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## Suppressing Numerical Concepts with `--no_nums`

The ability to suppress numerical concepts was introduced in MetaMap16V2; previous MetaMap versions do not include this functionality.

We have found that many mostly-numerical strings in certain semantic types (e.g., `geoa`, `fdng`, `spco`, `qnco`, `tmco`) add little value to biomedical named-entity recognition.

Some typical numerical strings that we consider too noisy to be of much use are

0.45      80%      29+      3/4      1 - 9%      1:100      >97      0.010"

The option `--no_nums` option can be used to suppress such UMLS concepts in which at least 50% of the non-whitespace characters are digits. This option requires specifying a comma-separated list of [Semantic Types](#) as an option, e.g.,

```
--no_nums fdng
```

```
--no_nums fdng,spco
```

Finally, to exclude *all* such mostly-numerical concepts, use the pseudo-SemType `all` or `ALL`:

```
--no_nums all
```

```
--no_nums ALL
```