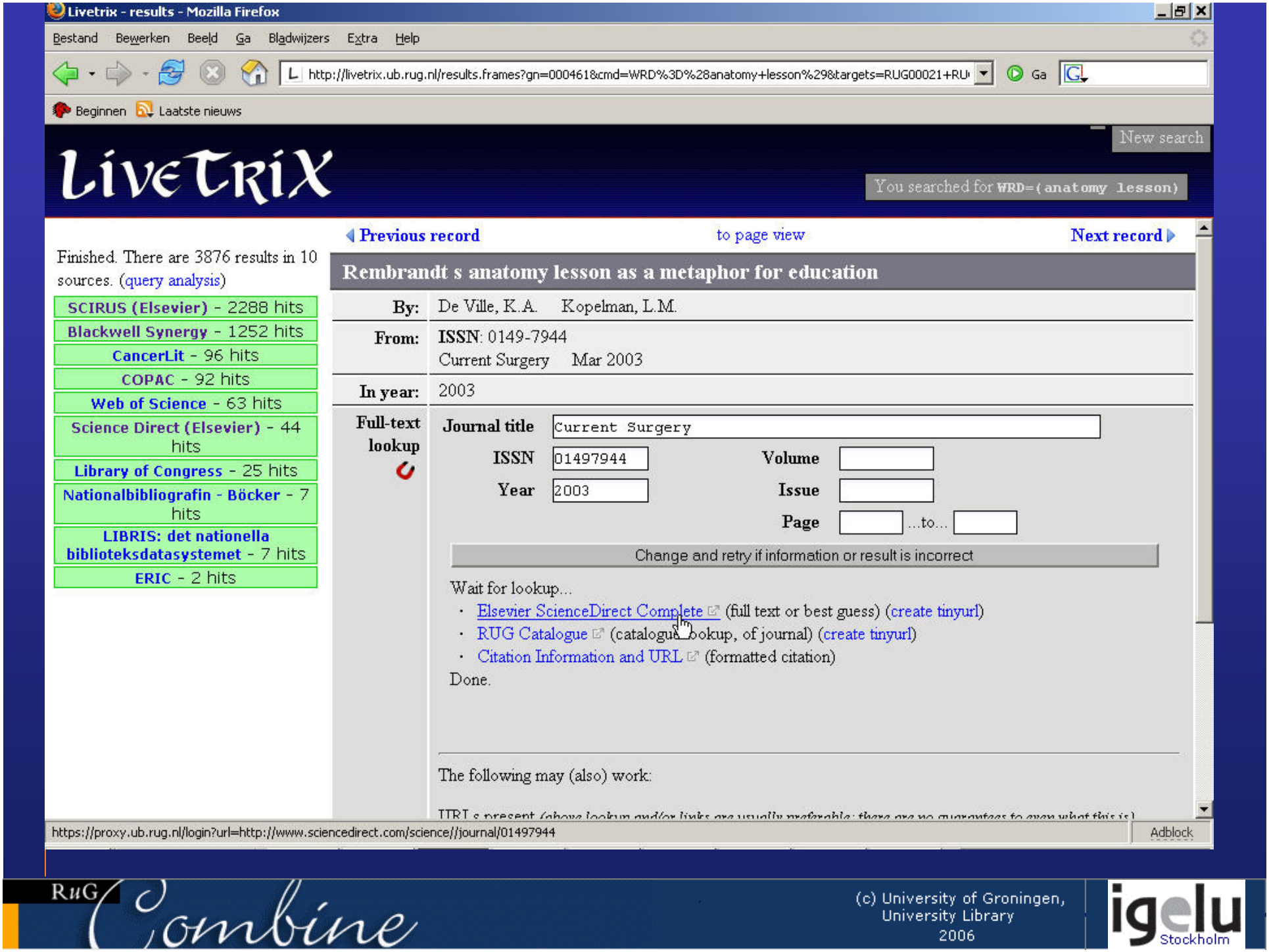
Livetrix - results - Mozilla Firefox
Bestand Bewerken Beeld Ga Bladwijzers Extra Help
http://livetrix.ub.rug.nl/results.frames?gn=000461&cmd=WRD%3D%28anatomy+lesson%29&targets=RUG00021+RU
Beginnen Laatste nieuws
LiveTriX
New search
You searched for WRD=(anatomy lesson)
Previous record
to page view
Next record
Finished. There are 3876 results in 10 sources. (query analysis)
SCIRUS (Elsevier) - 2288 hits
Blackwell Synergy - 1252 hits
CancerLit - 96 hits
