



IconoTag, empirical support for automatic multilingual picture indexing

James M Turner

École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information
Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

Claire Nigay

École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information
Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

Karine Lespinasse-Sabourault

Alliance Francaise of Shanghai, 上海法语培训中心,
Université Paris 8

Meeting:

161 — "The media is the message!" The convergence of media in rapidly changing societies from a user perspective as well as the demand for preservation — Audiovisual and Multimedia Section with Preservation and Conservation

Abstract:

Users of information services seek pictures for various purposes, for example to illustrate an article about food, explain animals to children, or study vehicles for transportation. In previous work, we found that native speakers of English and French attach closely corresponding indexing terms to the same images. However, English and French have many similarities, including many words in common and a common alphabet. IconoTag was a project to discover whether the high rate of correspondence is also true for other languages, especially if the roots of the language are completely different, or if the language uses another alphabet or ideogrammes. We built a web-based application to collect data. Participants were asked to tag twelve pictures, chosen using criteria established in earlier projects, including simplicity or complexity of the image, the number of things that can be named, how easy or hard it is to identify the contents, and so on. Two of the images were abstract, included as a control. The site was put online in 2010, and social networking and personal contacts were used to recruit participants to tag the twelve pictures in one of ten languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. The results show high rates of correspondence, supporting the notion that automatic multilingual indexing of pictures in a networked environment is entirely feasible, and that users from many communities could find useful images from databases indexed in any language, independently of the language they use for searching.

Introduction

A number of our research projects have studied the question of indexing for still and moving images. We showed that whether an image is still or moving, users attach essentially the same tags to the same image (e.g. Turner 1994, 1995). We further showed that native speakers of English or French attach corresponding indexing terms to the same images. They name the objects they see in the images, and the names they give translate directly to the equivalent in the other language (e.g. Turner et Roulier 1999, Turner and Mathieu 2007). Our studies showed a great deal of consistency in the rates of correspondence. This suggests that images can be indexed in either language, and the indexing in the other language can then be generated automatically. The high rate of consistency indicates that the automatically-generated indexing would be of the same quality as the original indexing. Other studies dealing with indexing still images in English and French were conducted by Ménard (2006, 2007).

We followed up our studies with further studies using web translators (e.g. Hudon, Turner et Devin 2001; Turner and Hudon 2002). The results from these studies led us to believe that with appropriate web-based tools, it will be possible to index still and moving images in a single language, then generate indexing in many other languages automatically. However, multilingual indexing is not necessarily a need of the core users of any given image database, so it is not likely that those who manage such databases will implement it. The need is more on the part of users who visit the database via the web.

Web users type keywords into a search engine, then the search engine finds pictures for them. Search engines could be programmed to filter the user's keywords through bilingual dictionaries covering a number of languages, then forward the query to databases indexed using those languages, gather the results, and return the images to the user. We believe such a system would work well, as soon as enough freely-accessible bilingual dictionaries are available and a search algorithm is constructed. A number of bilingual dictionaries and other bilingual or multilingual vocabulary management tools are already available on the web, as are a few experimental web sites attempting multilingual indexing for images.

In this project, our goal is to demonstrate empirically either that such activity would work well, or to discover that it would not. In a multilingual environment, the problem between English and French is that the languages are so similar, with many words in common and a common alphabet. What would happen where there is no recognisable correspondence between words in languages that use a variety of alphabets or characters?

We showed in an earlier study (Turner 1995) that for this type of image ("ordinary" images as opposed to documentary images or art images), users and professional indexers attach the same terms to the same images. Further discussion of issues surrounding documentary moving images can be found in Lespinasse-Sabourault (2006). Art images are much more complex, because of the various levels of interpretation useful in studying them, and historically they have not been indexed at the basic level where objects in the image are named (Markey 1986, 1988). It is interesting to note that more recently, naming objects in art images by attaching tags to them is occurring on the web and in museums (Kellogg Smith 2006, Steve 2011).

In this paper, we use the term "tags" interchangeably with "indexing terms" or "keywords". Tags or indexing terms can be composed of one or several words. The question of whether tags constitute good indexing or not is not discussed here. Other researchers study

this question (e.g. Furner 2007, Kipp 2009), and as we have found in our own studies, part of the answer depends on the type of material being tagged or indexed. Here we concentrate on still images that can we mostly consider to be “ordinary” images, but the categorisation is somewhat arbitrary, since the same pictures can also be considered as documentary images or even art images, depending on the context.

