

INTERNATIONAL

IC

CLASSIFICATION

Devoted to Concept Theory
Systematic Terminology &
Organization of Knowledge

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**The Three Languages Theory in Information
Retrieval**

**Part-controlled Vocabulary for
Literature Studies**

**UDC: International Medium Edition –
English Text**

**Class Number Searching in an Experimental
Online Catalog**

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INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

Devoted to Concept Theory, Systematic Terminology and Organization of Knowledge

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I.C. Vol. 13 (1986) No. 3

Deschâtelets, G.: **The three languages theory in information retrieval.**

Int. Classif. 13 (1986) No. 3, p. 126-132, 15 refs.

To an overwhelming extent, storage and retrieval systems were designed for information intermediaries who were specialists in formal, controlled documentation languages (e.g. classification systems, indexing languages) and who were then trained to utilize the query language of each retrieval system. However, with the advent of the microcomputer, there now exists, in the information retrieval industry, an obvious will to tackle both the professional and the personal information markets, as evidenced by their more sophisticated yet more user-friendly systems and by the design and marketing of all sorts of interface software (front-end, gateway, intermediary). In order to take full advantage of these systems, the user must be able to master three different languages: the natural language of the discipline, the indexing language, and the system's query language. The author defines and characterizes each of these languages and identifies their issues and trends in the IR cycle and specifically in public online search services. Finally he proposes a theoretical model for the analysis of IR languages and suggests a few research avenues.

(Author)

Chatterjee, A., Choudhury, G.G.: **UDC: International Medium Edition – English text. A critical appraisal**

Int. Classif. 13 (1986) No. 3, p. 137-141, 4 refs.

UDC International Medium Edition – English Text brought out 24 years after the publication of UDC, 3rd Abridged English Edition, has introduced many changes both in physical presentation and the principles followed. These changes have been reviewed here citing suitable illustrations. The significant features added in this edition and the shortcomings which still continue, have been mentioned. It has been pointed out that the new edition will necessitate large-scale reclassification, but will enable the classifier to provide more precise and coextensive class numbers.

(Authors)

Harris, K.: **Part-controlled vocabulary for literature studies.**

Int. Classif. 13 (1986) No. 3, p. 133-136, 18 refs.

Part-controlled vocabulary involves the supplementation of a limited controlled vocabulary with freely chosen index terms which are not subject to any authority procedures. Such an indexing device is probably widely used in various kinds of information service, but has not been formally recognized as a design option for librarians. The concept and its implications are explored, and its potential for literature studies, where it appears to be highly suitable, is considered.

(Author)

Markey, K.: **Class number searching in an experimental online catalog.**

Int. Classif. 13 (1986) No. 3, p. 142-150, 7 refs.

In the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) Online Project, the texts of the DDC Schedules and Relative Index were incorporated into the searchable indexes and browsing capabilities of an experimental online catalog. The effectiveness of this online catalog enhanced with the DDC was tested in online retrieval experiments at four participating libraries. In this paper, subject searchers' use of the class number search capability is featured. Failure analyses of class number searches demonstrated the ability of this search to retrieve items relevant to searchers' topics of interest. Searchers' post-search interview comments highlight their experiences and their satisfaction with the results of this type of search. Based on the failure analyses and searchers' interview comments, recommendations are provided for the improvement of class number searching in online catalogs, particularly the incorporation of a library classification schedule into the online catalog.

(Author)

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION



SCOPE

The more scientific data are generated in the impetuous present times, the more ordering energy needs to be expended to control these data in a retrievable fashion. With the abundance of knowledge now available the questions of new solutions to the ordering problem and thus of improved classification systems, methods and procedures have acquired unforeseen significance; for many years now they have been in the focus of interest of information scientists the world over.

