IC CLASSIFICATION

INTERNATIONAL

Devoted to Concept Theory
Systematic Terminology &
Organization of Knowledge

Contents

Synthetic Description Systems for Accurate
  Data Identification and Selection. Principles
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Classification Practice in the USSR. Current
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Harald Haendler: Synthetic description systems for accurate data identification and selection. Principles and methods of nutritional data banks. In: Int. Classif. 15 (1988) No. 2, p. 64–68, 14 refs.

The peculiarities of numerical data as stored in and retrieved from nutritional data banks require highly efficient systems for data identification. The principles which have to be considered for establishing such systems are demonstrated by the methods applied in the International Network of Feed Information Centres. Most important is the principle of (systematic) synthesis, which has been used at two levels: (1) to synthesize the entire informeme/data unit by its constituents which are the object, the property, and the conditions; and (2) by using a faceted description system (thesaurus) for the identification of feeds as the object. The last one is based on semantic factoring of feed denominations, whereby the analysis/synthesis follows strictly the structural relationship of the semantic components, which are identical with the essential characteristics of the object, and which belong to the six categories/facets: Origin, Parts, Process, Growth stage, Cut, and Grade. In addition to the description with descriptors of these facets, special identification systems are used for the properties (substances/values), and for the "individual" characteristics of the sample to enable a very precise selection of data units for different purposes. (Author)

Gouicdo, L.: The Swedish Socio-Economic Classification: Rationale and fields of application. Int. Classif. 15 (1988) No. 2, p. 73–84, 6 refs.

In social and demographic studies it is almost mandatory to use classifications by socio-economic characteristics to describe different population groups. Such characteristics can provide key linkages between different statistical systems for studies of various sub-groups. Indicators of this kind have proved to be of value in predicting behaviours, attitudes, motives etc., eg. regarding socialization process, educational selection and achievement processes, and occupational role performances.
In Sweden several socio-economic classifications have been used. This paper has as its prime purpose to disseminate the achievements made by Statistics Sweden in developing a new classification scheme, the 1982 Swedish Socio-Economic Classification. Furthermore, the paper contains examples of application of this scheme to various statistical materials – hereby illustrating in some sense social 'class' structures (regarding, for instance, organizational activities, party preferences) in the Swedish society today. (Author)

Sukiasyan, E.R.: Classification practice in the USSR. Current status and development trends.
Int. Classif. 15 (1988) No. 2, p. 69–72, 6 refs.

Under the pertinent USSR National Standard the libraries and information centers in the USSR use simultaneously four universal classification systems; each having definate functions and spheres of application. The problems of interaction of the classification systems are studied in the present article. Special emphasis is put on the Library-Bibliographical Classification (LBC) and its variants and editions as being used in the overwhelming majority of Soviet libraries. The great possibilities of LBC application from the point of view of automatic searching are discussed. Author

Humphreys, B.L.: Unified Medical Language System: Progress Report. Int. Classif. 15 (1988) No. 2, p. 85–86

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) supports the establishment of a Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) in order to overcome the lack of precise link among related biomedical information in different automated systems. The goal is not to impose a single medical vocabulary on all users and systems, but to make the myriad of classifications of medical knowledge invisible to the user while providing a single logical path to a broad range of biomedical information sources. The report describes the UMLS knowledge sources, its features, the results of six contractor reports, and the NLM contributions. (Acc. to 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 INDEKS Verlag, too. (The 7 volumes of 1978-1984 are offered now at the highly reduced price of DM 250.-.)

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

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.

The text of the papers should be structured by subheadings; it should contain (a) an introduction, stating the purpose, (b) a description of materials and methods in sufficient detail, (c) information on results or systems developed and (d) a conclusion with a discussion and/or summarization.

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.
Illustrations should be restricted to necessary minimum. Graphs and Diagrams should be supplied as black and white drawings suitable to reproduction, Half-tone illustrations should be sharp, well-contrasted glossy prints. Illustrations should be numbered lightly with soft pencil on the back. Numbered legends should be attached on a separate sheet.
Tables should be typed double-spaced on a separate sheet, contain a number and a title at the top and be cited in the text. Each column should have a heading.
Authors shall receive 25 reprints of their papers free of charge. Addtional reprints may be ordered.
Corrections in galley proof exceeding 10% of the typesetting costs will be charged to the author.