Method

In order to study the question of whether tags given in one language can be translated automatically into useful tags in other languages, we collected data using a web site called IconoTag, which we built in French. Then, using the social networking site Facebook, we recruited help in building ten identical, parallel language versions of the site. The languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. The site was housed on a server offering a back-end SQL database for housing the data gathered using web-based PHP forms. The home page offered links toward the ten languages. The first click (choosing a language) led to miniatures of the 12 images to be tagged (figure 1), as well as to a brief explanation of the research project and instructions for



Figure 1. The twelve images participants tagged in one of ten languages.

participants. A click to the next screen offered further explanation of the project, information on how to contact the researchers if desired, information on the university’s ethics requirements, and a click signifying consent to participate in the project.

Once the participants clicked on the consent button, they were led to the first image, much larger now, and on the same screen was the form for entering tags for the image. Once they

finished tagging the image, clicking on a “Submit” button brought them to a page with the next image and a new form, and so on until all twelve images were tagged. This data they entered was recorded in the backend database, and was then ready for export and analysis.

To encourage participation, we created a task that was easy and that could be performed in a few minutes. The twelve images we used were selected on the basis of a number of criteria established in earlier projects, including simplicity or complexity of the image, the number of things that can be named, and how easy or hard it is to identify the contents. We included two abstract images (numbers 3 and 6) as a kind of control, expecting that even if we achieved high correspondence rates in the tags given for the easily-identifiable images, the most popular terms would probably be completely dispersed for these two images. Image 3 presents a detail of a stabile (as opposed to a mobile) sculpture by Alexander Calder, entitled “L’Homme” (“*Man*”) and installed on the site of the Expo67 world’s fair in Montréal. Image 6 records the loci of light created by moving a digital camera while taking a picture at night. We chose only landscape-oriented images to reduce the risk of the orientation becoming a variable that might cause differences in the responses. We chose landscape over portrait orientation, because computer screens have this orientation. In this way, the images could be as large as possible.

On the basis of previous results (Turner 1994), we decided to collect no personal information in order to further simplify the task and to shorten the time required to complete it. Previous studies showed no significant differences in the indexing provided by ordinary users, whether they were young or old, female or male, experienced in working with images or not, students or workers, and so on.

The site was put online in March 2010, and left for several months, until we felt we had enough data to analyse. Social networking and personal contact were used to recruit participants. They were to choose a language, then tag the twelve pictures. The instructions told them to stop tagging once they thought each picture was described adequately, up to a maximum of five tags per picture.

Results and analysis

We reported partial results of this project in two previous papers (Turner and Nigay 2010; Turner, Lespinasse-Sabourault and Nigay 2010). Here we give the complete and final results. Since we already had rather large numbers of participants for English, French and Chinese, we concluded that the top terms already identified remain stable, and so did no further analysis on this data. Table 1 shows the number of participants whose data we analysed for each language.

Table 1. Number of participants for each language

Language	Number of participants
French	323
English	127
Chinese	90
Swedish	26
German	17
Spanish	14
Portuguese	7
Arabic	2
Greek	2
Russian	2
TOTAL	608

Tables 2, 3, and 4 show the top three terms given in each of the languages. Where two or more terms achieve the same score, all the competing terms are given, in alphabetical order. Asterisks indicate one or more missing letters, in order to include plurals, variant spellings, and longer words composed of several words.

The data is broken into three tables because of the difficulties in analysis and representation. Clearly, we have not yet achieved globalisation of computer software! Since the authors do not speak or read Chinese, help was sought in analysing the data in this language from library staff in China. For Arabic, there were in fact a total of 30 respondents, but a technical problem with the data collection mechanism caused the data from 28 of these participants to become unusable before we discovered the problem and were able to fix it, leaving us with data for only two respondents. This is especially unfortunate since Arabic uses a non-roman alphabet and thus more data in this language would have been valuable in meeting the goals of the project. The data for these two languages are given in separate tables.

Table 2 gives the data for the eight remaining languages in which we collected data. We were able to recruit only two participants for both Russian and Greek, so the data is rather sparse, but included here anyway, on the grounds that it is better than no data at all.

[table 2, outsize, appears at the end as Appendix A]

As is usual in analysis of this type of data, the responses follow Zipf's distribution, that is, when the responses are compiled into a spreadsheet, most cells in the matrix are empty, most tags are given a single time, and a few tags are given many times. The ones given many times are the ones we wish to study, because they are the most useful indexing terms.

