Image Retrieval in Controlled English

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Yale Image Finder

The Yale Image Finder (YIF):

- is a search engine for biomedical images
- is keyword-based
- indexes the images of the open access articles of PubMed Central
- can search the image caption and text within images

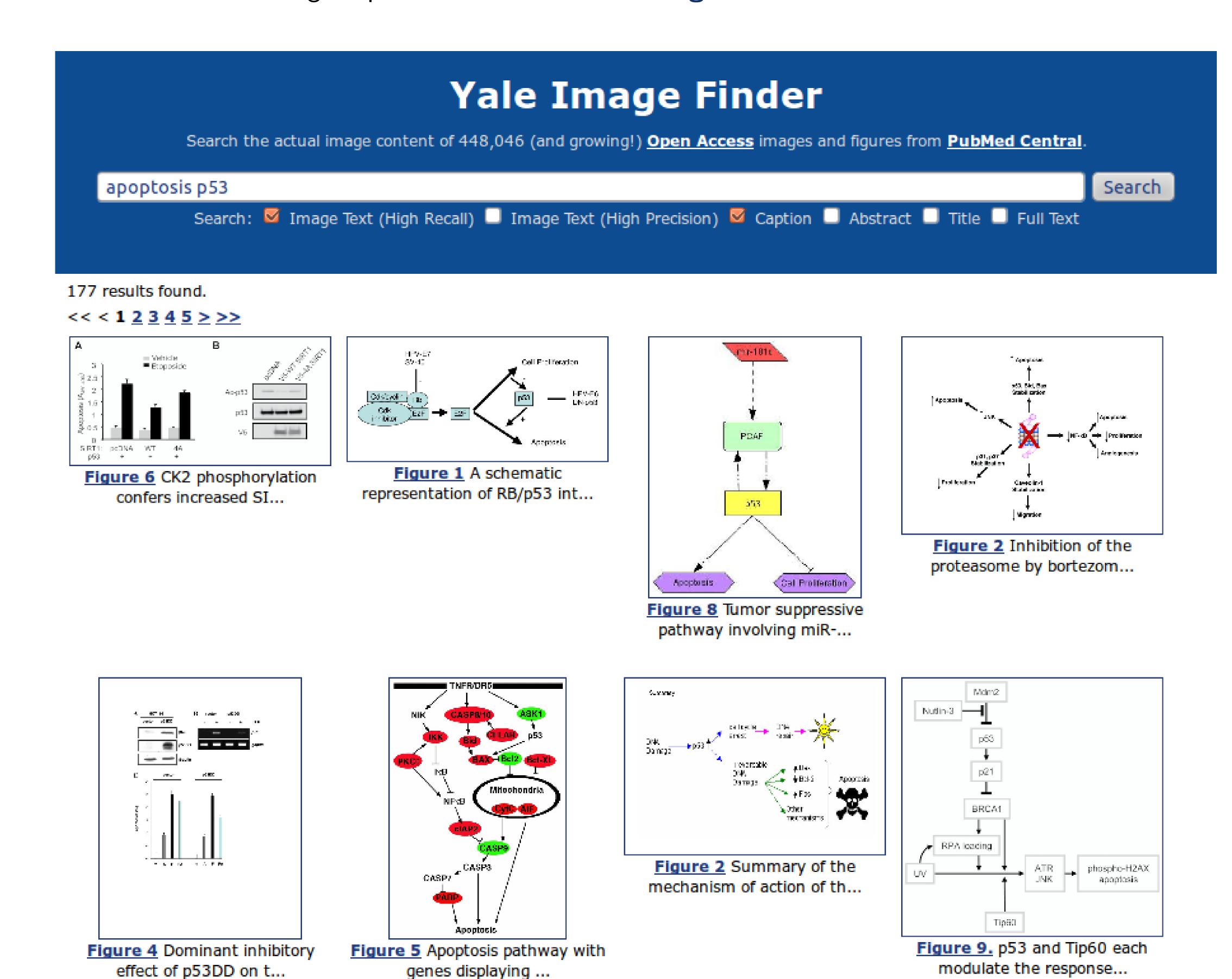
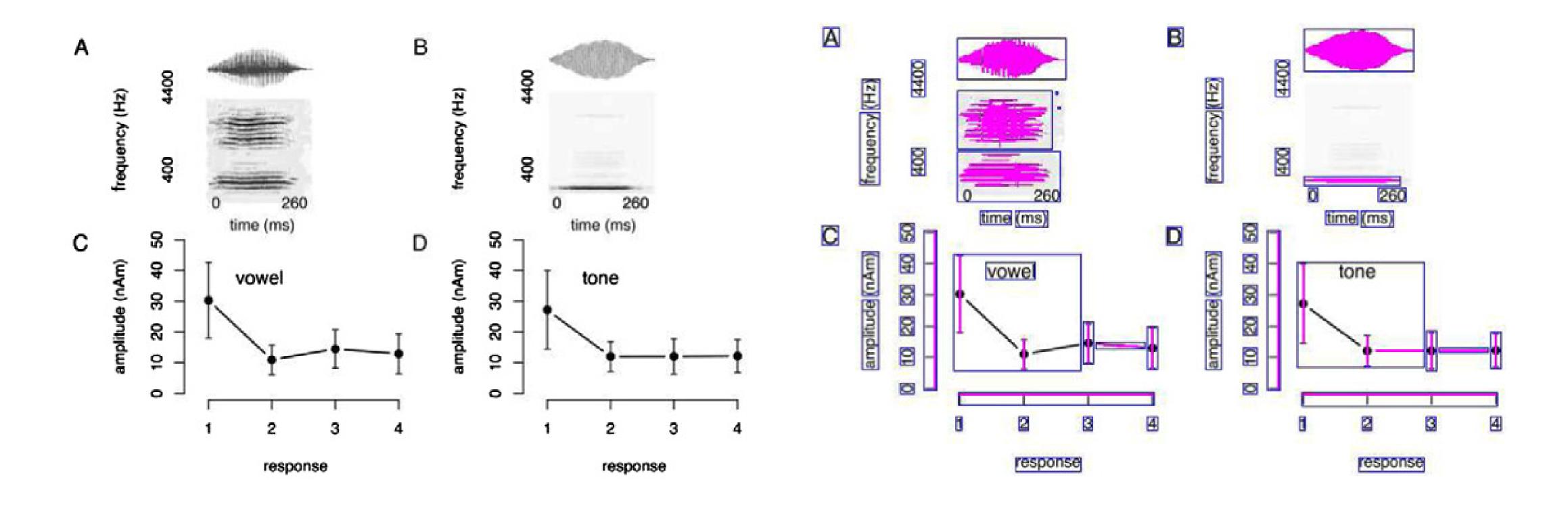


