

IC

CLASSIFICATION

INTERNATIONAL

Devoted to Concept Theory
Systematic Terminology &
Organization of Knowledge

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Issues and Cases

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INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

Devoted to Concept Theory, Systematic Terminology and Organization of Knowledge

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I.C. Vol. 14 (1987) No. 2

Rada, R.: Connecting and evaluating thesauri. Issues and cases.
Int: *Classif.* 14 (1987) No. 2, p. 63-69, 36 refs.

Connecting and evaluating thesauri is an important task for the systematic development of better information retrieval systems. Connecting thesauri includes not only determining when terms in different thesauri are the same but also determining what kinds of relationships can be transferred from one thesaurus to another. This paper first presents issues in connecting and evaluating thesauri. Various experiments in connecting a particular thesaurus, the Medical Subject Headings, with other medical thesauri are described. In these experiments, similar terms in two thesauri are recognized and then differences in two thesauri are exploited to create more powerful thesauri. Part of the evaluation requires the thesaurus to support automatic indexing and retrieving of documents.

(Author)

Satija, M.P.: History of book numbers.

Int: *Classif.* 14 (1987) No. 2, p. 70-76, 38 refs.

The history of book numbers starts only with Melvil Dewey, as before him books were shelved in fixed location systems. The article traces the early attempts by Dewey himself to combine class numbers with author numbers and shows the development in the individualization of book numbers by a great number of classificationists and classifiers, among which J. Schwartz, W.S. Biscoe, Ch.A. Cutter, K.E. Sanborn, J.D. Brown, A.F. Rider and finally S.R. Ranganathan whose faceted structure and ease of application of book numbers seems still to be the optimal solution. Two rival systems of book numbers are alphabetical by author and chronological by the year of publication of a book. The concluding chapter is devoted to the existing literature on book numbers and laments its vanishing quantity. The study of book numbers is not getting due attention.

(Author)

Raj, P.: Depth Colon Classification schedule for anaesthesiology: Construction and test application.

Int: *Classif.* 14 (1987) No. 2, p. 77-84, 9 refs.

Guidelines, principles and systematic approach outlined in the 7th edition of Colon Classification scheme were adopted for the construction of a depth classification schedule for anaesthesiology as applied to various surgical and obstetrical procedures carried out on the human body. The procedural steps in designing the schedule are discussed with supporting tables and examples compiled from the schedule of isolates. The workability of the schedule was tested by facet analysing, classifying and arranging a few abstracts pertaining to anaesthesiology guided by the principles of facet-analysis and the analytico-synthetic procedure for classifying. An alphabetical index to the schedule of isolates and a cyclically permuted index to the test-classification have been prepared; the methodology for the same is described as well.

(Author)

Bielicka, L.A., Paciejewki, J., Scibor, E.: Classification and indexing languages in Poland (1974-1986). Pt. II.

Int: *Classif.* 14 (1987) No. 2, p. 85-89, 101 refs.

Continuation of article in *Int. Classif.* 87-1, p.23-28. The first three chapters covered: General problems of indexing languages (ILs), Structure of indexing languages, and Indexing and information retrieval. In chapters 4-7 the following topics are treated: Classification systems (development, UDC, faceted classifications, subject-field classifications); Subject heading languages (positional grammar, subject-heading and subject-headings, methodology of creating alphabetical subject catalogues, alphabetical subject indexes to classified catalogues); Descriptor languages (general studies and the grammar of descriptor languages, formalized descriptions of thesauri, linguistic analysis of the vocabulary contained in thesauri, semantic relationships in thesauri, roles, methodology of building up thesauri, information on descriptor languages used in Poland); Other indexing languages (ILs for factographic systems, semantic code).

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.

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.

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.-.)

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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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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