First we compare the top three terms, the ones given the most often. It is useful to consider the three terms independently of their ranking, because although there are variations from language to language as to the ranking, we notice that for most images, all languages or almost all languages have the same top three terms, or two of the top three terms. At the search end, this means that a user who gave any of these terms would find the image. However, with this data set, the correspondence is in fact even more precise, because for images 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 (10 of the 12 images or 83% of the images), all or almost all languages have the same term in the first position. This is surprising, because only four of these images were simple, the main object in the photo being obvious. Since participants also found other things to name, the ranking of the top term offers valuable information about how images are perceived and interpreted from both the physiological and the cultural perspectives.

Next we look at the data based on the type of image. Because there were simple, complex, and abstract images, analysis based on these criteria is particularly interesting. The simple images (a single significant object to name) are numbers 2, 7, 10, and 12. The complex images (several objects to name, objects competing for attention, or objects more difficult to identify or name) are numbers 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 11. The abstract images, included as a control, are numbers 3 and 6. We expected that the correspondence among languages would be high for the simple images, more dispersed or completely dispersed for the complex images, and that there would be little or no correspondence for the abstract images.

The actual results are very encouraging, since the rates of correspondence are higher than expected, sometimes even surprisingly high. As one might expect, participants from all languages for which there is data for the image gave the same top term for the simple images. There is a single exception to this: for image 2, Arabic-speaking participants gave the

equivalent of “bird” instead of “peacock” as the top term, with peacock as the second term. However, the exception is very weak, since we had usable data from only two participants. Since participants could name up to five terms for each image, “bird” arrived in first position (4 occurrences) as an element of the terms the two participants gave.

We did not expect the complex images to have such high rates of correspondence. Here we look more closely at the rankings. For image 1, there is no strong term in first position, but the top three terms taken together cover the same concepts (garbage, street, cleaning). For image 4, “camera” is first in 7 languages, and “photo” in 3 (French, Portuguese, Chinese). For image 5, “beach” is first in 9 languages, and “sea” in 1 (Russian). Here again, a weak exception because there is data from only two participants. For image 8, all languages have the same concept (dance) in first position. For image 9, “cactus” is first in 9 languages, and “desert” in 1 (Spanish). “Cactus” was almost tied (one fewer occurrence) for first position in Spanish. Data from more participants would probably make the positions of these terms more precise. For image 11, “food” is first in 8 languages, “dish” in 1 (French), and “cooking” in 1 (Chinese). Since we had a considerable amount of data for French and Chinese, these results possibly reflect interesting cultural differences in perception.

The results for the abstract images, put in as a control, were the most surprising. Now we wonder whether we were naïve in expecting broad dispersion of the terms. However, the fact that the participants tried to name what they saw, and that they saw the same things and gave them the same names, generally speaking, is very encouraging as an argument supporting the notion that tagging is useful as indexing for images. For image 3, the top terms cover the same concepts (structure, steel, metal, building, sculpture). For image 6, “light” is in first position in all languages except for Arabic, in which “fireworks” is the only term given by the two participants. Other terms this image elicited were “colour” and “photo”.

Next we discuss analysis of the data from Chinese-speaking participants. This was carried out in a separate activity. There were technical difficulties in interpreting the Chinese-language tags from the database used for data collection, so that the analysis could not be done with the rest. In addition, none of the project’s team members can read Chinese characters. However, we were able to recruit the help of Chinese-French bilingual staff from the library of the Alliance Française of Shanghai (上海法语培训中心图书馆), whose work on cross-cultural issues has been described in Josso and Lespinasse-Sabourault (2008). This work showed that analysis using French as an intermediate language worked out well for a gross comparison.

Because of the differing writing systems (Zhang et al. 2006), it was not possible to use the same method of word truncation or letter substitution for analysis of the Chinese-language data. Table 3 presents an analysis comparing the data for each image with terms in French and English. The Chinese-speaking assistants made a French-language version of the concepts expressed in Chinese. Next, we counted the occurrences of terms using the French-language versions of the Chinese terms, using the same method of truncation we had used for analysing the terms in the western languages. Since both the French-language words and the Chinese characters represent concepts, the method, while somewhat awkward, gives a reasonable portrait of the correspondences.

Table 3. The most popular tags from Chinese-speaking participants, using French as an intermediate language, and the most popular tags given by French and English speakers.

