

ALEx, the machine that speaks by displaying, By Maryvonne ABRAHAM (Brest)

A new approach for designing information systems, based on the distinction between conceptual and perceptible data, by Isabelle VIDALENC and others (Lyon)

A model of analysis for classifying iconographic documents, by Louis VIEIRA (Nancy)

Theme C: Designing an information system

Designing information systems used in the course of an activity: methodology and formalization tools in order to identify informational opportunities, by Christian COTE (Lyon)

The organization of knowledge in the academic libraries, by Majid IHADJADENE, (ENSSIB, Villeurbanne)

A model of the user based on his (her) beliefs and objectives, in order to improve the efficiency of information retrieval systems, by Faouzi TCIENAR, (ENSSIB, Villeurbanne)

Friday afternoon : Plenary session

Towards a server for indexing and searching on the WEB, by EYMARD and FRANCONI (Grenoble)

Multilingual thesauri: linguistic vs. semantic intereffectiveness, by Roland DACHELET (INRIA)

Patterning of users and cooperative searching in information retrieval systems, by Amos A. DAVID (Nancy)

Papers on posters

A new source of scientific information for historians: the databank of pictures of the Northern region, by BARRIERE and others (Lille)

Reorganizing scientific information with the view of a non-linear exploitation under an electronic format: some ways for navigating in an electronic scientific document, by BEN ROMDHANE and LAINE (Lyon)

A dynamic grouping of customers for a shared information system, by CHARPIOT and others (Rennes)

How to retrieve information in big technical bases: the role of morphology in knowledge extracting, by Viviana CLAVIER (Grenoble)

Some elements of graph algorithmics as a help to designing and validating techniques of extraction and organization of speech knowledge, by ENGUEHARD and others (Nantes)

A proposal for a multi-indexing system in the field of philosophy, by Benoit Hufschmitt (Besançon)

Some linguistic-mathematical measures and algorithms of filtering for the written documents processing, by Omar LAROUK (Lyon)

Scientific speech and thesauri: reading gestures and interpretation of the professionals in information, by Clarinda RODRIGUES LUCAS (Brésil)

A multilingual thesaurus for indexing goods descriptions: typical features and relationships with the corresponding classification, by Corentin ROUJIN (Belgique)

Jacques Maniez

Report from the 3rd Russian ISKO Conference, 12 June 1997 at Sudak, Crimea, Ukraine

"Linguistic Support of Information Retrieval Systems" was the general topic of the Russian ISKO Conference held on the June 12, 1997 at Sudak, Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine. The First Russian ISKO Conference "Knowledge Organization: Problems and Tendencies" was organized in Moscow, May 10-14, 1993 (the materials have been published in KO 1993. Vol. 20, 4). The Second one - "Knowledge Organization and Linguistic aspects", - in Moscow, on May 16-18, 1995 (information - KO. 1995. Vol. 22. 2. P. 92-94).

This Third Conference partly coincided with the Fourth International Conference "Crimea-97. Libraries and Associations in the Transaction World: New Technologies and New Forms of Cooperation".

Some 13 papers had been arranged in 3 sessions: "Classification systems", "Linguistics problems", "Information retrieval systems". More than 60 participants were present, for instance from Sweden, Russia, Ukraine and other states. In the following we will mention some of the most important contributions to the conference.

Dr. Miguel BENITO's (Swedish School of Library and Information Science, Borås, Sweden) presented a comparative study of the three universal classification systems: Dewey DC, UDC and the SAB - Swedish classification system (Klassifikationssystem för svenska bibliotek). SAB uses letters for the notation of call numbers and is therefore more flexible. Using letters makes it possible to denote a large amount of subjects with only three or four positions. The paper contains a large number of very interesting examples showing various synthetic possibilities of the DDC, UDC and SAB.

The Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology (NPLS&T) is engaged in the Russian adaptation of Dewey Decimal Classification (the 21st. edition). The paper of Dr. Ekaterina ZAITSEVA analyses terminological and other problems arising during the preparation of the Russian edition. The

experience of the Russian NPLS&T in DDC mastering was described.

Problems of adequate translation of specialized (classification) terminology used in the DDC manuals and practical guides were discussed by Dr. Eduard SUKIASYAN (Russian State Library) in his paper. The analysis has shown that in each classification system (DDC, UDC, LBC, et al.) there are certain terminological particularities. To solve the problem, two approaches are possible: a) by means of Russian 'general categories' or b) by finding equivalents for each terminological system. In practice, both approaches are to be used. For the DDC system, an explanatory dictionary (a Russian term, its definition, an English term) and an English-Russian Dictionary for specialists have been compiled. Similar dictionaries can be compiled for any classification system. As a result, a "depth classification dictionary" (according to S.R. Ranganathan) can be compiled.

