A USER STUDY OF MENTAL MODELS FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC RESOURCES

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Outline

• Background
• User study
• Results
• Conclusions
IFLA’s Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

- *Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records* (1998) defines entities, their attributes and relationships between the entities.
- Potential benefits for different types of resources need to be studied with the specifics of these resources in mind.
The FRBR Group 1 entities

Mozart’s *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*

A performance of Mozart’s *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*

An edition of a recording of Mozart’s *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, released on a CD

A copy of the CD in the local library

Mental models

• Norman (1983): Mental models are the mental representations constructed through interaction with the target system and are constantly modified throughout this interaction.

• Some features of mental models:
  – often incomplete;
  – full of contradictions;
  – inconsistent.
Eliciting mental models ...

• … is a challenge.

• Possible methods:
  – card sorting;
  – concept mapping;
  – comparison tasks, …

• These methods were successful for fiction (Pisanski & Žumer, 2010a, 2010b, 2012).
The objectives of our research

• Understanding the importance of user studies;

• Understanding the specifics of music resources;

• Our main research question: Are users’ mental models of the bibliographic universe for music resources close to the FRBR model?
Our user study

• 30 lay participants, 20-30 minutes per participant.
• 2 tasks: card sorting and concept mapping
• Cards with lay descriptions of group 1 FRBR entities.
• Example: Mozart’s *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*
• 26 cards, 6 sets of carts, 12-15 cards per set.
Concept mapping

• The instructions: Arrange the cards in order to represent the connections perceived between the entities.

• Aim: How many and what kind of relationships do participants perceive between the entities?
Example of a concept map
Average graph (with threshold 4)
FRBR aligned map

Average graph (with threshold 5)
Concluding remarks

• Encountered issues:
  – Abstract tasks
  – Unfamiliar territory – classical music
References


Thank you for your attention!

• Questions?

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