



Is Approximate the whole still
acceptabe in the 2020`s?



What can EDUG do?

- Look at the problem from different perspectives
 - Librarian, classifier/cataloger, Dewey translator, Dewey teacher, ...
 - Close collaboration with the Dewey editor and the EPC
 - European experience: translation, DDC mapping, individual use cases, ...

Goal:

A recommendation paper that will be submitted to Alex and the EPC for further discussion and final decision.

Is Approximate the whole still acceptable in the 2020's?

Reasons for the need to change

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Difficulties in understanding the rule | Difficult to explain the rule |
| Not allowed to add SS when needed | Re-classification |
| Loss of information | Printed DDC plays minor role today |
| Specific topics together with general topics | Exceptions to the rule |
| There is no "one" literary warrant | Local compromises (ignoring the rule) |

Thinking backwards: How should the result be like?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Easy to use | Clear explanations |
| Promote consistent cataloging | |
| | |

Other things to consider

| | | |
|---|---|----------------------------|
| Hierarchical force | Relative index terms used for NB | |
| Role of other class notes | Logic structure of the DDC | DDC Editorial Rules |
| | DDC mappings | |
| Topics in Including notes for other reasons ("part of the class") | | |

Roles involved

- Librarian
- Classifier/Cataloguer
- Dewey editorial team
- Translator
- Dewey teacher
-
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Hopes...

Easy to understand

Roles involved

- Librarian
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- Translator
- Dewey teacher
-
-

Approximate the whole,
Class-here, Including/
Standing room,
Hierarchical force,
Standard-
subdivisions-are-
added note, Literary
warrant,

...

Easy to use



...and reservations

- Long-established local solutions and workflows might not be easy to adapt to a change
- Keep the added value provided by DDC mappings
- Keep a Dewey number's inner structure for topics to reflect their level of congruency with the number



How could a change look like (hypothetically)?

1. Abolish only the rule that prohibits adding to standing room topics
2. Keeping the rule while reviewing all information about the rule and provide information where missing
3. Develop further exceptions to the rule
4. Review the meaning and descriptions of the notes and related concepts, and modernize them for more clarity and simplicity



Next steps & tasks

Task A

- Draft a content structure of the paper (Table of content)
- Start writing the first parts: background, history

Task B

- Develop What-if scenarios



Next steps & tasks

Task C

- Statistical analyses: notes (Class-here notes, Including notes, Hierarchical force, Captions, Relative Index, types of topics in Including notes, etc.), built numbers

Task D

- List today's exceptions to the rule



Next steps & tasks

Task E

- List places where definitions and explanations about Approximate the whole can be found today
- What kind of information do we need in the future? And where do we want to find it?



Next steps & tasks

Task F

→ Pilot project: Pick one area for live testing and analyze impacts

Thank you!

You can write us about this topic at any time. All input and discussion is welcome!

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