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# What kind of Libraries towards an Efficient Science Information?

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## Science Information

Nowadays it is commonly accepted that the Science Information must be efficiently accessed by everyone in every part of the World. However, due to economic interests, over all, but also to ethic and political problems the scientific knowledge is hidden from the eyes of the public.

But the not hidden scientific information constitutes such a huge quantity that either for individuals or for institutions it is very difficult to deal with it. In particular, to identify the relevant knowledge and to incorporate the supplied one. Important players in the dissemination of the scientific knowledge are the scientific journals, the libraries and the scientific databases (these last ones are in fact libraries).

The role of the scientific journals had a great increase with the appearance of the open access journals. They allowed publication with no constraints either in space or in time, being the information gratuity available forever. They contributed also to split the pernicious control that some academicians, under the protection of some kind of non-merit prestige, historically made on the knowledge diffusion, preventing the publication and, sometimes, appropriating the ideas of the non-published works. Of course this was facilitated by the constraints of space and time of the classic journals publication, now smashed by the publication in the “internet”. Many of the Critics of the open access journals are only crying for the power lost.

Of course the Classic Libraries play an important role in the diffusion of scientific knowledge. But now they may not be only mere book stores. Even because this will take space problems shortly in time. Instead they must store in magnetic format, by one side, and for another one to facilitate informatics links to accede the information integrating great networks in formation.

The role of the Scientific Databases<sup>1</sup> is here very important, over all in the classification and reviewing of the published material helping the reader to find the relevant information.

## The role of Scientific Journals

An interesting problem about the role of Scientific Journals in the dissemination of Scientific Knowledge is that if “is there any interest for an author to publish in various journals?” Why not publishing in only one journal, open access, generalist? In fact it seems that the publication in several journals is only interesting if it make possible to accede different publics. And there are many scientific authors that publish only in their own blogs.

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<sup>1</sup>AGRICOLA, Arts & Humanities Citation Index, CAB Abstracts, DOAJ, Google Scholar, Index Copernicus, JSTOR, Project MUSE, PubMed, Russian Science Citation Index, Science Citation Index, Scopus, Social Science Citation Index, Web of Science, WorldCat, Zentralblatt MATH etc.

Of course still remains the interest that publishing in various journals allows the submission to various kinds of reviewing what may increase the quality of the papers.

And, in this context, much more interesting are the Libraries of the new kind described above and of the Scientific Databases to help finding and accessing journals.

### **The role of Classic Libraries**

To fulfil the above seen role for the Classic Libraries it is imperative the adoption of an only machine readable cataloguing format worldwide. This solution may be stressed collecting the problems of the actual situation and the arguments in the advantages. Of course, the argument about standardization seems unbeatable. But the Anglo-Saxons always want to be unique. But in spite it seems that no systems have particular advantages over the others.

### **The youth and the Classic Libraries services**

At least at the Universities it seems that students use the Libraries facilities to study. So, the kind of material they want to accede are the manuals and not necessary the scientific material. Further, when there are Master or PhD students, if they try to accede scientific material they use the Library in the Classic way to find thesis, for instance, or in the Modern way to find, for instance, scientific papers, scientific books or data (for instance financial data) for the works. After finding the interesting material only the little interesting part is printed for study. But it is important to note that this last kind of search is made more and more in an individually way after is only computer. And of course the younger the people the better they adopt these new proceedings.

### **Elderly people and the new information technologies in the libraries**

Elderly people have some difficulties with new information technologies in the libraries, in general. But this seems not be true for elderly people interested in scientific information. In fact, the opportunities brought by the new technologies together with the ease of use capture these users.