

Caveat Fractal: Dissecting The Body of Indexing Theory, Uncovering Complexity, and Moving Toward Performativity

Knowledge Organization
Research Group @ the
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Perspectives – Purposes, Philosophies, and Systems:

Purpose of the Process of Subject Analysis
Provide Best Textual Means to an End
Bring Together Knowledge of a Like Kind
Epistemological Potential for Future Users
Information Retrieval
Knowledge Organization for Effective Use (against IR)
Reflect Essential Rather than Incidental Characteristics of a Document
Reject what is Not Required and Select What is Usable
Retrieval of Documents
Make Use of Recorded Knowledge and Wisdom

Purpose of Information Systems
Provide Best Textual Means to an End
Retrieval (the mechanical variant of delegated information supply)
Satisfy Information Need
To Point to Types of Documents

Philosophical Schools

Epistemic Categories

Epistemology
Essence
Etiology
Metaphysics
Objectivity
As Agreement with Reality
As Independent of the Individual Who Apprehends
As Judged by History
Reality
Truth [8]

Three major parts: Perspectives,
Elements and Steps, and
Environment/ Ethopoeia

Elements and Steps:

[Step 1] Pre-Analysis Process
Level of Indexing
Automatic, human, or hybrid approach
Tool provision

[Element 1] Documental (physical and conceptual element)
Objective and Subject Properties (Conceptual elements)
Message in Text in a Medium (conceptual and physical elements)
Superstructure
Model Document
Parts of the Document
Genre

Types of Documents
[Step 2] Document Analysis
Scanning
Perceptual
Conceptual
Reading
Top-down
Bottom-up
Microstructural Analysis

Listing
Contexts
Cast of Characters
Collage of Impressions
All Contexts
[Evaluation 1]
Analysis by Indexer Independent of the Text's Self-Description
Essentials
Impartiality
Professional Knowledge Interests
Utility of Document
Specification of Writing
Likeness (collocation or grouping)

[Element 2] Subject (mental element)
Cast of Characters
Concrete, Concrete, and Processes
[Step 3] Subject Description Process
THE Subject (underdetermined) Methods
Purposeful Way
Immediate
Remote
Ultimate
Overt
Ullterior
History
Context
Figure-Ground Way
Omnipresence
Dominance
Counting References to Items Way
Grouping Membership
Delineation
Appeal to Unity/Appeal to Rules of Selection and Rejection

Form Methods
Form of Knowledge [12]
Topics
Specializations
Form of Writing
Category Methods
Division
PMEST
Fundamental Categories (other than PMEST)
Integrative Levels

Reading Methods
Hierarchical Compression and Summarization
Construction Rule
Selection Rule
Generalization Rule
Zero Rule
Reduction Method
By Analysis
By Constitution
By Recapitulation
By Selection

[Element 3] Subject Description (mental element)
Reading Element
Misrepresentation (lowest possible)
Argument for Description
Description
Hypothesis
Prognosis
Evaluation

[Step 4] Subject Analysis Process
[Step 4.1] Naming
[Step 4.2] Transition into Index Language
As anticipation
As epistemological potential
As objective
Evaluation 11
Zachary Economy of Tools and Jobs

Purpose of the Process
[Step 5] Construction of Index Entry
Representation in a single place or not?
Multiple a problem or not?
Degree of probability as concern or not?
Using few words and symbols a concern or not?
Pre-ordered or Post-ordered or neither?
Rounds and Levels?

[Element 4] Subject Entry
As correct
Statement and Amplification
[Step 6] Evaluation of Subject Entry
User Interpretation of the Entry
Indexer Interpretation of the Entry
Relation to the Collection
Relation to Other Documents in the Collection
Historical/Material Evidence for Predicting the Informative Potential [8]

Labor Re-conceptualization

"I've often said that every poem solves something for me in life. I go so far as to say that every poem is a momentary stay against the confusion of the world.... We rise out of disorder into order. And the poems I make are little bits of order." [13]

Performativity, [5]
Transverse Poetics, [6] and
How Does a Poem Mean? [7]

Question: How does our understanding of indexing as a complex act inform design and evaluation approaches?

Meta-theoretical Analysis [1]
Neo-pragmatic Epistemic Stance [2]

Interpretation [3]

Representation [3]



The common understanding of indexing is a simple two-step process that happens once and only once

Answer: By incorporating the ideas of functional poetry and a temporal metric we can "program" (line up into meaningful order) the complexity of indexing into a performance and from there understand the benefit of the act of this utilitarian work with an aesthetic sensibility of form, execution, and a labor of expression. Indexing to help individuals fully realize their potential and to help them on the path to self-actualization.

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[9] Tennis, J. T. (2007). "Subject Writing in the Semantic Web." In *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*, 43(4/3): 85-104.
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The past is not dead, it is living in us, and will be alive in the future which we are now helping to make. [11]

Time: Long, Medium, and Short [4, 9, 10]

It took me years to understand that words are often as important as experience, because words make experience last. [11]

History has remembered the kings and warriors, because they destroyed; art has remembered the people, because they created. [11]

So long as the system of competition in the production and exchange of the means of life goes on, the degradation of the arts will go on; and if that system is to last for ever, then art is doomed, and will surely die; that is to say, civilization will die. [11]

The reward of labour is life. Is that not enough? [11]