

17th Annual EDUG Meeting

Wednesday, 26 April 2023

1) Opening remarks and agenda

Harriet Aagaard welcomed members to the 17th Annual EDUG business meeting stating how pleased the symposium and meeting were being held in-person at the National Library of Norway. Harriet had prepared a few slides of photographs of past digital meetings and the last in-person meeting from 2019, which was held in Stockholm. She remarked how nice it was to see everyone face-to-face again rather than on screen.

Harriet covered the proposed agenda which would feature national reports. Unfortunately, Alex Kyrios was not able to attend but had sent a recording of his OCLC/EPC report. Ingebjørg Rype would discuss date stamps instead of Dewey edition at the National Library of Norway, followed by a discussion on whether individual EDUG members should be listed on the website. An outline/discussion on including notes and the approximate the whole rule in Dewey would conclude the discussions section. No additions were added to the agenda.

- 2) Minutes of the digital meeting 2022 *Approved*
- 3) National reports (brief summaries) *See reports in the Appendix.*
- 4) Report from OCLC/EPC See report in the Appendix.

5) Discussion/Information

a) Dates instead of edition (Norwegian National Library)

Following on from Ingebjørg Rype's presentation in the previous day's symposium https://edug.pansoft.de/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=229, Ingebjørg discussed in more detail the Norwegian National Library's implementation of the Dewey time stamp to replace the Dewey edition in the 082 MARC field.

In Norway, they record the time stamp as year, month and date. Ingebjørg noted that if using the printed version, you can record the year only, but this practice is not active in Norway and is a time stamp necessary if using the printed version? Ingebjørg asked if the history notes in WebDewey could be utilised, so a time stamp is not necessary and queried if this had been investigated.

The meaning of Dewey numbers can change depending on the date of classification – the recent change in graphic arts from 741.6 which is now used for Illustration was used as an example – which necessitates the need for a time stamp. Updated recommendations follow these rules:



- Always update the time stamp when classifying a new publication.
- 293.213to be verified in the Norwegian WebDewey first.
- If the class number has changed, record the new number in a separate 082 MARC field, retaining the original 082 Dewey number field. The time stamp is added to the new Dewey number only.
- If reusing classification from another language edition, always control the Dewey number using the Norwegian WebDewey, as not all language editions are updated at the same time.

Harriet Aagaard noted the Swedish National Library only uses the Swedish WebDewey, so they don't have the same issues across language editions, but also don't have the resources to reclassify when there has been a major Dewey change (like the graphic arts move). Harriet has requested for the time stamp to be an automatic addition to records, rather than a manual process, as they currently get the Dewey edition automatically in Swedish MARC records. It would be difficult to ask cataloguers to add this manually.

Terrance Mann stated the British Library are planning to implement and some of their partner agencies are already adding time stamps.

Tina Mengel provided some information from the translation perspective and the 685 MARC field for history in WebDewey. There is always a backlog for translation teams with regards to updates from the English language version. Some teams are very quick in updating their translation but there can be delays. There are plans to enrich the 685 field with a separate date field when the translation is published. This might be useful for other language versions as well.

Harriet commented that the time stamp in the 082 field has a different use case than the 685 field for the translation software teams.

Piero Cavaleri stated he was perplexed at the use of two Dewey numbers. In Italy they encourage classifiers to update numbers to the new classification. In Dewey, a number only has one meaning, not two. Theoretically, it is not good to maintain an older number that no longer exists in the schedules.

Harriet agreed with Piero, but noted it is different in Norway.

Ingebjørg noted the Norwegian National Library has no tradition of reclassifying, so it is common to have more than one Dewey number relating to different editions. Books on the shelves will often have the old number on the spine rather than the newer number. Piero understood the practical problem, as a lot of libraries in Italy are unable to update their records but noted that only one Dewey number is valid.

Harriet asked delegates to think about Dewey as linked data, and if a catalogue is old enough it will have Dewey numbers with different meanings, but that this is important information to retain. It would be better to reclassify but this can be an unrealistic expectation.



Unni Knutsen stated that in Norway, academic libraries have a shared catalogue so they cannot expect all libraries to reclassify. At the University of Oslo Library, they have reclassified graphic arts but they would not expect other libraries to do so.

Jean Maury said the BnF has a duty to be up to date. It is an exception to have two Dewey numbers – this is only used when the resource is about two different classes. In small libraries they use the Dewey number for call numbers but at the national library they use Dewey for indexing.

Neil Murray asked if the BnF were going to change from UniMARC to MARC21 to enable time stamps in MARC records.

Jean stated they would change from UniMARC to MARC21 so time stamps could be added.

Piero commented Italy has been using time stamps since 2018.

Patrick Sciamanna noted they are not yet using time stamps at the Swiss National Library, but it will hopefully be a future development.

b) Individual members on the EDUG website

Harriet initiated a discussion on how to treat individual members on the EDUG website. Currently the website lists institutional, affiliated and individual members (Peter Werling is currently the only individual member listed on the web), so the question posed was should individual members appear on the website? Taking into consideration GDPR individual members would need to agree to their details being published on the website. Is it valuable to list individual members?