COPAC - 92 hits
Web of Science - 63 hits
Science Direct (Elsevier) - 44 hits
Library of Congress - 25 hits
Nationalbibliografin - Böcker - 7 hits
LIBRIS: det nationella biblioteksdatasystemet - 7 hits
ERIC - 2 hits
Rembrandt s anatomy lesson as a metaphor for education
By: De Ville, K.A. Kopelman, L.M.
From: ISSN: 0149-7944
Current Surgery Mar 2003
In year: 2003
Full-text lookup
Journal title Current Surgery
ISSN 01497944
Volume
Year 2003
Issue
Page ...to...
Change and retry if information or result is incorrect
Wait for lookup...
Elsevier ScienceDirect Complete (full text or best guess) (create tinyurl)
RUG Catalogue (catalogue lookup, of journal) (create tinyurl)
Citation Information and URL (formatted citation)
Done.
The following may (also) work:
https://proxy.ub.rug.nl/login?url=http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01497944
Adblock
RuG Combine
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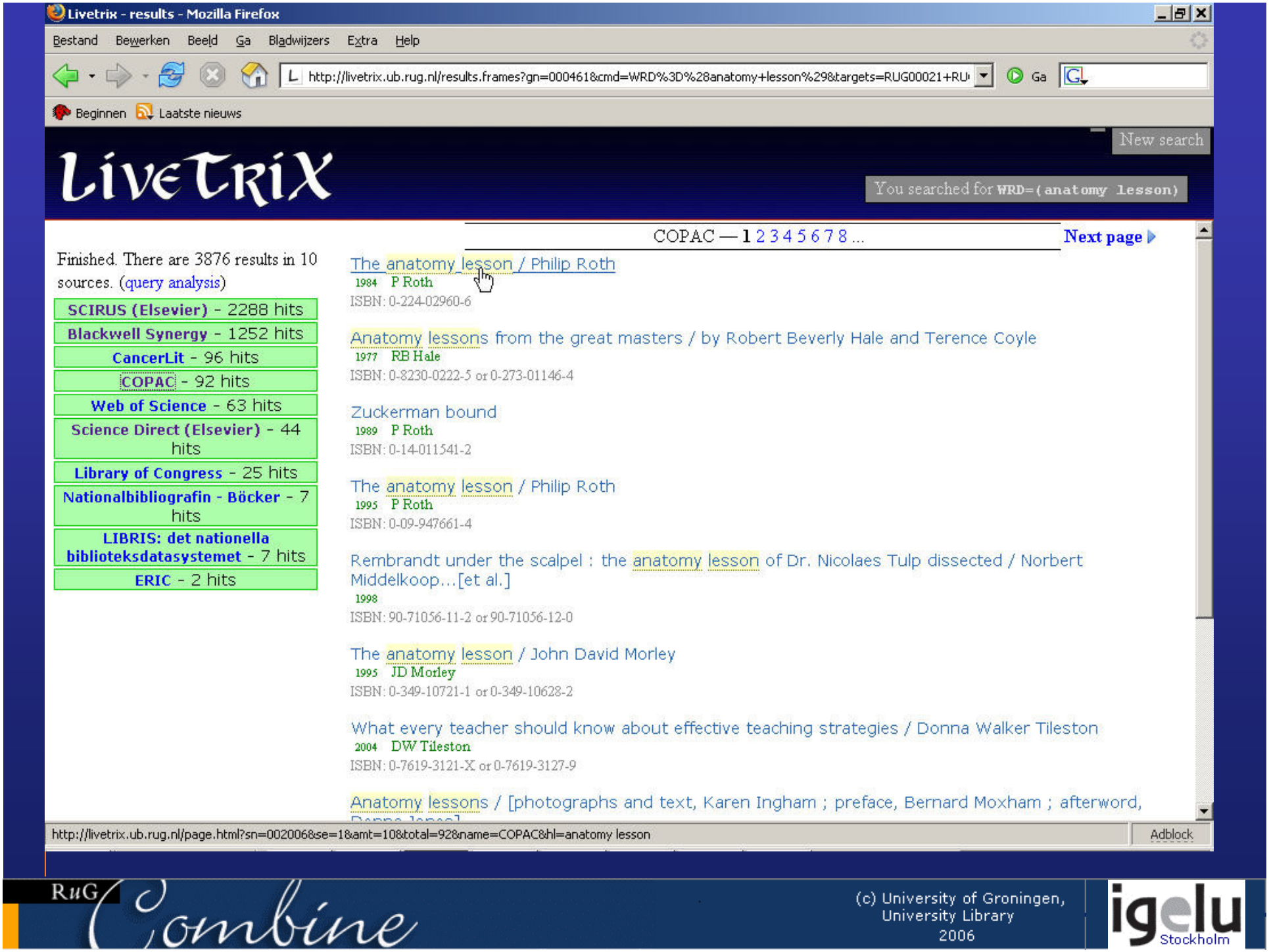