Image Analysis and Classification

Images are analyzed and classified:

- Segments of the image are recognized
- OCR is applied to segments containing text
- Images are classified as gels, graphs, plots, etc. (work in progress)
- Semantic properties and relations are extracted from the image (work in progress)



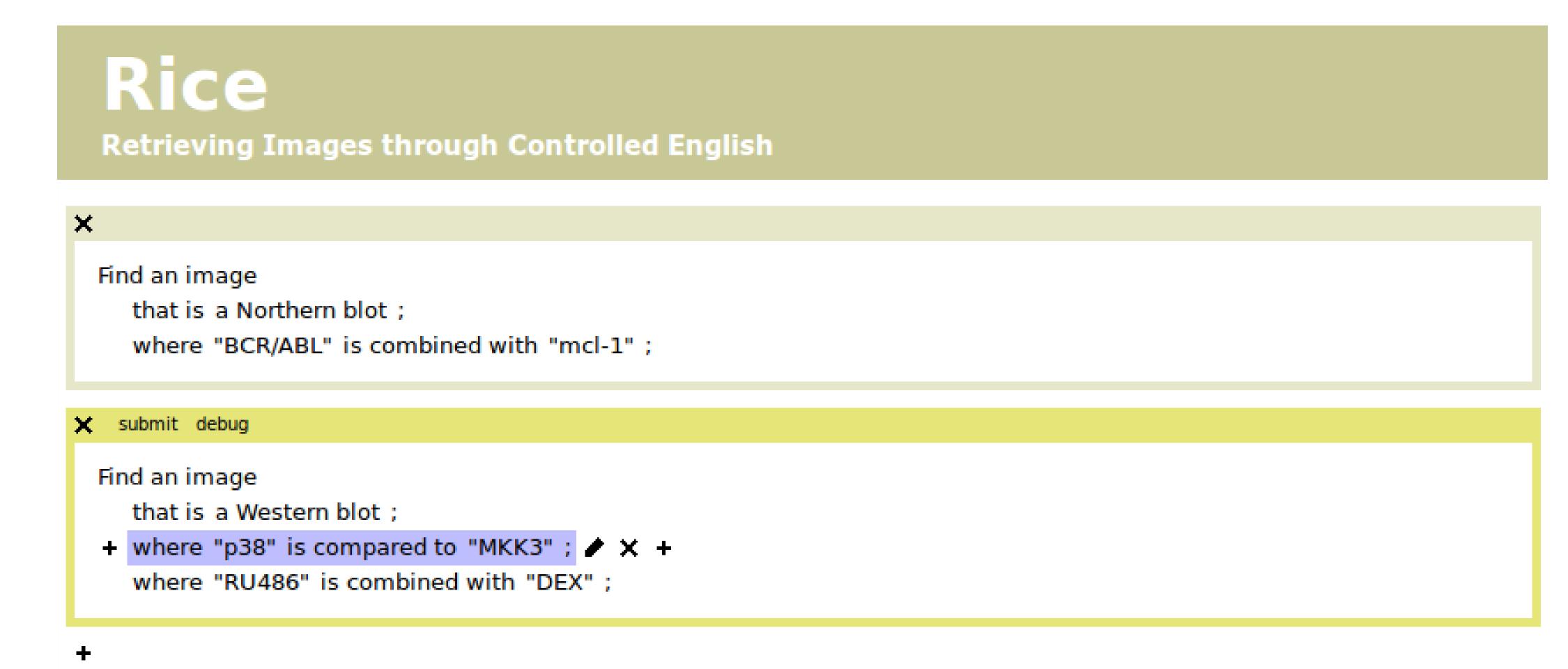
Controlled English Interface

Retrieving Images in Controlled English (Rice):