Neil Murray commented that permission from individual members would need to be sought. He suggested that having contact details (including functional email address and name(s)) at national and affiliated level would be valuable and asked if the website already had that information included.

Harriet responded by saying we currently don't have that functionality built in but it was a good idea. The contact email addresses are currently more 'personal' but agreed it would be better to have an official library/corporate email for members. This would need to be an address that was actively used.

Ingebjørg commented it would be much better to have contact details for a person rather than a common address as you might never get an answer. It is better to have one or more points of contact.

Peter Werling noted he is not the 'typical' individual member but has no issue with his name or contact details being on the site, but confirmation would need to be sought from other



individual members. He agreed with Neil and Ingebjørg who have suggested one or more contacts for the institutional and affiliated members too. It would be good to ensure we had a contact person for each member.

Harriet mentioned the current EDUG Gmail address, which was supposed to act as a conduit for queries which would be forwarded to the appropriate members to answer. There are pros and cons to having direct contact details on the website. Spam emails can be an issue if contact details are published on an open site.

Neil did acknowledge that contact details would require constant updating and asked if this was something the committee had time to do. It would be useful to have the contacts but would be a lot of work to maintain.

Tina suggested a starting point of linking the official institutional websites, so visitors to the website could find out more about the members via their own web pages.

Harriet was in favour of Tina's suggestion and canvassed opinion. Neil agreed but said the institutions should be asked to provide a link to make sure it was to the appropriate web page.

Uma Balakrishnan felt both the link to the institutions website and a contact person would be the best option. Sometimes it can take too long searching on a website to find the right person to contact.

Kurt Schaefer preferred the option to add contact details for persons rather than a link to the institution's website. He used his library as an example whereby visitors to the site would not find any information online about Dewey. He added there was a way to stop spam emails by adding parenthesis to the email addresses when they are displayed on the EDUG website.

Unni Knutsen agreed it would be a good idea to link to the institution's website as well as providing a contact address. It would be up to the institution to suggest an appropriate email contact. At the University of Oslo Library, they have a Dewey contact address that is monitored daily. She noted that if an individual contact address was used that person may have retired, gone on holiday or left the position, so it would be really hard to update and maintain.

Harriet noted she would contact members after the meeting to ask what contact details and web page they would like displayed on the EDUG website. She also clarified that this would include affiliated as well as institutional members.



c) Including note & approximating the whole rule

Harriet started the discussion by voicing her displeasure of having to contend with many including notes when translating the Dewey schedules. She found difficulty in differentiating subjects in including notes and class here notes. Using a couple of examples to highlight the problems experienced, Harriet revealed it was sometimes easier to tweak a Dewey number rather than use an including note and that translating terms in captions also led to confusion – borders and edgings was difficult to differentiate the two terms in Swedish. Harriet wanted to send Alex Kyrios a good example which illustrated the difficulties she has experienced, with the hope there would be a review on the number of including notes in the Dewey schedules.

Terrance Mann was asked to talk about the approximate the whole rule and noted this is a Dewey rule that can even make experienced classifiers scratch their heads. The more abstract the topic, the harder it can be to apply. Trainees in particular struggle with it, which was noted by Jo Maxwell too. Trainees at BDS find it a difficult concept to grasp, especially when classifying advanced information. Twenty years ago, at the British Library, Lucy Evans, outlined the debate surrounding the approximate the whole rule in a 20+ page document, which was presented to the Editorial Policy Committee (EPC) who, at the time, found the theoretical arguments outweighed the practical concerns of application.

Terrance read out some training material from the British Library which explained the logic behind the rule. The approximate the whole rule exists to create standing room at general points in the schedules, so future expansions can be made without any immediate need to reclassify stock affected by changes. This logic *is* covered in the Dewey introduction but what isn't are the following key points:

- Specific topics which do not approximate the whole precede more general topics
 which have their own Dewey numbers, so will be shelved towards the left of a shelf,
 pending the creation of a number for those specific topics in the future.
- When the rule is waived, specific material is not solely located in the general but instead is scattered throughout the class resulting in scattered shelving.
- To add subdivisions or standard subdivisions to a topic that is unexpressed in the hierarchy with its own class number was the principal objection of the theorists years ago.

Disadvantages of the rule include the inability to express facets, which adversely affects retrieval. This is even more apparent now with the advancements made in contextual searching. The end user is missing out. Interfiling specific works with general ones at the same number (at the beginning of a shelf) runs contrary to the overall Dewey structure which moves from the general to the specific. There is an inconsistent approach to specificity in the schedules, with scatter notes which waive the approx. rule., or instructions to add further for a more specific topic (which effectively waives the rule). The multitude of class here notes also drive another nail in the coffin of the approx. rule.

