



# KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION

formerly

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL  
Devoted to Concept Theory,  
Classification, Indexing,  
and Knowledge Representation

Envisaging the Art of  
Navigating Conceptual Complexity

Symbolic and Sub-symbolic  
Knowledge Organization

VOCON: Vocabulary Control Online  
in MicroISIS Databases

Chaos or order? Aby Warburg's Library  
of Cultural History

Indexing Languages, new Progress in China

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# KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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**Vol.22(1995)No.1**

Judge, A.: **Envisaging the art of navigating conceptual complexity. In search of software combining artistic and conceptual insights.**

Knowl.Org. 22(1995)No.1, p. 2-9, 58 refs.

This paper is concerned with approaches to the design and production of a software package to demonstrate the feasibility of enhancing comprehension, and navigating complexity, using features uniquely dependent upon the The concern here is with the design of a software package to demonstrate how the power of both "scientific" and "artistic" approaches may be integrated to enhance comprehension and navigation of complexity — as well as offering new forms of creativity in response to complex policy conditions. riches and subtleties of artistic insight.

(Author)

Chowdhury, G.G., Neelameghan, A., Chowdhury, S.: **VOCON: Vocabulary Control Online in MicroISIS Databases**

Knowl.Org. 22(1995)No.1, p. 18-22, 5 refs.

Discusses the need for facilities for online vocabulary control and standardization of terms, codes, etc., so as to secure consistency in naming of subjects, objects, countries, languages, etc., in databases at data entry stage. Most information storage and retrieval packages for microcomputers including MicroIsis provide for online vocabulary control in formulating search expressions for information retrieval, but not at the data entry stage. VOCON.PAS is a Pascal interface program for use with MicroIsis software for (a) online selection of term(s) and/or code(s) from vocabulary control tools, such as a thesaurus, a subject heading list, a classification scheme, and nomenclature lists.

(Authors)

Huth, M.: **Symbolic and Sub-symbolic Knowledge Organization in the Computational Theory of Mind.**

Knowl.Org. 22(1995)No.1, p. 10-17, 14 refs.

We sketch the historic transformation of culturally grown techniques of symbol manipulation, such as basic arithmetic in the decimal number system, to the full-fledged version of the Computational Theory of Mind. Symbol manipulation systems had been considered by Leibniz as a methodology of inferring knowledge in a secure and purely mechanical fashion. Such 'inference calculi' were considered as mere artefacts which could not possibly encompass all human knowledge acquisition. In Alan Turing's work one notices a crucial shift of perspective. The abstract mathematical states of a Turing machine (a kind of „calculus universalis“ that Leibniz was looking for) are claimed to correspond to equivalent psychological states. Artefacts are turned into faithful models of human cognition. A further step toward the Computational Theory of Mind was the physical symbol system hypothesis, contending to have found a necessary and sufficient criterion for the presence of 'intelligence' in operative mediums. This, together with Chomsky's foundational work on linguistics, led naturally to the Computational Theory of Mind as set out by Jerry Fodor and Zenon Pylyshyn. We discuss problematic aspects of this theory. Then we deal with another paradigm of the Computational Theory of Mind based on network automata. This sub-symbolic paradigm seems to avoid problems occurring in symbolic computations, like the *frame problem* and *graceful degradation*.

(Author)

Friman, M., Jansson, P., Suominen, V.: **Chaos or order? Aby Warburg's Library of Cultural History and its classification.**

Knowl. Org. 22(1995)No.1, p. 23-29, 30 refs.

The classification system of the Warburg Institute library, London, UK, is considered. First, a brief review of the scholarly work of Aby Warburg and the history of this library is given to illustrate the background of the classification. The classification is described and its basic features are clarified with examples. Finally, the classification of the Warburg Institute library is contrasted with ordinary classification thinking in library and information science.

(Authors)

Hong Yi: **Indexing languages, new progress in China.**

Knowl.Org. 22(1995)No.1, p. 30-32, 3 refs.

This paper highlights the current situation in the field of indexing language research and practice in China, covering a variety of classifications and thesauri as well as such matters as: standardization and compatibility of indexing languages, natural language processing, Chinese PRECIS, etc. The author points out various problems and future trends in the Chinese indexing languages field.

(Author)

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## 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 products and commodity science  
terminology, lexicography and linguistics

Beginning 1974, KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION (formerly 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 survey, 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 basics of classification, data analysis 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 for 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. The contributions are refereed.

*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 its 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 contribution* 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 on 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 behind a word 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 titles of the publication, abbreviation of the journal according to the ISO Standard 4, volume number, year of

## Aims

Thus, KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION 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.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION publishes original articles, reports on conferences and similar communications, the Newsletters of the International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO News) and the Committee on Classification Research of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID/CR News) as well as book reviews, letters to the editor, and an extensive annotated bibliography of recent classification and indexing literature, covering now some 500 items in each issue.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION 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.

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