
KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

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Feature

Kasten, Joseph. **Thoughts on the Relationship of Knowledge Organization to Knowledge Management.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(1), 9-15. 11 references.

ABSTRACT: As the literature in both knowledge organization and knowledge management continues to flourish and address issues common to both fields, it becomes more difficult to delineate the boundaries of each discipline. By exploring the relationship between them, as well as the knowledge environment within which a knowledge management system must operate, it is clear that much of the functionality subsumed under the heading of knowledge management requires a strong knowledge organization foundation to support it. By understanding the differences between these two disciplines, as well as the areas of inquiry within knowledge organization that are essential to the successful implementation of knowledge management systems, a wide field of fruitful research directions becomes apparent for both knowledge organization and knowledge management researchers.

Articles

Munk, Timme Bisgaard Munk and Mørk, Kristian. **Folksonomy, The Power Law & the Significance of the Least Effort.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(1), 16-33. 41 references.

ABSTRACT: The essence of folksonomies is user-created descriptive metadata as opposed to the traditional sender-determined descriptive metadata in taxonomies and faceted classification. We briefly introduce the beginning and principles of folksonomy and discuss the categorizing concept of folksonomies on the basis of the computer program *del.icio.us*. The selection of the metadata tagged is not accidental, rather tagging follows a pattern that proves to be the pattern for the classic power law, which, in many complex systems is seen to unfold as an imitation-dynamic that creates an asymmetry, where a few descriptive metadata are often reproduced and the majority seldom reproduced. In *del.icio.us*, it is the very broad and basic subject headings that are often reproduced and achieve

power in the system—which in cognitive psychology is called cognitive basic categories—while the small, more specific subject headings are seldom reproduced. The law of power's underlying imitation-dynamic in *del.icio.us* is explained from the perspective of different theoretical paradigms, i.e. network, economy and cognition. The theoretical and speculative conclusion is that the law of power and asymmetry is biased by a cognitive economizing through a simplification principle in the users construction of descriptive metadata. Free tagging in folksonomies is comparable to empirical experiments in free categorization. Users often choose broad basic categories, because that requires the least cognitive effort. The consequences are that folksonomy is not necessarily a better, more realistic and cheaper method of creating metadata than that which can be generated through taxonomies, faceted classification or search algorithms. Folksonomy as a self-organizing system likely cannot create better and cheaper descriptive metadata.

M. P. Satija. **Book Numbers in India with Special Reference to the Author Table for Indian Names Designed and Used by the National Library of India.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(1), 34-40. 7 references.

ABSTRACT: A book number takes shelf arrangement of documents to a point where classification *per se* cannot. Class number alone is not able to uniquely individualise a document on the library shelves. The function of a book number starts from where that of the class number ends. An author number also brings together all the books by one author in one specific subject. A chronological book number will clearly portray the development of a subject over a given period. Book numbers are indispensable for a shelflist. The National Library (NL) of India at Kolkata has a collection of about 3 million documents. For organizing its contents it uses the DDC and the shelf arrangement is by Cutter's three figure author table. For Indian names it uses its home-made author table described here. Though the National Library table is designed especially for Indian names across all religions and regional cultures, yet its use outside the National Library has not been reported mostly due lack of marketing. Since 1961 the Indian cultural names have undergone many changes. The need is to revise and update the table to reflect the current culture and new authors across India.

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D'Ambrosio, Donna M. **Conceptualizing Metadata via Repertory Grids: Exploring a Method for the Development of Domain-specific Systems for Knowledge Organization.** *Knowledge Organization*, 34(1), 41-57. 28 references.

ABSTRACT: This investigation was undertaken to explore the prospect of using the repertory grid structured interview technique as a tool for creating metadata. The following question is considered: Could Repertory Grid technique be used as a tool in the creation of metadata? It is postulated that repertory grid technique may be used as a tool for creating metadata labels, or tags, where the labels or tags describe entities, which may be images, documents or expressions. Repertory grid technique can provide a method for examining the detail about an individual's mental models, or personal construct systems of lifeworld entities, which may include images, documents or expressions. The question were considered by looking at the results of an earlier study, which explored the personal constructs of systems analysts using the repertory grid technique to examine the mental conceptualizations that determine the

extent of difference in conceptualization. Categorical core areas of expressions used during software requirements development emerge through classification of the conceptualizations of expressions elicited via the repertory grid interviews. Repertory grid also reveals, through cluster analysis, the subtle difference in the way each participant conceptually related one expression to another expression. The differences in conceptual relationship of expressions or concepts could represent insight about how people view entities of a lifeworld. In a situation where metadata are used to label entities of a lifeworld for organization and retrieval of information, the differences in conceptual relationships might influence the metadata created and how they are used in the lifeworld for the organization and retrieval of information.

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