At Alex's behest, the UK DDC User Forum held a special meeting to discuss the Lucy Evans' paper and concluded the Forum couldn't really put anything new together and both arguments in the paper still stand. Recommendations were sent to Alex which included a



thorough and complete review of the rule within the wider Dewey community, starting with EDUG. A review of the contextual searching developments which now exist was also deemed useful, to determine if missing facets *do* make a difference to information retrieval. The Forum also suggested if more new numbers could be assigned for emerging topics more quickly, classifiers wouldn't have to decide if they approximated the whole of the number. If they keep the rule there needs to be a much more explicit explanation in the introduction or specific official training materials, and more examples in the introduction. If the rule is retained, could it be modified, so below a certain level in the hierarchy, where the schedule is less likely to have expansion, it might be decided to waive the rule. This would enable local history and archaeology titles to be more accurately classified. Terrance concluded this is a very complex discussion but would like to open this out for wider debate.

Harriet agreed this was a very complex question but it was good to start the conversation. It was helpful to hear the issues involved. When training, Harriet has found new classifiers (and experienced colleagues too) 'forget' about the including note and approx. rule.

Elise Conradi asked if the paper Terrance alluded to could be circulated amongst EDUG members.

Harriet suggested a discussion throughout the year, with comments sent by email but Elise put forward the idea of a digital meeting. A date could be set later in the year and EDUG members could attend if they would like to discuss these issues further after reading the British Library's paper.

Terrance noted it was important to keep the momentum going and welcomed further discussions this year.

Harriet was pleased to open the discussion but acknowledged the complexities and the need for ongoing debate.

6) Issues and plans for 2024

a) EDUG 2024

Harriet expressed a desire to hold next year's symposium in the UK (possibly Edinburgh since EDUG 2020 was going to be held there but was cancelled due to the pandemic). If the British Library is unable to host another location would need to be found.

7) Other EDUG business

Harriet wanted to discuss next year as it is election year and she will not be continuing as EDUG Chair or an officer. The delegates were asked to think about the future of EDUG – Harriet noted the importance of EDUG to her as a translator and the Dewey work she does in Sweden. Without



EDUG they would not have a line of communication with OCLC or working relationship, giving the translators' regular meetings as an example.

No comments were made or notes of interest with regards to a position as an EDUG officer.

Kurt asked if future meetings would continue as hybrid or if they might alternate between inperson and online.

Harriet stated the meetings will continue in a hybrid format since people are interested in participating but might not have the means to travel. Unfortunately, Peter Werling's flight was cancelled so he was unable to attend in-person and Alex Kyrios was not able to travel. Both were able to participate via online connection.

Harriet closed the business meeting by thanking the National Library of Norway for hosting the symposium and business meeting and to all the delegates, both in-person and online, for attending.



Appendix: OCLC/EPC report and National reports

OCLC Report by Alex Kyrios, Editor

Although it has only been a little over six months since the last EDUG meeting, there have been some promising developments on OCLC's side in the meantime.

In February, we welcomed our second Editor in Residence, Kathryn Becker. Kathryn is working full time through the end of July. In keeping with the scope of the Editor in Residence Program, in which the incumbent focuses on specific topic areas, Kathryn has done a comprehensive review of the DDC's coverage of LGBTQ+ topics. She will be authoring multiple exhibits for EPC 144 to propose concrete changes as well as mapping out future changes that cannot be addressed in such a relatively short period of time.

Also related to ongoing efforts to address bias in the classification, we have addressed many terms that are no longer preferred in respectful English usage, e.g., "slaves" to "enslaved people", and Kathryn is working on others. We have received a proposal from the Library Association (Ireland)'s Cataloguing & Metadata Group to give provision for Irish Travellers, which will also prompt me to propose removing pejorative terminology used for them and the unrelated Romani people.

We held an electronic Meeting 143A in January for EPC. As of this writing, we are still exploring the feasibility of an in-person Meeting 144 this summer, which would likely be at OCLC headquarters in Dublin, Ohio.

Dewey as linked data is close to being realized. We are finalizing requirements and gaining approval from necessary parties in OCLC before asking Pansoft to proceed with development work, which will build off of the prototype they developed in coordination with OCLC and external collaborators, including members from EDUG institutions. DDC will form the backbone of concepts data for OCLC's linked data offerings.

We continue to have regular, fruitful meetings with representatives from the translation teams. Topics we have discussed include the sharing of built numbers across language versions and migrating the DDC Introduction, Manual, and Glossary into ESS for full integration with DDC applications (perhaps most notably the translation software).

Finally, I coauthored with Professor M.P. Satija of Guru Nanak Dev University a new book on the DDC: A Handbook of History, Theory and Practice of the Dewey Decimal Classification System, published earlier this year by Facet Press in the UK. It's intended as a practical guide in the tradition of his collaborations with DDC editors past. Please let me know if you are interested in translating it!