- is a prototype of a semantic search engine for biomedical images
- uses controlled English as its query language

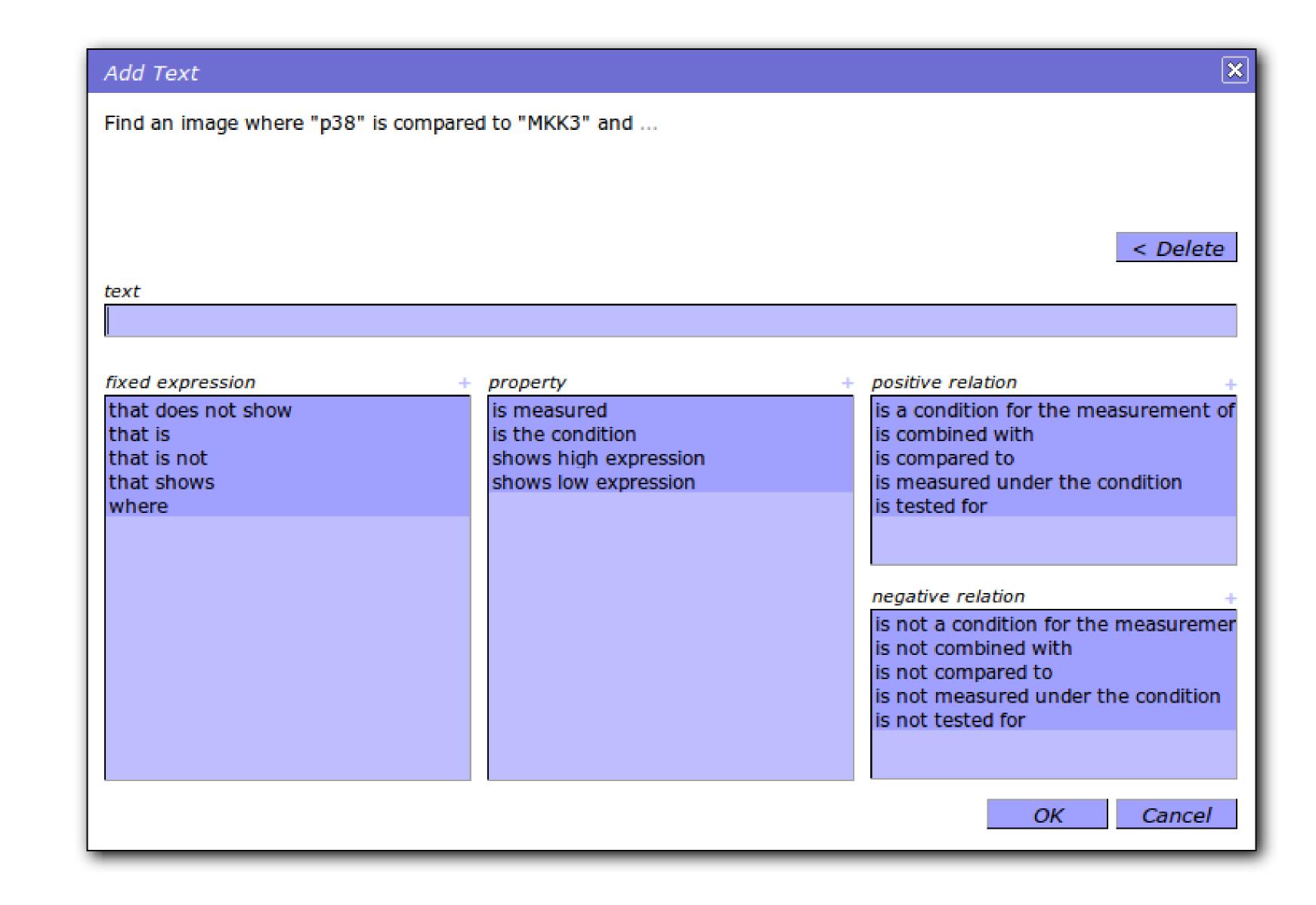
Controlled English queries in Rice:

- look natural but have a precise mapping to logic
- are matched with the extracted image models to find results (work in progress)



Writing queries:

- Controlled English is easy to read and understand but hard to write
- Preditive editors can solve this problem
- Users construct syntactically correct sentences in an iterative and guided way



Benefits:

- Existing query interfaces are **either very simple** (i.e. keyword-based) **or too complex** to be usable without training
- With Rice, complex and precise queries can be written in a natural and intuitive way
- Rice is **immediately accessible** to researchers interested in the results represented in images of the biomedical literature