Image	Chinese (90 participants) term	French from Chinese term, frequency	English from Chinese terms via Google term	French (323 participants) term, frequency	English (127 participants) term, frequency
01	垃圾 清扫 街道 清洁工	ordures 46 nettoy* 42 rue 44 éboueur 29	garbage cleaning street cleaners	éboueur 188 poubelle 137 camion 115 nettoy* 109	garbage 101 clean 77 street 90 truck 47
02	孔雀 动物 蓝色 草地	paon 69 animal 12 bleu 9 gazon 7	peacock animal blue lawn	paon 288 oiseau 159 plume 56 bleu 55	peacock 127 bird 70 blue 33 feather 26
03	钢结构 建筑 飞机 天空	acier 19 bâtiment 14 avion 14 ciel 11	steel building aircraft sky	métal 150 architectur* 80 sculpture 43 acier 42	structure 44 steel 36 metal 35 architecture 28
04	摄影 光 照相机 影子 三角架	photo* 74 lumière 71 appareil-photo* 45 ombre 26 trépied 30	photography light camera shadow tripod	photo 344 appareil 213 ombre 127 trépied 115	camera 116 tripod 89 shadow 54 photo 50
05	海滩 度假 游乐 阴天	plage 64 vacances 23 loisir 13 ciel gris 12	beach holiday recreation cloudy day	plage 216 mer 179 palmier 133 bord de mer 55 vacances 55	beach 105 palm 45 ocean 31 arcade 30
06	光 摄 光影 色彩	lumière 42 photo* 15 éclairage 13 couleur* 11	light photo lighting colour	lumière 184 effet 61 nuit 45 abstra* 36	light 83 photo 21 colo*r 18 night 15
07	奶牛 牛奶 草原 牧场	vache 62 lait 11 prairie 11 pâturage 7	dairy cow milk grassland ranch	vache 281 pré 100 lait 44 campagne 43 animal 33	cow 123 farm 23 field 23 Holstein 23 black 22 white 22 animal 17
08	舞蹈 异域风情 印度 泰国	danse 56 exotique 12 Indien* 7 Thaïlande 7	dance exotic India* Thailand	danse 308 costume 120 tradition 63 Bali 47	dance 117 costume 44 wom*n 18 Asia* 15
09	仙人掌 沙漠 干旱	cactus 49 d*sert 21 sec* 8	cactus desert arid	cactus 267 desert 216 ciel 49 arid* 46	cact* 117 desert 89 sky 20 blue 13
10	南瓜 万圣节 菜市场 丰收	citrouille 52 Halloween 14 marché 14 moisson 8	pumpkin Halloween vegetable market bumper harvest	citrouille 217 Halloween 102 orange 85 potiron 79	pumpkin 109 harvest 36 Hallowe*en 29 orange 28
11	烹饪 佳肴 食物 餐	cuisine 26 plat délicieux 18 aliment 11 repas 7	cooking cuisine food meal	plat 123 repas 98 assiette 90 légume 86	food 59 vege* 45 meal 33 dinner 27
12	花 紫色	fleur 49 violet 15	flower purple	fleur 260 pivoine 80	flower 100 pink 49

牡丹
极美的

pivoine 10
magnifique 8

peony
very beautiful

rose 75
feuille 52

peon* 37
purple 19

From this analysis, we identified the Chinese characters corresponding to the 4 most popular terms, then pasted them into Google Translate to get an English-language version. Thus we can see in table 3 the relationships among the terms in these three languages, with the count corresponding to the French-language version of the Chinese terms. The last two columns give the data from the French- and English-language participants, as an aid to comparison. Since we analysed the top four terms in Chinese instead of the just the top three elsewhere, we have left this richer data in table 3.

The two Arabic-speaking participants whose data we were able to analyse gave a single term for most images. For three of the images, they gave two terms, and for three other images they gave none. Table 4 shows the terms they gave.

Table 4. Tags from the two Arabic-speaking participants whose data was usable.

Image	Top term	Freq	Second Term	Freq
1	تنظيف	2	قمامة	2
2	لطيور	4	لطاوس	2
3	<i>no data</i>			
4	صور	3	كاميرا	2
5	شاطئ	2		
6	نارية ألعاب	2		
7	بقرة	3		
8	رقصة	2		
9	صبار	2		
10	<i>no data</i>			
11	غذاء	2		
12	<i>no data</i>			

Arabic is another language no member of the research team speaks or reads, but running the character strings through Google Translate allowed us to verify the equivalents in languages we know well, English and French. Because of this cross-check, we are confident that our analysis is accurate.