National report from Biblioteca Alexandria by Rania Osman

In 2023, the uploading of the Arabic translation of *Volume 4 Relative Index* is continued and is still work in progress. Almost 45 percent of the uploading and translation of *Volume 4 Relative Index* has been finalized. For reasons of approximation, the percentage is calculated based on the total number of *Relative Index* pages - not on the PANSOFT Translation Software box cells as should have been done. This was reported to the OCLC, who has recently been in communication with the DDC translation project manager and coordinator, to estimate when the uploading of the *Relative Index* will be finalized.

Moreover, the DDC translation project coordinator is closely in touch with PANSOFT to resolve some technical issues related to the translation software, which PANSOFT have generously responded to. Besides, 'tailored training sessions' on using the *PANSOFT International DDC Translation Software* have been continued to be delivered to groups of volunteers who have joined the Volume 4 Relative Index uploading phase. The sessions specifically targeted a group of students specialized in language and translation, and more groups of volunteers are expected to join the *Volume 4 Relative Index* uploading phase.

National report from Austria by Wolf-Dieter Lang

Unfortunately Austria has not yet become a "DDC-country", but nevertheless there are some activities:

- Austrian National Library

Karin Kleiber retired in October 2022. The 100 sections of the DDC will continue to be used for subject classification in the Austrian National Bibliography. In 2022, a classification training course was held for new staff members. Our thanks go to Heidrun Alex, who kindly served as lecturer for the 2021 DDC classification training. The recording of this event continues to serve as training material.

- Library and Archive Services of the University of Vienna (Universitätsbibliothek der Universität Wien)

University Library-University of Vienna: Since the launch of DA-3 the library has purchased licences for most of the subject librarians, and each year some were added. The feedback from the librarians is very positive and we really appreciate the convenience of the coli-conc and coli-ana integration. Although DDC numbers are not actively built, the chance of integration into the metadata set is increased by the very easy handling via DA-3.

Upper Austrian Federal State Library (Oberoesterreichische Landesbibliothek)

Continued classification of all books for open stacks with full DDC-numbers according to the latest German online edition.

New librarians received in-house training on the use of the DDC.



- AK Bibliothek Wien für Sozialwissenschaften

AK Bibliothek Wien für Sozialwissenschaften: Our colleague, Victoria Buschbeck, who was involved in Dewey work and represented her library in the EDUG community, is on leave from her library work for one and a half years. She plans to return to her position. We do not know if there will be a replacement for this time....

National report from the British library by Terrance Mann

The UK DDC User Forum continues to expand with members from both the public and academic sectors and now has representation from all countries in the UK except Northern Ireland. In March 2023, the Forum held a special meeting to discuss the approximate the whole rule, covering the theoretical reasons for it and the practical disadvantages of it, which will feed into a similar debate at EDUG this autumn. About twenty years ago, the Forum opened up a discussion about the approx. rule with the Dewey editors and it is hoped that the present talks will effectively reopen that debate. We are fortunate Alex Kyrios is open to improving and modifying the existing scheme to make Dewey more accessible.

National report from France by Jean Maury

At the BnF, since 2000, we have had and offered users a Dewey authority file.

The Dewey authority record is considered complete if it contains a DDC number and its corresponding caption. Optionally, the Dewey authority record may include any other information that is entered into the WebDewey, such as cross-referenced forms that relate to index terms and enable access. It also contains notes of the type: "Class here...", "Including"... Users can thus search the public catalog according to all these elements contained in the Dewey authority record.

For Captions, the file uses identical WebDewey terms, those featured and those formatted rejected.

For the latter, they come from the terms of the Index, others come from the terms that the BnF has added which are for example terms used more frequently, and from those from the Directory of Subject Headings (RVM), which have been added recently at the end of the year at WebDewey. The RVM is the subject directory used by the University of Laval in Quebec, and the French equivalents of the LCSH terms have been selected for WebDewey.

Example via WebDewey:



158.12 ▼ Personal improvement and analysis 158.12 ▼ Personal improvement and analysis through meditation 158.13 Personal improvement and analysis through mindfulness 158.15 Personal improvement and analysis based on personality tests 158.16 Personal improvement and analysis through writing

Notes +

Standard subdivisions are added for either or both topics in heading

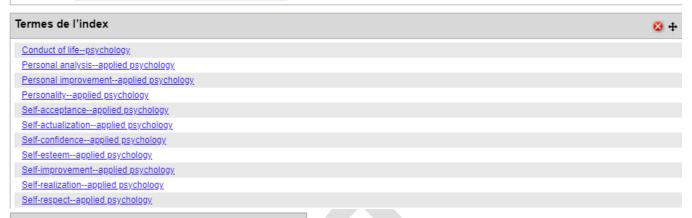
Class here works intended to make one a better person, to solve problems or to adjust to a life that does not meet one's expectations; works on specific systems and schools of applied psychology written for people who wish to be improved or analyzed

Class works on how to get along with other people in 158.2

Class works on specific systems and schools of applied psychology written for advisors and counselors to help them assist others in 158.9

Class comprehensive works on how to better oneself and how to get along with other people in 158

See Manual at 616.86 vs. 158.1, 204.42, 248.8629, 292-299, 362.29



Choix de vedettes-matière







Example of the authority record via the BnF catalog:

158.1 (23e éd.) = Amélioration et analyse personnelles

Ajouter les subdivisions communes pour chaque partie ou pour l'ensemble de l'intitulé

Classer ici les ouvrages pour aider à l'amélioration personnelle, pour résoudre les problèmes ou pour s'adapter aux déceptions de la vie ; les ouvrages sur les écoles et les systèmes particuliers de psychologie appliquée destinés aux personnes qui veulent s'améliorer ou s'analyser

Voir Guide 616.86 vs 158.1, 204.42, 248.8629, 292-299, 362.29

Classer ici les concepts RVM : l'autosuggestion, le but (psychologie), le changement (psychologie), la confiance en soi, le défaitisme, l'échec, l'estime de soi, les formules autosuggestives, le lacher prise, la Méthode Silva, le Moi Enfant, la motivation d'accomplissement, la programmation neurolinguistique (PNL), les Projets Slow life (Mouvement), la tranquillité d'esprit

Classer les ouvrages sur l'art de s'adapter aux autres à 158.2

Classer les ouvrages sur les écoles et les systèmes particuliers de psychologie appliquée destinés à aider les conseillers psychologiques dans leur travail à

Classer les ouvrages généraux sur l'art de s'améliorer et de s'adapter aux autres à 158

Forme(s) rejetée(s) :

- < Analyse de la personnalité
- < Amélioration de la personnalité
- < Confiance en soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Acceptation de soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Actualisation de soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Amélioration personnelle (psychologie appliquée)
- < Analyse personnelle (psychologie appliquée)
- < Conduite de vie (psychologie appliquée)
- < Estime de soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Personnalité (psychologie appliquée)
- < Réalisation de soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Règles de vie (psychologie appliquée)
- < Respect de soi (psychologie appliquée)
- < Programmation neurolinguistique (psychologie appliquée)
- < PNL (psychologie appliquée)
- < Autosuggestion
- < But (psychologie)
- < Changement (psychologie)
- < Défaitisme
- < Échec
- < Formules autosuggestives
- < Lacher prise
- < Méthode Silva
- < Moi Enfant
- < Motivation d'accomplissement
- < Slow life (Mouvement)
- < Tranquillité d'esprit

Identifiant de la notice : ark:/12148/cb13584452d

When there are WebDewey updates, this generates a lot of corrections in the Dewey authority file and sometimes even in the indexing of bibliographic records. It should be noted that the Dewey is used at the BnF both as a classification mark for documents but also as subject indexing, in conjunction with the Rameau Subject Authority Directory.

The general coordination makes it a point to be up to date as quickly as possible in order to comply with the 23rd edition.

Here is a typical example of a final project to be undertaken due to a change in WebDewey concerning number 745.4 for pure and applied design and decoration, which has become obsolete, the number has been transferred to 744. These corrections affect both the authorities concerned and the indexing of bibliographic records



One of the main tasks of the Dewey coordinator of the establishment also consists in enriching and modifying the status of elementary records without a label. They are present in the catalog because they were used before the Dewey authority file was created (before 2000) and were loaded as they were when the file was created.

Example of basic notices:

150	U	101.007 00007 (200 Cd.)	
96		761.2 (23e éd.) = Gravure sur bois	17
25		761.202 8 (23e éd.) = Gravure sur bois - Techniques, appareils et matériels	2
93	е	761.209 (23e éd.)	2
96	е	761.209 024 (23e éd.)	2
<u>98</u>	е	761.209 032 (23e éd.)	1
3 6	е	761.209 034 (23e éd.)	1
9 3	е	761.209 041 (23e éd.)	1
93	е	761.209 04309042 (23e éd.)	
93	е	761.209 22 (23e éd.)	1
9 3	е	761.209 41 (23e éd.)	1
96	е	761.209 42 (23e éd.)	2
93	е	761.209 4209033 (23e éd.)	1
2 43		761.209 4309024 (23e éd.) = Gravure sur bois - Europe centrale Allemagne - 1400-1499	3
657		761.209 4309024074 (23e éd.) = Gravure sur bois - Europe	1

Statistics

DEWEY AUTHORITIES FILE (April 2023)	
Full records	
	131 040
Basic notices	
	27 273
TOTAL	158 313



(2022) Monthly and Annual Production Statistics from Dewey Auth	orities
Dewey records created	
Dewey records or cated	3 716
Modified Dewey Records	
	7 821
Modified Dewey records > 3 months	
	5 697
Modified Dewey records < 3 months	

Dewey and Rameau as subject access complement each other well. We recognize an advantage with the Dewey, it is that it is universally used because since it is a question of numbers, and its double advantage is that it is, at the BnF, accompanied by its caption. Then the Dewey allows for cases where there are several subjects contained in a document to group the subjects, while Rameau specifies all the subjects.

