

# Indexing Systems and Techniques

Dr. Nanaji Shewale

Librarian

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics (GIPE)

B M C C Rd, Pune (India)

nanamani@gmail.com

<https://dspace.gipe.ac.in>; <http://gipe.ac.in>

# Derived / Derivative / Extractive Indexing

- Derived indexing is a method of indexing in which a human indexer or computer extracts from the title and/or text of a document one or more words or phrases to represent the subject(s) of the work, for use as headings under which entries are made. It is also known as extractive indexing.
- No attempt is made to use an indexer's own knowledge of the subject or other guides, but use only the information which is manifest in the document.
- Requires least intellectual effort on the part of the indexer.
- Examples - keyword indexing, citation indexing, automatic indexing, etc.



# Assigned / Assignment / Concept Indexing

- It involves identifying concept(s) associated with the content of each document.
- Human indexer selects one or more subject headings or descriptors from a list of controlled vocabulary to represent the subject(s) of a work.
- The indexing terms selected to represent the content need not appear in the title or text of the document indexed.
- An indexing language is designed and it is used for both indexing and searching.
- Some notable examples of assignment indexing are chain indexing, PRECIS, POPSI, classification schemes, etc.



# Pre-Coordinate Indexing

- Here, the indexer coordinates the component terms representing compounds at the input stage, i.e. at the time of indexing in anticipation of users' approach.
- Applicable to readymade lists of subject headings like Sears List of Subject Headings and Library of Congress Subject Headings
- Involves coordinating (combining, pulling together concepts) followed by engaging in an act of *synthesis* to build the index entries.
- Determine the order of significance by following the syntactical rules of the given indexing language.



# Pre-Coordinate Indexing

- Cutter's Contribution - *Rules for a Printed Dictionary Catalog* in 1876
- Kaiser's Contribution – His system known as *Systematic Indexing*
- Chain Indexing - Ranganathan's facet analysis of subject. Used in *the British National Bibliography* (BNB) in the 1950s and 1960s
- *Class no.:* 155.4072054
- PRECIS (Preserved Context Index System) -
- POPSI (Postulate Based Permuted Subject Indexing)