# Conference INFORUM Geographical bibliography of the Czech Republic online

## Abstract:

The database is created with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic by unique cooperation between the network of specialized libraries and the National Library and between this network and the libraries of the Academy of Science. It makes accessible approx. 120 thousand bibliographical records of a wide range of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century documents. It experiments with connecting the full texts. A subject electronic bibliography makes also accessible publication activity. It allows research on the development of the field in the last 110 years.

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## 1. Czech Geographical Bibliography

Bibliography is considered to be a basic component of any informational system in all scientific disciplines. The analysis has shown that **bibliographies of individual disciplines** have been created **separately**, in various institutions, even in different languages and in printed version.

This **heterogeneity** of general and special **catalogues** in Czechia did not allow relevant integrative search for sources related to a certain topic formerly. This state absolutely does not reflect recent demands of users on electronic information systems and on existence of portal research environment. **The critical state** of Czech informational tools used in geography is in **focus** of the project entitled Geographical bibliography of the Czech Republic on-line – **GEOBIBLINE**.

# 2. Aim of the GEOBIBLINE Project

The main aim of the project is to create and make accessible the complete **digital geographical bibliography of the Czech Republic** of the 20th and 21st century. The database includes specialised documents of **geographical bohemics** (works made by Czech authors or about Czech territory). It comprises monographs, cartographic documents, series, journal articles, proceedings, electronic documents, thesis and other manuscripts. As a result the unique environment for researchers and public is being established.

### **3.** Building the Database

The database is created with a support of **Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic** thanks to a cooperation of specialised scientific libraries, the **National Library** and libraries of the **Academy of Sciences** of the Czech Republic. The **basis** of the database has been made in **Geographical Library, Faculty of Science**, Charles University in Prague, in cooperation with Institute of Information Technologies at the same university, with **Faculty of Science**, **Masaryk University** in Brno, and **Department of Geography, Jan Evangelista Purkyně University** in Ústí nad Labem. Recently, there are **14 participating libraries** in the project, including Scientific Library in Olomouc, Moravian Library in Brno, and Scientific Library in Plzeň. Firstly, the basic beta version of database and OPAC has been created in Aleph 500 software at the Charles University in Prague. After the **harmonisation** of data from catalogues of participants, the records have been imported offline using the search questions. Then the basic search queries have been profiled and recently the import is made in regular intervals using the **FTP server** of the Charles University. Besides the import we continue with **original cataloguing** of documents, including 38 titles of geographical or geography-related journals.

The cataloguing of the following titles was finished: Acta onomastika, Acta universitatis Carolinae: Geographica, Folia Facultatis scientiarum naturalium Universitatis Purkynianae Brunensis. Geographiam, Geografie: sborník České geografické společnosti (1895-2010), Miscellanea geographica Universitatis Bohemiae Occidentalis, Moderní obec, Moravian Geographical Reports, National geographic, Obec a finance, Scripta Facultatis scientarum naturalium Universitatis Masarykianae Brunensis. Geography, Urbanismus a územní rozvoj, Vojenský geografický obzor, Země světa.

Fig. 1. Model of database processing

## 4. Content of the Database

In April 2010 the database included **122 000 bibliographic records** with abstracts (some records have links to full-texts). The dominant **language of documents** is Czech (93 %), followed by English (4 %), German (2 %) and Spanish, French and Russian language (1 %). The time span reaches from the late **19th century to present-day** and the latest records are continuously imported. The **annual** increase of records in the database is about **20 000**. The database newly incorporates the **publication activity** of Geographical section of the Charles University in Prague, which is imported from OBD software.

### **5.** Experiments with Full-Texts

We have made several experiments to supplement records with full-texts since 2009. Our experience indicates that there is no problem in cooperation with responsible institutions, but the major limit is in work with different **formats and forms** of electronic copies of documents. We had to scan many documents and to transcribe them automatically using OCR (with the ABBY Reader software). Some volumes were downloaded from internet and divided into separate articles; others were sorted according to volumes and issues, and saved as PDFs.

The articles were added to the bibliography using the **ADAM** software. All articles are provided with information about the copyright, and the author rights are also showed to the user.

In this way we completed all volumes of the following titles: Acta onomastica, Moravian Geographical Reports a Vojenský geografický obzor. We are in negotiations with other editorial offices that promised their support. In some cases we have only parts of full-texts (Geografie: sborník ČGS), whereas in others (e.g. Opera Corcontica) we have complete full-texts, but the bibliographical records are not completed yet.