Until recently, the special literature relevant to classification was published in piecemeal fashion, scattered over the numerous technical journals serving the experts of the various fields, such as

philosophy and science of science
science policy and science organization
mathematics, statistics, and computer science
library and information science
archivistics and museology
journalism and communication science
industrial and commodity classification
terminology, lexicography, linguistics

Beginning 1974 INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION has been serving as a common platform for the discussion of both theoretical background questions and practical application problems in many areas of concern. In each issue experts from many countries comment on questions of an adequate structuring and construction of ordering systems and on the problems of their use in opening the information contents of new literature, of data collections and surveys, of tabular works and of other objects of scientific interest.

Their contributions have been concerned with

- (1) clarifying the theoretical foundations (general ordering theory, science-theoretical bases of classification, data analyses and reduction)
- (2) describing practical operations connected with numerical taxonomy/classification, as well as applications of classification systems and thesauri, manual and machine indexing
- (3) tracing the history of classification knowledge and methodology
- (4) discussing questions of education and training in classification
- (5) concerning themselves with the problems of terminology in general and with respect to special fields.

AIMS

Thus, INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION is meant to be a programme for the improvement of classification methods and processes, a forum for discussion for all those interested in the organization of knowledge on a universal or a subject-field scale, using concept analytical and/or concept-synthetical approaches as well as numerical procedures and comprising also the intellectual and automatic compilation and use of classification systems and thesauri in all fields of knowledge, with special attention being given to the problems of terminology.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION publishes original articles, reports on conferences and similar communications, the Newsletters of FID/CR (Committee on Classification Research of the International Federation for Documentation), and COCTA (Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis), book reviews, letters to the editor, and an extensive annotated bibliography of recent classification and indexing literature, covering between 400 and 500 items in each issue.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION should therefore be available at every university and research library of every country, at every information center, at colleges and schools of library and information science, in the hands of everybody interested in the fields mentioned above and thus also at every office for updating information on any topic related to the problems of order in our information-flooded times.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION was founded in 1973 by an international group of scholars with a consulting board of editors representing the world's regions, the special classification fields and the subject areas involved. From 1974-1980 IC was published by K.G.Saur Verlag, München. Back issues of 1978-1985 are available from INOEKS Verlag, too. (The 7 volumes of 1978-1984 are offered now at the highly reduced price of DM 250.-.)

Rates: For 3 issues/ann. (including indexes every three years): Institutions DM 84.-, Individuals (20%), members of classification societies & groups (-30%), members of Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (-40%) + postage. For air-mail delivery add DM 4.- per issue.

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Manuscripts may be submitted in either English, German or French to the editor-in-chief in two sets (the original and one copy) typed in double space, comprising between 1500 to 3000 words. They should be accompanied by an English indicative abstract of 100-200 words.

Criteria for acceptance will be appropriateness to the field of the journal (see Scope and Aims), taking into account the merit of the content and presentation. Papers are accepted with the understanding that they have not been published, submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere and that, if the work received official sponsorship, it has been duly released for publication. Authors will usually be notified within 6 to 10 weeks. Unless specifically requested, manuscripts or illustrations will not be returned.

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References should be listed at the end of the paper with the numbers in brackets referring to such numbers in brackets within the text part.

Additional notes should be indicated in the text by lifted single numbers (e.g. text) and equally collected with their texts at the end of the paper under the heading Notes.

Journal References should contain the names and initials of all authors, full title of the publication, abbreviation of the journal according to the ISO Standard No.4, volume number, year of publication in brackets, issue number and first and last page numbers. Monograph References should give the name(s) of the author(s), full title, edition, place of publication, publisher, year and number of pages.

Examples:

Fugmann, R.: The glamour and the misery of the thesaurus approach. In: Int.Classif. 1(1974)No.2, p.76-86, 20 refs.

Sartori, G., Riggs, F.W., Teune, H.: Tower of Babel. On the definition and analysis of concepts in the social sciences. Pittsburgh, Pa.: Int.Studies Assoc.1975. 107 p. = Int.Studies Occ.Paper No.6.

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