Example when there are several hydraulic engineering concepts:

627 Hydraul	ic engineering
<u>6</u> 00 ▼ Te	chnology
<u>62</u> 0 ▼ Er	ngineering
627 H	ydraulic engineering
627[.0153	25] Hydrodynamics
<u>627.04</u> ▼	Special topics of hydraulic engineering
<u>627.092</u>	Hydraulic engineers
<u>627.1</u> ▼	Inland waterways
<u>627.2</u> ▼	Harbors, ports, roadsteads
<u>627.3</u> ▼	Port facilities
<u>627.4</u> ▼	Flood control
<u>627.5</u> ▼	Reclamation, irrigation, related topics
<u>627.7</u> ▼	Underwater operations
<u>627.8</u> ▼	Dams and reservoirs
<u>627.9</u> ▼	Other hydraulic structures



Sometimes the Dewey can translate a subject better than Rameau can and vice versa. Example a biography of a woman aviator (with the Rameau rule can only be reported the name of the aviator + biography).

629.130 082 (23e éd.) = Aéronautique - Étude en relation avec les femmes

Forme(s) rejetée(s) :

< Aviatrices

< Aviatrice

Notice n°: FRBNF13588301

Création : 01/01/01 Mise à jour : 21/12/14

Training

In February 2023, a one-day training in Dewey indexing was given at Mediadix, which is the regional center in Paris for training in careers for librarians.

During January and February 2023, 2 Dewey training sessions of 3 and a half days each took place at the BnF. It was a question, as every year, of training new catalogers including a common core part of the Dewey, another on the writing and constitution of Dewey authority records, and finally on the use of the WebDewey tool.

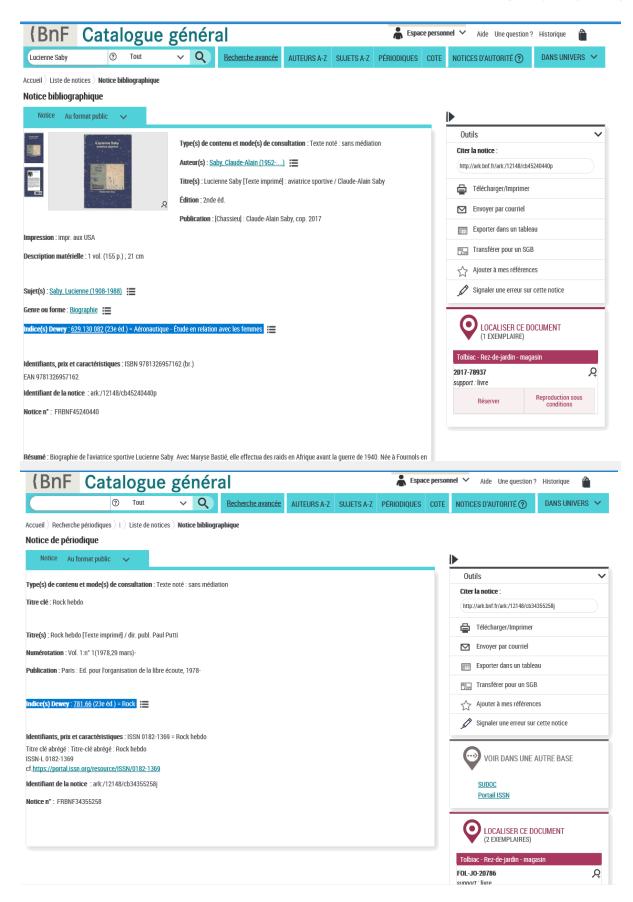
A training specific to the WebDewey was felt by the cataloguers of the literature and art department. This was done in April.

Finally, training in the use of WebDewey was also given in April for the French Bibliography of Periodicals service.

You should know that for the Legal deposit of periodicals the Dewey is the only subject access, hence its importance!

Display of the wording of the CDD in the bibliographic records of the BnF

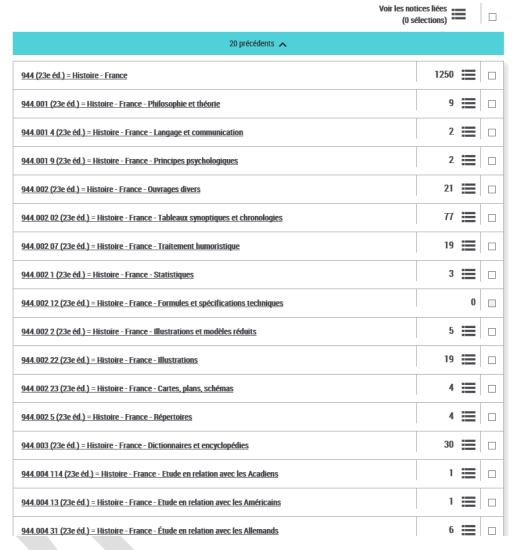
Since February 2023, the wording of the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) is displayed in plain text in the bibliographic records of monographs and serials in the General Catalogue. It appears in the zone of the Intermarc and Unimarc formats reserved for the DDC, namely zone 676, and is reflected in the display in the public format. Previously, only the index appeared there, on which it was necessary to click to display the corresponding Dewey authority record and thus read the wording. Examples of this new display: in the notice of the monograph devoted to the sports aviator Lucienne Saby and in the notice of the periodical "Rock hebdo".