However, the sparse data from participants from languages with an alphabet other than the Roman alphabet is truly regrettable. Except for Chinese, for which data from 90 participants was analysed, the other languages (Arabic, Greek, and Russian) are poorly represented in our data. Our efforts to recruit participants who speak these languages were clearly not fruitful.

Still, the data we did get gives a useful glimpse into what the results might be like, since the few participants available named the same top terms as those from other languages. These terms (representing the names of objects in the images) clearly seem to be the ones that come to mind when participants see the images.

Discussion

The difficulties experienced with collecting data are partly due to the limited means available for conducting the study. We were largely dependent on volunteers who made the various language versions of the sites for us, others who tried to recruit participants from various language communities, and the good will of those who agreed to participate. Still, over the years we have worked on this problem, we have accumulated enough experience and seen enough patterns in data of this type to be confident that our results are accurate. We tried to get empirical data to provide theoretical support for the soundness of automated cross-language indexing for “ordinary” pictures.

Ultimately, it is a kind of indexing that will happen with time anyway, independently of our work. In addition, it will happen only by automated means, since the costs of doing it otherwise are prohibitive. The task involved in tagging images is that of naming significant objects that are visible. We showed in previous studies that almost anyone can name objects in images of this type as well as professional indexers can, and that a few terms emerge as those that are named by most people. Once the terms are established in any language, the quality of the indexing in other languages is dependent on the quality of the translating tools.

Although the very small number of participants who provided usable data in languages using alphabets other than the roman alphabet is disappointing, what little data we did get is still significant, and it is now reasonable to assume that had we gotten more data, it would have followed the same patterns as with the other languages. The data from our Chinese participants is particularly useful in this context, because we did get data from a large number of participants in this language. Since the Chinese data shows no deviation at all from the patterns in the data from the western languages, it is probably safe to assume that we are looking at a universal phenomenon that will hold true for virtually any language.

This work will contribute to validating other approaches. One such approach involves propagating indexing terms and other metadata from one image to a similar image, i.e. to a picture of the same object. To do this, high-level techniques such as words attached to pictures by humans can be combined with low-level object-recognition techniques such as those used by the Photosynth technology (Aguera y Arcas 2007). With this technology, by mapping numerous photographs of details onto a general model, multiple photographs find their place in the appropriate area of the model. From this, if one user adds tags to identify a photograph of a particular detail, other photos of the same detail can inherit the metadata. Adopting the approach using bilingual and multilingual dictionaries we have described here, there is no reason why the photograph a user tags and the other photographs that inherit the tag by propagation could not also inherit the tag automatically generated in multiple other languages, thus making the image available to a far broader community of users.

Our work with shot-by-shot indexing of moving images shows that the same patterns apply, further broadening the field that can be studied. There are undoubtedly many, many other applications in which this knowledge can be used, so that there will be no shortage of topics for researchers, especially those who know ten or twelve languages (!), to study.

Conclusion

We set out to get empirical evidence to support the idea that online bilingual dictionaries and comprehensive tools such as Google Translator can generate tags in other languages that allow users to find images, independently of the language they use for searching. In other words, that the likely names for an object that participants in a study from a variety of language groups will give are the same as the names such web tools will generate automatically when the term is entered in a single language. Although they are imperfect, these web tools are widely used, and automatic translation of indexing terms for “ordinary” images results in accurate, good quality indexing for “ordinary” images, as long as the original indexing terms are accurate. As a measure of the rate of technological progress taking place now, it is interesting to note that such an approach could hardly have been imagined as recently as the beginning of this century. Clearly, ongoing development of web tools will continue to offer researchers fertile ground in which to study automatic multilingual picture indexing.

Acknowledgments

This research was conducted under grant 410-2005-1213 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. (SSHRC), and much volunteer help. We dedicate this final paper from the grant to the memory of Michelle Gauthier, who was largely responsible for our obtaining this grant. We thank our partners who worked as translators to the various languages used in the study, as well as Arnaud d’Alayer, Gabriel Coder and Robin Millette for their technical help. We are grateful to every participant who contributed data. We especially thank 潘玥玲 Marion, 陈祎 Camille, 范秉馨 Vincent, 杨珏 Anaïs, the library staff (Alliance Francaise of Shanghai) for their help in translating Chinese tags into French.

