Creation of PG thesis abstract database of MPKV, Rahuri: Practical experience

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ABSTRACT

Revolutionary changes in library services are taking place with the advent of Information Technology. It is now easier and faster to search required information through modern IT Tools like CD ROM Databases Internet, etc. This paper discusses the importance of Databases and how the University Library has created their own Electronic Theses Abstracts Database for M.Sc. (Agri), and Doctoral Dissertations available with flexible/user friendly retrieval system.

Keywords: Databases: types, advantages, ETAD (E-theses abstracts database): Data feeding sheet, Data storage, Data retrieval system.

INTRODUCTION

Today Information is power and providing right information to the right user at the right time is an integral part of the library services. Information plays an important role in agricultural research and development. Agricultural Libraries are performing tripartite functions for disseminating information mainly for education, research and extension. In the IT environment the information handling and searching through network or computer system is more flexible, more comprehensive, more convenient and economical. A computer based system for storing and retrieving information through databases, portals, OPAC is a need of time for every libraries. The user can now find thousands of references on a particular terms in just one click. With the advent of information technology, revolutionary changes are taking place. Electronic media like CD-ROM databases are the modern IT tools for retrieval of information. Conversion of print media into digital form (digitization) with retrieval tools is

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difficult task and challenging job. But it is the need of time.

DATABASES DEFINITION

In computing, a database can be defined as a structured collection of records or data that is stored in a computer so that a program can consult it to answer queries. The records retrieved in answer to queries become information that can be used to make decisions....A collection of related data stored in one or more computerized files in a manner that can be accessed by users or computer programs via a database management system. Data stored in a computer in such a way that a computer program can easily retrieve and manipulate the data. A database in an organized collection of computer records. The most common type of database consists of records describing articles in periodicals otherwise known as a periodical index. ... A database is an electronic filing collection of information that is organized so that it can easily be accessed, managed, and updated. A structured collection of information in computerized format, searchable by various types of queries; in libraries, often refers to electronic catalogs and indexes. The database is structured to facilitate the search and retrieval of information contained in the database. ...Relational data structure used to store, query, and retrieve information.

Types: There are number of types of databases.

Text, graphics and audio information grouped by what they have in common databases provide various formats of information. Different databases provide different kinds of information.

Library Catalogues: Catalogues covering the holdings (books, journals, reports, theses etc) of one or more libraries.

Bibliographic Databases: Bibliographic databases provide a descriptive record of an item, but the item itself is not provided in the database. Information about the item is provided, including such things as author, title, subject, publisher, etc. The information provided is called a citation. Sometimes a short summary or abstract of the item is provided as well. Examples of bibliographic databases include the GALILEO database Social Sciences Abstracts, or the Internet Movie Database on the World Wide Web.

Full-text Databases: A full-text database provides the full-text of a publication. For instance, Research Library in GALILEO provides not only the citation to a journal article, but often the entire text of the article as well. "College Source Online" offers full-text of 20,000 college catalogs, so rather than having to request a catalog from several colleges to make comparisons, you can gather information from all colleges you're interested in at one time.

Factual Databases: Some databases provide **numeric** information, such as statistics or demographic information. Examples of these are (link will open in a pop-up window) Census Bureau databases and databases containing stock market information.

Image/audio visual Databases: There are some databases that collect only image information (EBSCOhost image collection), audio information (MP3 or wav files), or a combination of any of the above types (CNN). CNN's site has a search option that provides access to news articles and the original video and audio files that accompanied them. Try the link below for a look at the combination of information types in CNN's database.

Meta-databases: Meta-databases are databases that allow one to search for content that

is indexed by other databases. Jake and GOLD are examples of this kind of database. If you find a citation for an article in one of the bibliographic databases and want to determine if the article is available in full-text in another database, you could do a search for the journal in jake to get a list of all the databases that index that specific publication and whether those databases include it in full-text.

ADVANTAGES

Advantages of a database include the sharing of information to reduce redundancy. This reduction in redundancy improves the quality and integrity of the database allowing for easy maintenance.

A database comprises one or more files that are structured in a particular way by a Database Management System (DBMS), and accessed through it.

The advantages of databases and Database Management Systems compared to sequential or indexed files are that:

- 1. data are stored in one place
- 2. data are structured and standardized
- 3. data from dissimilar sources may be interconnected and used jointly
- 4. data are amenable to verification
- 5. data may be accessed rapidly
- 6. data are available to many users
- 7. data may be used directly in many different application programs, including programs whose purpose differ from those for which the original data were compiled. The database can be stored in one location and consist of specific information. The display of the data to a particular user can take many forms depending on the needs of the user. Therefore, the internal representation of the data may be quite different from the external representation to the user.

Databases can included information in various forms:

- 1. integers
- 2. real (decimal)

- 3. character
- 4. dates
- 5. images and sound

Databases may be small or large limited in accessibility or widely accessible. Databases may be classified into four types:

- a. individual
- b. company (shared)
- c. distributed
- d. proprietary.

The individual database is also called a microcomputer database. It is a collection of integrated files primarily used by just one person. Typically, the data and the DBMS are under the direct control of the user. They are stored either on the user's hard-disk or on a LAN file server.

The company database may be stored on a mainframe and managed by a computer professional known as a database administrator. Users throughout the company have access to the database through their microcomputers linked to local area networks or wide area networks. Company database are of two types:

- 1. the common operational database contains details about the operations of the company, such as sales or production information;
- 2. the common user database contains selected information both from the common operational database and from outside private (proprietary) database. Managers can tap into this information on their microcomputers or terminals and use it for decision making.

Many times the data in a company is stored not in just one location but in several locations. It is made accessible through a variety of communications networks. The database, then is a distributed database. That is, it is located in a place or places other than where users are located. Typically, database servers on a client/server network provide the link between users and distant data.

A proprietary database is generally an enormous database that an organization develops to cover certain particular subjects. It offers access to this database to the public or seleted outside individuals for a fee. Sometimes proprietary databases are also called information utilities or databanks.

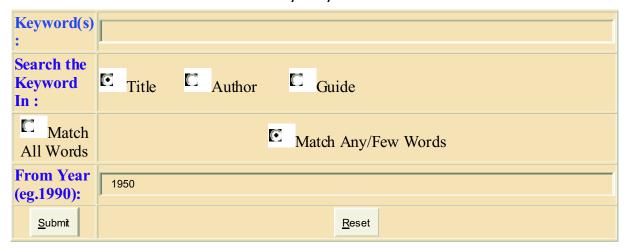
ETAD (ELECTRONIC THESES ABSTRACTS DATABASE) OF MPKV LIBRARY

Thesis or dissertation submitted by the students to the university content valuable findings. The MPKV Library has 5634 theses and dissertations of M.Sc. (Agri), Ph.D. B.Tech. (Agril. Engg), M.Tech. (Agril.Engg) in its collection. To create database of the same a software was developed from local professional with eighteen fields. The scanning of abstracts was done by HP Scanjet by using PrecisionScan Pro 3.02 program. The booleen operator such as 'and', ' or' 'not' are used in search module. The database created is presently available at http://mpkv.mah.nic.in. One can now retrieve this database from any corner of the globe free of cost.

View of Menu Bar



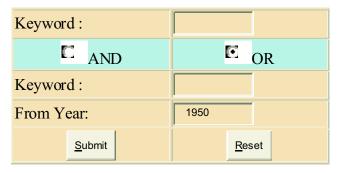
View of Author/Title/Guide search bar



Author Search Result



Please select page number to display from following table



View of Keyword search module

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