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Livetrix - results - Mozilla Firefox

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http://livetrix.ub.rug.nl/results.frames?gn=000461&cmd=WRD%3D%28anatomy+lesson%29&targets=RUG00021+RU

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- ERIC - 2 hits

## The anatomy lesson / Philip Roth

**By:** Roth, Philip, 1933-

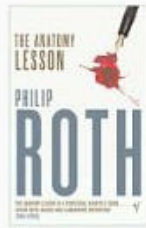
**From:** **ISBN** in record: 0-224-02960-6

0-224-02960-6

The following items are related somehow (according to xISBN). These links are to Amazon:

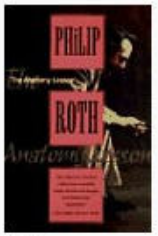
1-4025-7365-0

83-85144-24-2




0-09-947661-4

0-449-20614-9




0-679-74902-0

1-4025-0766-6

4-08-124086-8

**In year:** 1984

Klaar Adblock



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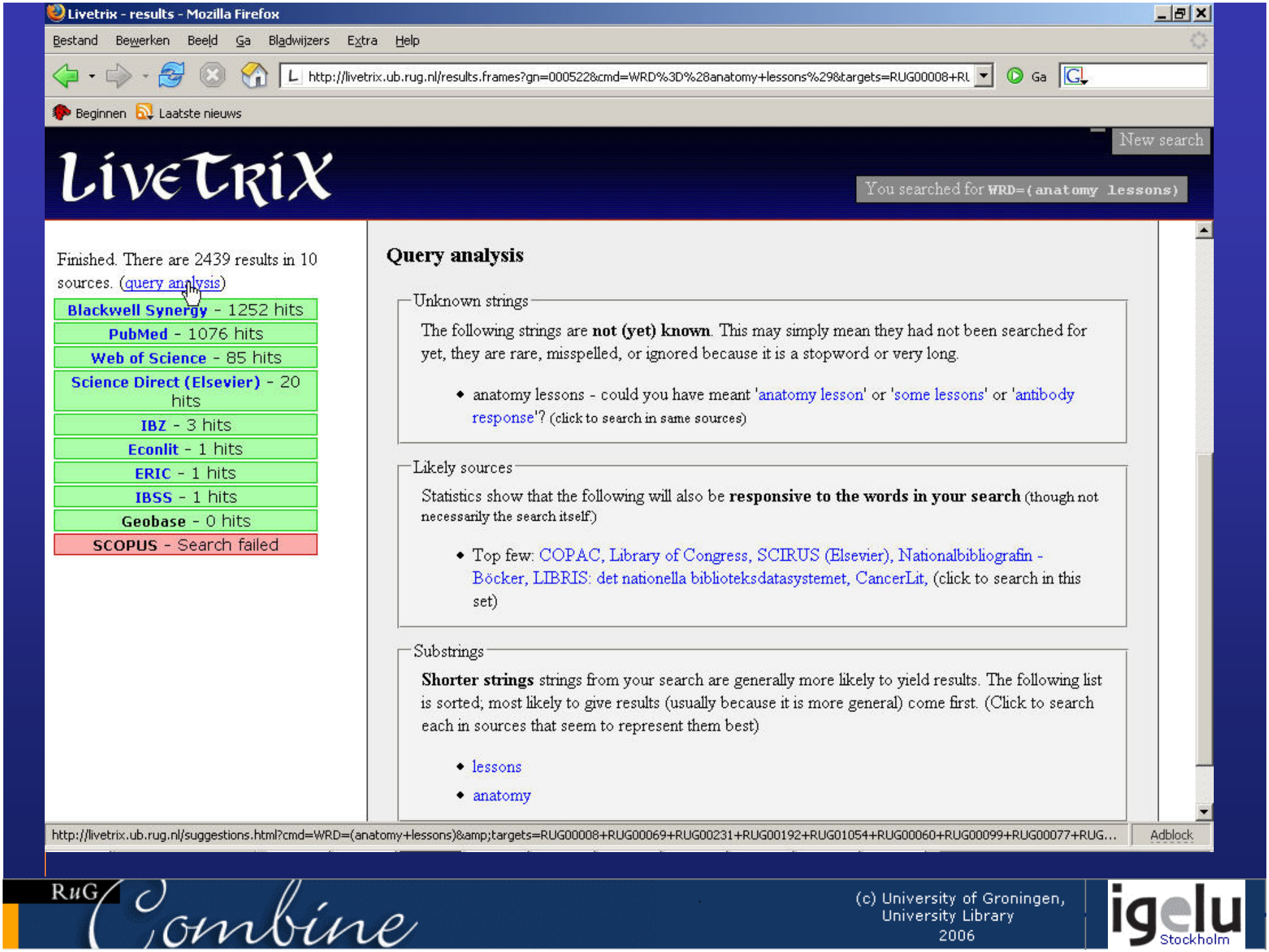



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# X-server: LiveTrix Front

- Ticking one or several Subject Areas (if you want)
- Primary, Secondary (and Tertiary) resources (if you want)
- Suggest-mode (if you want)
- Select resources (if you want)
- Help texts, search hints, explanation
- No Meta, no Quick
- Filling in search fields; no Simple, no Advanced
- Spelling check
- Graphical representation