Dr. Viktor ZVEREVICH from European University at St. Petersburg, Russia, gave some examples of using DDC for indexing the "Rossica" (literature about Russia) Section in the Library of the university. All staff members in the library have a fluent knowledge of the English language, and use the DDC in the original American edition. DDC 21 has a very extended chronology of the Russian history, but some methodological questions, judging by the material available, have not been solved. That leads to different classification solutions for the same document classified at the Library of Congress and the British Library.

Chief of the processing department of the NPLS&T Lubov SOLOVYOVA presented results of comparative analyses of the two systems - DDC and UDC - from the point of similarity and peculiarity.

Dr. Nina GOLODNOVA, Chief of the LBC department of the Russian State Library spoke about the modernization of the national classification system. She defined the aims, directions, problems, conditions of the program of LBC modernization. In 1997 a revised version of the LBC tables for public libraries (in one volume) was published. The medium (4-5 volumes) LBC tables are being worked out. The immediate task is to solve the problem of Division A (formerly "Marxizm-Leninizm") - at present it is empty - and to remake specialized variants of local studies catalogs and files.

The paper by Prof. Natalia GENDINA from Kemerovo State Institute of Arts and Culture was devoted to the formation of the linguistic software theory for information retrieval systems. Special attention was given to the application of technological approach to the development of the theory. The current state and prospects of the linguistic software for

library technologies, as well as its composition, structure, and functions were analyzed.

The report of Dr. Vladimir SHIROKOV (Kiev) concerned the Proceedings of the Ukrainian Linguistic Information Fund, National Academy of sciences of Ukraine, in computational lexicography. On the basis of information theory of lexicographic systems developed in the Fund, a unified approach has been proposed to design an intellectual dictionary systems which can be used as the main linguistic tools. The perspective of application of the computer-linguistic methods in library processes was under discussion. It was emphasized that advanced lexicographic systems possess necessary resources to support any reasonable taxonomic scheme.

Dr. Ekaterina ZAITSEVA informed the audience about the results of the NPLS&T in creating local network technology of verbal document search patterns checking, translation of subject headings into key term language, maintenance of grammar dictionaries and thesauri for documental databases.

The paper of Dr. Olga LAVRIONOVA (Russian State Library) discussed the issues of machine-readable classifications, subject headings, key-words, thesauri, and authority files in automated systems, and considered them from the viewpoint of interlibrary cooperation.

A considerable experience has been accumulated in Russia in the creation of descriptor dictionaries and in their studies on the online search with descriptors. Meanwhile, online search with subject headings still remains poorly developed. This has given impetus to the studies on differences between the two types of the search. The paper of Evgenia CHERNOZATONSKAYA (Institute for Information for Social Sciences and Humanities of the Russian Academy of Sciences, INION, Moscow, Russia) gives details of subject search techniques and problems of searching in some major Internet-accessible US catalogs. The difference between phrase and keyword indexing is explained, and its impact on search results is examined. Some remarks are made on the design of online catalogs in Russia, including subject authority files and related search problems.

On the basis of indexing practice of Russian information services and libraries, Dr. Eduard SUKIASYAN attempts to present a set of indexing terms (classification numbers and subject headings) that are used in the bibliographic records of the Russian shared cataloging center. The organization responsible for each indexing system has been appointed, and the problems of center efficiency to be solved have been formulated.

Second report, delivered by Evgenia CHERNOZATONSKAYA (INION) was prepared by an expert team and describes the process of designing the

authority files for subject headings in the INION. The subject catalog of the Institute has existed since 1924. At present it contains 270.000 headings with subheadings that cover all social sciences and humanities. The relations between subject headings include thesaurus and references "See" and "See also". However, the enormous size of the subject headings list did not allow the staff to transform it into a computer file. As a result, in 1990, another approach was accepted, which implied entering only new subject headings into a database with a full authority file structure. From 1994, a bibliographic format for books in the Institute has received subject headings. During this time the total of 12.000 different subject headings have been recorded, subheadings excluded. This list was extracted from bibliographic databases and thoroughly revised, with the aim of making a subject authority file out of it eventually.

The concluding panel discussion was devoted to the ISKO activities in Russia. We are happy to announce that the Russian ISKO Chapter has begun preparations for the Fourth Russian ISKO Conference - in May, 1999 at Moscow "Knowledge Organization in Culture and Art". Please, help to distribute this information among those engaged in classification systems, thesauri, and software in the spheres of culture and art. Our contact address: Dr. Eduard Sukiasyan, Russian ISKO Chapter, Russian State Library, 3 Vozdvizhenka Str., Moscow, 101000, Russia. FAX (095) 200 22 55. E-mail: irgb@glas.apc.org

Eduard Sukiasyan