The ordering of results from a Topics A-Z search has also been improved: the indices are now presented in ascending order.







These latest developments facilitate documentary research on themes developed with the Dewey key and open it up to a wider variety of users.



Deutsche Nationalbibliothek/German National Library (Heidrun Alex and Tina Mengel)

After all, only half a year has passed since our report at the last online EDUG meeting, so here is just a short report.

Intellectual and machine classification with DDC

First, a few details about the intellectual and machine classification with DDC: In 2022, DNB intellectually assigned DDC Subject Categories to more than 127.000 publications and full Dewey numbers to about 38.000 publications from the publishers' booktrade. In addition, about 730.000 DDC Subject Categories are still assigned automatically. Although in 2022 the focus was still on replacing the currently used software by the tool Annif (https://annif.org/), DDC Short Numbers for online publications were still assigned: namely 580.000. Frank Busse reported yesterday on the developments and results.

Translation of DDC

The translation of DDC updates has been continued as usual, still following the approach of reducing the backlog of older updates and at the same time updating newest updates, so that topics of high relevance get into the system without major delay.

Dewey Translation Wiki

DNB is hosting a wiki space with information about DDC translation from an international perspective. Access to the Dewey Translation Wiki (https://wiki.dnb.de/display/DTW) is free, ideas for further content and participation are welcome. To gain access to the DDC Translation Guidelines, it is necessary to register with DNB. Please contact Tina Mengel (t.mengel@dnb.de) if you are interested in using the guidelines as a reference or checklist for Dewey translation issues.

Planned improvements to the translation software and WebDewey

We are currently preparing to contract Pansoft for several features and enhancements to the translation software and WebDewey, some of which require collaboration and timely coordination with OCLC, especially the international number sharing. Due to the currently imposed cost-cutting measures, it will be a step-by-step contracting. Starting this year, first implementations will cover better handling of English-only content as well as the editorial information contained in field 990. Also contained is the long overdue remake of the phrase tool for editing DDC notes. In WebDewey, the focus will be on maintaining built numbers, plus there will be some improvements to the updates page. Tina will keep the translators group updated and involved where necessary, and will introduce the new features at next year's symposium and business meeting.



National report from Iceland by Rósfríður Sigvaldadóttir

Icelandic libraries of all kinds continue using Dewey for organizing their collections. The number of participants in the Consortium is now 15. Some smaller libraries still use the Icelandic edition from 2002 (translation of the 13th abridged edition).

The National and University Library (NULI) uses the Dewey system to organize its main collections (leitir.is) as well as for its various databases, such as:

The National Bibliography - bokaskra.landsbokasafn.is

The Digital Depository – rafhladan.is

Icelandic Music and Sound Archive – hljodsafn.is

The tendency now is to use broader classification due to increased use of subject headings and for the fact that Dewey numbers are not visible to the end user in the Consortium interface but are of course important for shelf browsing.

National report from Norway by Ingebjørg Rype

The Norwegian WebDewey now has about 32 000 user contributed, national numbers, with about 5-10 new numbers added daily. These numbers are checked by Dewey editors at the National Library. Invalid numbers are rejected and notification is sent to the contributor. Relative Index terms are checked to make sure they follow rules and patterns in WebDewey.

Most of the time we manage to keep up-to-date on the updates of translations. We give priority to translate larger revisions as soon as they are launched, and inform the Dewey users about the changes.

The last revisions of graphic design and communication design actualized the question of changes within the same edition (DDC 23). In Norway we have decided to use the time stamp option in Marc 21 to indicate versions of Dewey. This was implemented from February this year. A webinar about this decision was arranged at the beginning of February, and we have updated the recommendations on use of WebDewey (Anbefalinger for bruk av Norsk WebDewey). We also give some general information on time stamp (Datomarkering av Dewey I katalogen) on the National Library website.

The last two years we have been developing WebDewey training material on internet. This is done in cooperation between the National Library, Department of Library and Information Science at OsloMet, and Elise Conradi. The course was launched in March this year. The WebDewey course has resulted in a renewed interest in the Norwegian WebDewey. We have received many requests about licenses to the system.



National report from Italy by Piero Cavaleri

The Italian WebDewey, managed by the Associazione Italiana Biblioteche (AIB) since 2013, relies on a dedicated team of volunteers and benefits from the expert guidance of librarians at the National Central Library of Florence.

In recent years, the editorial team has maintained a constant policy of publishing all new numbers and revisions introduced in the English edition, as well as numbers suggested by users that could prove valuable to others. In the previous year, the editorial team published 3,200 new or revised numbers. Additionally, in 2022, they incorporated 75 user-proposed numbers.

In 2022, the WebDewey editorial team organized three courses for Italian librarians, focusing on Dewey and WebDewey usage. Two of these courses were conducted in person, while one was conducted online. These courses were attended by a total of 80 colleagues.