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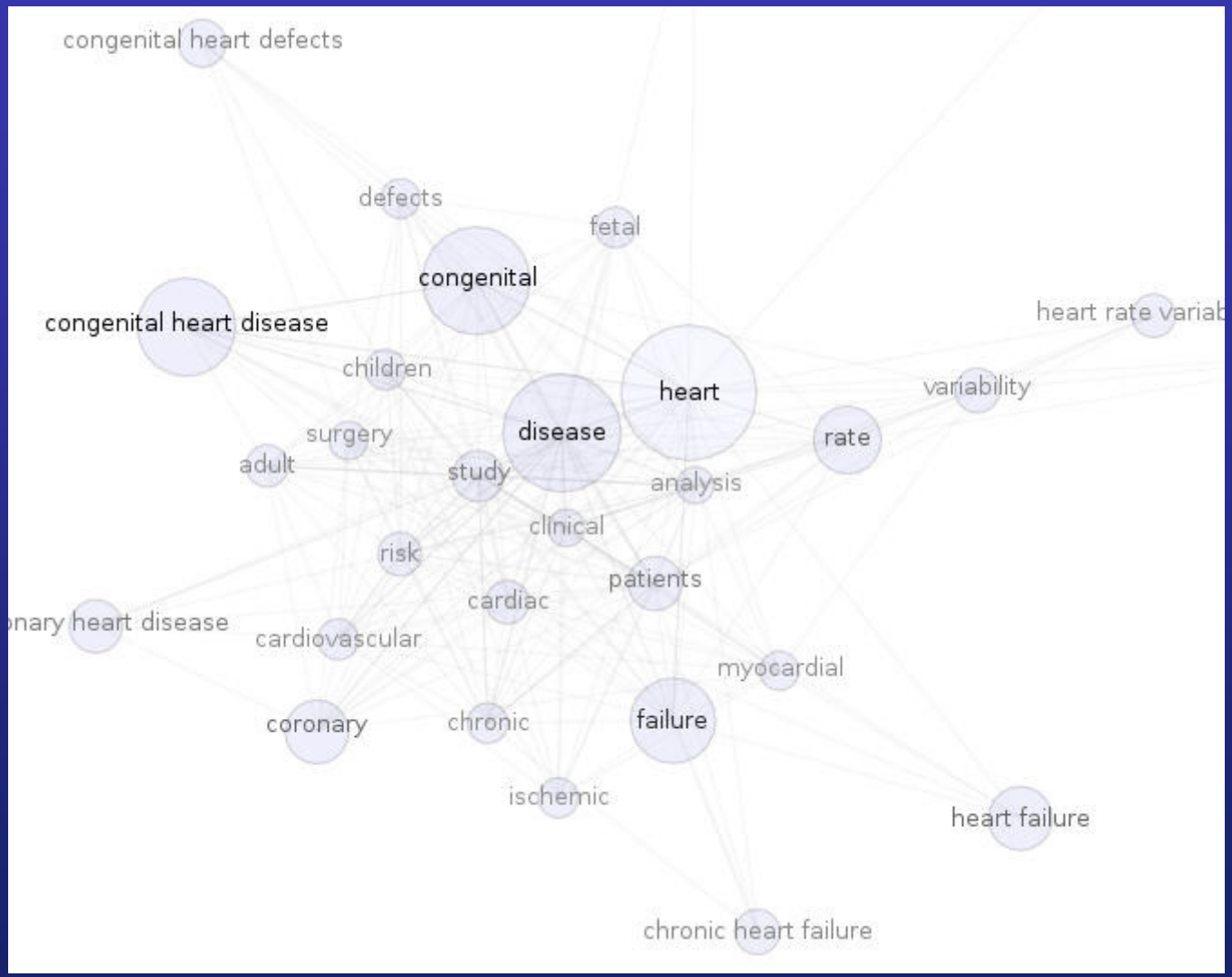



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# X-server: LiveTrix Rear

- Search progress
- Presentation of hits
- Immediate access, even during retrieval process
- Help texts, search hints, explanation
- Short (table) view
- Long view, featuring: Book covers, Inline SFX services (link resolving to full text, **inline** catalogue lookup, searching Google, Google Scholar, A9, export to RefMan), Generate persistent tiny URL, Delivering extra metadata from external resources, e.g. local library systems

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# LiveTrix: under the hood

Search terms are sent to all databases in the background.

The first 30 titles from each database are retrieved. These titles are indexed both as a string and word for word, as well as counted. A relation network is built up. From then on, the system knows in which databases these terms occur.

In the next query, suggestions about databases (“likely sources”) are given on the basis of these ever expanding indexes.

Dito for suggestions about word relations.

The indexes are also used for correcting typos and word/phrase suggestions.

Suggestions about similar sounding phrases are given upon phonetic matches (“Soundex”).

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# Concluding

How do we continue?

Uncertain

- Our funding
- Our manpower
- Maybe seeking cooperation/partners (inter)nationally
- What does ExLibris come up with?

Aim to make it a working system for end users.

- Completing it with personalization, alerting tool, solutions for “link-only” resources
- Improving the interface
- Usability tests


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# Thank you for your attention!

# Tack för uppmärksamheten!

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University of Groningen Libraries: http://www.rug.nl/bibliotheek

RUG Combine: http://combine.ub.rug.nl

LiveTrix: http://livetrix.ub.rug.nl


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