Another option being considered is adding the on-line articles accessible from web sites using the field 856, such as in case of journal **Země světa**. On the other hand, this possibility brings several problems, such as unstable internet address, which – in case of changes – requires extent handmade revisions. Another problem is that the journals are often presented in whole volumes. If, in turn, the users access the concrete article, they do not get relevant information and the source decreases its credibility. However, **tests** with full-texts **confirmed** our preliminary assumption that without **bibliography**, one cannot work with digital objects.

Digitalisation and acquisition of electronic documents is then difficult, but faster. Therefore, it is our primary concern to **complete** the quality **special bibliography** at first.

Fig. 2. Example of a record with full-text from the Moravian Geographical Reports journal

# 6. Main Outcomes and Information about Database

**The search** for documents in the database is possible via basic or advanced interface or using the common command language. It works with Boolean and proximity operators as well as with masking. The users are enabled to list and search registers. The Results list may be narrowed, filtered, viewed and saved. Chosen records may be saved or sent for further processing. Formats of saving and sending the records were set on the following: catalogue card, brief record, format for MARC and for OPAC. The issue of referencing has been also solved. The EndNote referencing, which is most common for researchers at Czech universities using the ISI Web of Knowledge, was prepared in cooperation with Institute of Information Technologies. Our colleagues from Masaryk University in Brno prepared on-line tutorial for this application, which is accessible at

<<u>http://www.ukb.muni.cz/kuk/animace/eiz/ENW/index.html</u>>. All guides and tutorials can be downloaded from GEOBIBLINE web sites. For the year 2010, we plan the cooperation with <<u>http://www.citace.com</u>> web portal, which would allow direct and rapid conversion of bibliographic records to the reference format ISO 690.

Fig. 3 Example of search results for geographic name authority "Island"

The beta version of project web pages was launched in 2009, made in a open source content management system DRUPAL and accessible at <<u>http://www.geobibline.cz</u>>. The websites consist of both Czech and English version, searching tools using the key words, and works in external (users) and internal (project member) mode. In an authorised access, one can find the latest news, guides, methodical documents, forms and statistics of the web site. Special interest of users is devoted to full-text documents and new in database. The information about database is regularly sent to Czech and Slovak geographical research institutions.

The database GEOBIBLINE was nominated for the prize of Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic in a category of outstanding act in year 2009.

Fig. 4. The monthly statistics of access to GEOBIBLINE database. The website registered totally 540 000 hits during the nearly one year of its existence.

# 7. Usage of the database

The database is used by students, teachers, researchers and public. It contributes significantly to propagation of the discipline and Czech science, of regional geography, and of travel destinations in abroad. The English version of OPAC made the number of foreign users visiting the website to increase. Rising interest is registered in Czech-English websites, which inform about news, progress in original cataloguing, and which link the full-texts to records, and make accessible the profile full-text special journals in the internet environment. Broad cover of the database allows carrying out the analyses of development of several disciplines, such as geography, demography, cartography and related disciplines in the last 110 years. Researchers may study all problems in depth thanks to detailed indexation of documents made in Geographical Library of the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague. The number of fields for search, hypertext searching options and contextual help tool satisfies both the beginners and more demanding users.

Fig. 5. The geography statistics of access to GEOBIBLINE database.

