

# KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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García-Barriocanal, Elena, Miguel A. Sicilia, and Salvador Sanchez-Alonso. **Usability Evaluation of Ontology Editors.** *Knowledge Organization*, 32(1). 1-9. 27 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** Ontology editors are software tools that allow the creation and maintenance of ontologies through a graphical user interface. As the semantic web effort grows, a larger community of users for this kind of tool is expected. New users include people not specifically skilled in the use of ontology formalisms. In consequence, the usability of ontology editors can be viewed as a key adoption precondition for semantic web technologies. In this paper, the usability evaluation of several representative ontology editors is described. This evaluation is carried out by combining a heuristic pre-assessment with a subsequent user-testing phase. The target population is comprised of people with no specific ontology-creation skills that have a general knowledge about domain modelling. For this kind of user, current editors are adequate for the creation and maintenance of simple ontologies. Also, there is room for improvement, especially in browsing mechanisms, help systems, and visualization metaphors.

Lee, Hur-Li, and Hope A. Olson. **Hierarchical Navigation: An Exploration of Yahoo! Directories.** *Knowledge Organization*, 32(1). 10-24. 37 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** Although researchers have theorized the critical importance of classification in the organization of information, the classification approach seems to have given way to the alphabetical subject approach in retrieval tools widely used in libraries, and research on how users utilize classification or classification-like arrangements in information seeking has been scant. To better understand whether searchers consider classificatory structures a viable alternative to information retrieval, this article reports on a study of how 24 library and information science students used Yahoo! directories, a popular search service resembling classification, in completing an assigned simple task. Several issues emerged from the students' reporting of their search process and a comparison between hierarchical navigation and keyword searching: citation order of facets, precision vs. recall, and other factors influencing searchers' successes and preferences. The latter included search ex-

pertise, knowledge of the discipline, and time required to complete the search. Without a definitive conclusion, we suggest a number of directions for further research.

Chaudhry, Abdus Sattar, and Goh Hui Ling. **Building Taxonomies Using Organizational Resources: A Case of Business Consulting Environment.** *Knowledge Organization*, 32(1). 25-46. 33 refs.

**ABSTRACT:** Taxonomies are becoming an increasingly important tool for companies to effectively manage information, particularly in the business consulting environment, where information is considered a main asset and a key product. This paper describes a case study of developing a taxonomy system for a regional business consulting company. The taxonomy, consisting of 12 main categories and approximately 500 terms, was built based on the existing knowledge structure and information needs of consultants in a selected company. This prototype can be conveniently utilised and adapted by other companies in their efforts to develop their own taxonomy system.