References

- Aguera y Arcas, Blaise. 2007. Blaise Aguera y Arcas demos Photosynth [video]. *Ted Talks*. <http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/blaise_aguera_y_arcas_demos_photosynth.html>.
- Furner, Jonathan. 2007. User tagging of library resources: toward a framework for system evaluation. *World Library and Information Congress (IFLA) : 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa, Proceedings*. <<http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/papers/157-Furner-en.pdf>>.
- Hudon, Michèle, James Turner et Yves Devin. 2001. Description et indexation des collections d'images en mouvement : résultats d'une enquête. *Documentation et bibliothèques* 47, no. 1, 5-12.
- Josso, Guillaume, and Karine Lespinasse-Sabourault. 2008. Towards the empowerment of the reader: a new approach in a traditional public library: cross-cultural challenge in the French Language centre — Hongkou Spare-Time College. *SILF 2008, Shanghai*, 265-276.
- Kellogg Smith, Martha. 2006. Viewer tagging in art museums: comparisons to concepts and vocabularies of art museum visitors. In *Advances in classification research, Vol. 17: Proceedings of the 17th ASIS&T SIG/CR Classification Research Workshop (Austin, TX, November 4, 2006)*, ed. Jonathan Furner and Joseph T. Tennis.
- Kipp, Margaret E.I. 2009. Exploring inter tagger consistency measures [poster]. In *20th Annual SIG/CR Classification Research Workshop, American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, BC, 6-11 November 2009*. <<http://eprints.rclis.org/17218/1/sigcrposter2009.pdf>>.

- Lespinasse-Sabourault, K. 2006. « L'Heure de Vérité » de la linguistique informatique, Institut National de l'Audiovisuel » [indexing and retrieval of audiovisual archives using existing textual descriptions]. *Cahiers de l'IUT de l'université Paris 5 - René Descartes*, numéro spécial.
- Markey, Karen. 1988. Access to iconographical research collections. *Library Trends* 27, no. 2, 154-174.
- Markey, Karen. 1986. *Subject access to visual resources collections: a model for computer construction of thematic catalogs*. New York: Greenwood Press.
- Ménard, Elaine. 2007. Indexing and retrieving images in a multilingual world. *Knowledge Organization* 34, no. 2, 91-100.
- Ménard, Elaine. 2006. La recherche d'information multilingue. *Documentation et bibliothèques* 52, no. 4, 255-261.
- Steve: the museum social tagging project. 2011. <<http://www.steve.museum/>>.
- Turner, James M., Karine Lespinasse and Claire Nigay. 2010. IconoTag, an experiment in multilingual picture indexing. *City life and libraries: the proceedings of the fifth Shanghai (Hangzhou) International Library Forum (SILF), August 24-27, 2010*. Shanghai: Shanghai Scientific and Technological Publishing House, 55-62.
- Turner, James M. et Claire Nigay. 2010. IconoTag, un pas vers l'indexation translinguistique d'images. 38e congrès de l'ACSI/CAIS, Congrès des sciences sociales et humaines. Concordia University, Montréal, 2010.06.04. <http://www.cais-acsi.ca/proceedings/2010/CAIS056_TurnerNigay_Final.pdf>.
- Turner, James M. and Suzanne Mathieu. 2007. Audio description for indexing films. *World Library and Information Congress (IFLA) : 73rd IFLA General Conference and Council, 19-23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa, Proceedings*. <http://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/papers/157-Turner_Mathieu-en.pdf>.
- Turner, James M. and Michèle Hudon. 2002. Multilingual metadata for moving image databases: preliminary results. *Advancing Knowledge: Expanding Horizons for Information Science, Proceedings of the 30th annual conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science*, ed. Lynne C. Howarth, Christopher Cronin, Anna T. Slawek. Toronto: Faculty of Information Studies, 34-45.
- Turner, James M. et Jean-François Roulier. 1999. La description d'images fixes et en mouvement par deux groupes linguistiques, anglophone et francophone, au Québec. *Documentation et bibliothèques* 45, no. 1 (janvier-mars), 17-22.
- Turner, James M. 1995. Comparing user-assigned terms with indexer-assigned terms for storage and retrieval of moving images: research results. *Proceedings of the 58th ASIS Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, October 9-12, 1995*, vol. 32, 9-12.
- Turner, James Ian Marc. 1994. Determining the subject content of still and moving image documents for storage and retrieval: an experimental investigation. PhD thesis, University of Toronto. 300 p.
- Zhang Zhixiong, Li Sa, Wu Zhengxin, and Lin Ying. 2006. Towards constructing a Chinese information extraction system to support innovations in library services. *World Library and Information Congress : 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council, 20-24 August 2006, Seoul, Korea*. <<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla72/index.htm>>.