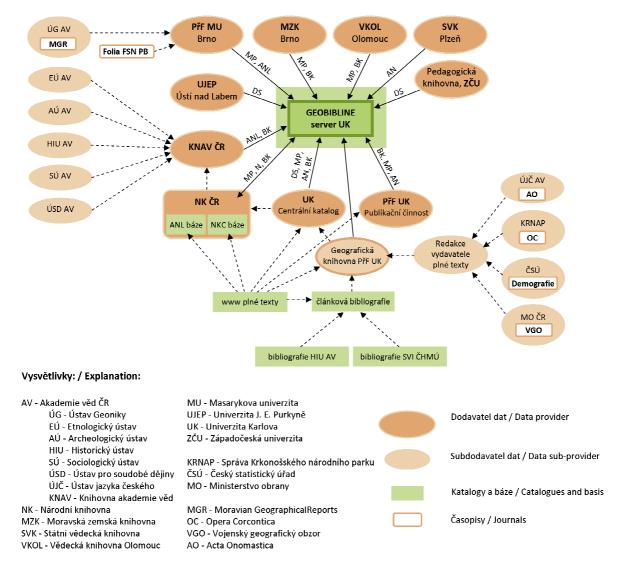
### 8. Future of the database

In a near future we will focus on tests of reference outcomes. We will continue in providing the records with full-texts, while respecting the rights of authors and publishers at the same time. The work on article bibliography of profile geographical titles and maximal automatisation of import and control of the records is in progress. Further, we would like to complete the retrospective cataloguing of thesis from the Charles University in Prague and Jan Evangelista University in Ústí nad Labem. Starting in this year, the Charles University in Prague will make accessible the full-texts of thesis, which would increase the value of the database. The project leaders started testing of MARC fields 034 and 255 for geographical coordinates in cooperation with Moravian Library. The accessible views of maps using the Digitool will be tested as well.

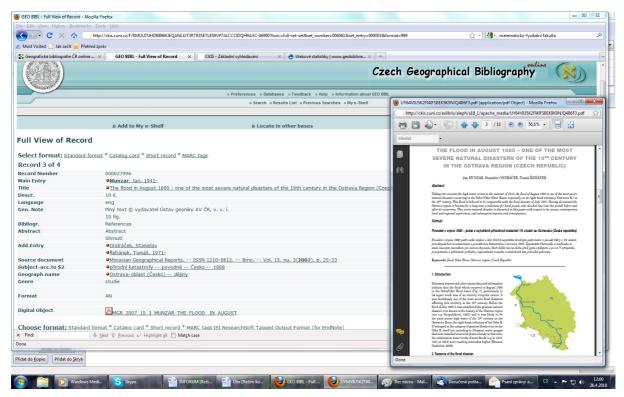
References:

NOVOTNÁ, E. GEOBIBLINE: Geografická bibliografie ČR online. In *Knihovny současnosti* 2009: sborník ze 17. konference, konané ve dnech 23.-25. června 2009 v Seči u Chrudimi. Brno : SDRUK, 2009. Veřejné knihovny dnes, s. 177-186. ISBN 978-80-86249-54-4.

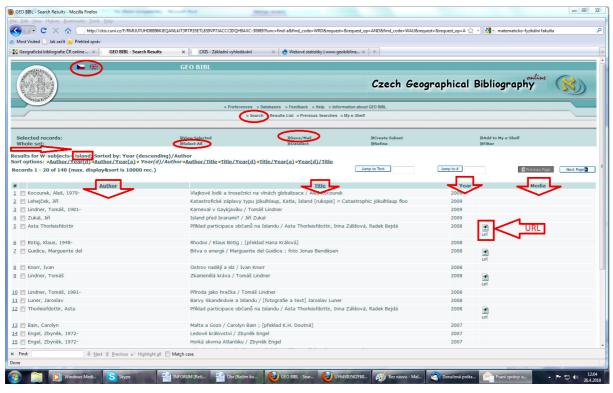
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obrázek 1 - Model of database processing



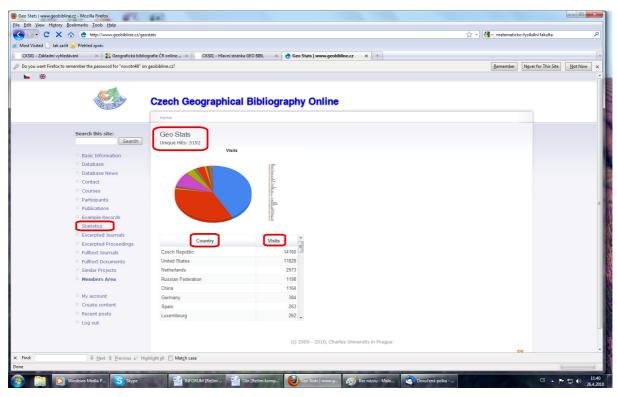
obrázek 2 - Example of a record with full-text from the Moravian Geographical Reports journal



obrázek 3 - Example of search results for geographic name authority Island

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obrázek 4 - The monthly statistics of access to GEOBIBLINE database. The website registered totally 540 000 hits during the nearly one year of its existence.



obrázek 5 - The geography statistics of access to GEOBIBLINE database.