Access to WebDewey is available through licensing, and the user base has remained stable, with approximately 1,000 users, similar to the figures reported in 2021.

Comparing the Italian DDC numbers as of September 2023 to those in December 2021, the following statistics stand out:

- Numbers of Classes + Tables: 63,898 (previously 62,698)
- Internal Table Numbers: 1,982 (previously 1,970)
- Manual Records: 375 (previously 373)
- Manual Internal Table: 9 (unchanged)
- Relative Index Records: 121,810 (previously 119,587)

These figures demonstrate the ongoing growth and development of the Italian WebDewey.

National report from Sweden by Harriet Aagaard

I have been working this past year with enhancing DDC quality or at least thinking about it. I have also investigated the possibility to use DDC as a tool to search for subjects in public catalogues – the two topics I talked about at the Symposium. We celebrated DDC 10 years in Sweden in November last year (due to the pandemic it was really 11 years) and it was time to think about how classification and use of DDC is used.

Cataloguing at the National Library of Sweden needs to become more efficient. We have looked at different ways of achieving this. Could other libraries that also receive books according to the law of legal deposit catalogue and classify well enough? What is possible to achieve by AI?

Classification is time consuming and I try to help by translating. 76 % of DDC is now translated in our mixed translation. We have about 1700 Swedish built numbers in the Swedish WebDewey.

In 2023/2024 I have an assignment to make Swedish public libraries stop using SAB and start using DDC. Only 36 of 290 public library systems use DDC. Unfortunately, it is not my decision. I can help by giving support, better training materials, try to have the National bibliography department prioritize



cataloguing and classifying Swedish books bought by public libraries. It is not a new assignment, but it has become more important. The SAB classification has not been updated since December 2013.

National report from Switzerland by Patrick Sciamanna

As in the previous year, one of the things we worked on this year was the integration of our old subject catalogue into Helveticat. Helveticat is the online catalogue of the Swiss National Library.

Since 1898, the monographic documents of the Swiss National Library have been indexed. Until 1998, the DK (UDC adapted to the Swiss National Library) was used for indexing.

The University of Applied Sciences of Fribourg has developed a System for the integration of our old subject catalogue. This integration is partly automated, partly we have to help manually. Among other things, it depends on the quality of the digitized catalogue cards. We are currently working intensively on this project.

What we hope to achieve concerning the DDC is to integrate the mapping of the UDC numbers to the DDC subject categories – a full mapping demanding too many resources both in time and in money.

Translators Group report from Tina Mengel

Representatives of the translation teams of the Arabic, French, German, Italian, Norwegian and Swedish Dewey language versions are meeting bi-monthly together with Alex Kyrios (Dewey Editor) and Sandi Jones (DDC Product Manager) from OCLC. In this regular meeting, the group discusses all topics related to DDC translation and workflows where there is a common interest or the desire to collaborate more. In this frame, the group also looks at the Dewey applications, namely the translation software and WebDewey, and discuss how these tools can better support translators and WebDewey users.

Topics discussed in recent meetings (October 2022 - March 2023):

1. Dewey as Linked Data

Sandi Jones and Alex Kyrios have been keeping the group informed of progress during the past months and will continue to do so as the project (hopefully soon!) moves into the implementation phase.

2. Sharing of built numbers across language versions

Alex Kyrios (OCLC) and Tina Mengel (DNB) introduced the idea of sharing built numbers across language versions at <u>EDUG's 2023 Symposium</u>. This idea has been discussed by the group over the recent months and will now enter the preparatory phase for possible implementation.



3. MARC field 990

For anyone not familiar with the translation software: Field 990 is a MARC field which only lives inside the Dewey data, that is, inside the ESS (where the English data is maintained) and the translation software. In the English editorial system, the Dewey editors use this field as an accompanying information for a minor change made to a note, a Relative Index term etc., but also to leave the name of an EPC exhibit. The question was whether this information is helpful for DDC translation in general and to what extent and in what ways. The group agreed that 990 information is very useful because it helps find all the numbers belonging to an update, moreover it points to minor changes in a class that might otherwise be overlooked. However, when looking closer into the data in the translation software, it turned out that the translation process today cannot take full advantage of this field, but at the same time maintaining this field produces additional and unnecessary work on the translation side. There is a clear need for improvement here, which will be addressed by DNB's upcoming assignment to Pansoft.

4. Lack of Dewey search options in discovery systems (esp. WorldCat.org)

Harriet Aagaard shared her concern that today's discovery systems increasingly rarely include searches with and for DDC numbers. Most of the other teams could tell the same from other catalogs they know. And apparently WorldCat.org is also following this trend, which, of course, is not a forward-looking signal for the application of DDC. Sandi had passed on our concern to the responsible department at OCLC and has informed the group back that the reason for not integrating DDC searching was a previous misuse of DDC data. We should all continue to keep an eye on the development, hoping that DDC search options will be re-included in WorldCat.org, as this tool plays an important role in the world of discovery systems.