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**Mathematical foundations  
of information storage  
and retrieval**

**Part 3**

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**137**

1973

**WARSZAWA**

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MATHEMATICAL FOUNDATIONS OF INFORMATION STORAGE  
AND RETRIEVAL

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K o m i t e t R e d a k c y j n y

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Abstract • Содержание • Streszczenie



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We show how to incorporate within our formalism hierarchical aspects of information retrieval.

Математическое описание процесса поиска и хранения информации. Третья часть

В работе показываем способ, как можно представить иерархические аспекты поиска и переработки информации.

Matematyczne podstawy wyszukiwania i gromadzenia informacji. Część 3

Pokazujemy, w jaki sposób w naszym formalizmie można ująć hierarchiczne aspekty wyszukiwania i przechowywanie informacji.

61426/137/3

2011 l.

Printed as a manuscript

Nakład 450 egz. Ark. wyd. 0,3; ark. druk. 0,5,  
Papier offset. kl. III, 70 g, 70 x 100. Oddano do  
druku w październiku 1973 r. W. D. N. Zam. nr 757/0

R-30

## § 1. Hierarchization

Definition 1.1. Let  $R, S$  be equivalences on  $X$ . We say that  $R < S$  iff  $R \subseteq S$  i.e.

$$(\forall x)(\forall y)(xRy \rightarrow xSy)$$

It is clear that  $<$  is partial ordering

Definition 1.2. Let  $R$  be an equivalence on  $A$  and  $S$  an equivalence on  $A/R$ . We define a relation  $S * R$  on  $A$  as follows:

$$xS * Ry \longleftrightarrow x/R S y/R$$

Lemma 1.1.  $R < S * R$

Proof: Assume  $xRy$ . Then  $x/R = y/R$  and since  $S$  is reflexive we get  $x/R S y/R$  i.e.  $xS * Ry$ .

Lemma 1.2. Assume  $S * (T * R)$  is defined. Then  $(S * T) * R$  is defined and  $S * (T * R) = (S * T) * R$ .

Proof: Assume  $T$  is defined on  $A/R$  and  $S$  defined on  $A/R/T$ . Then  $S * T$  is defined on  $A/R$  and so  $(S * T) * R$  is defined.

Let  $xS * (T * R)y$ . Then  $x/T * R S y/T * R$ . Having in mind that  $x/T * R$  consists of all those  $y/R$  which are (with  $x/R$ ) in relation  $T$  we find that

$$x/R S * T y/R  
which is desired result.$$

Lemma 1.3. If  $S < R$  then there is  $T$  such that

$$R = T * S$$

Proof: We define  $x/S \sim T y/S$  iff  $xRy$ .

It is enough to prove that  $\sim$  is equivalence. Clearly  $\sim$  is reflexive and symmetric. If  $x/S \sim T y/S \sim T z/S$  then  $xRy$  and  $yRz$  and so  $xRz$  i.e.  $x/S \sim T z/S$ .

As we remember  $A = \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$  was a decomposition. Since decomposition is nothing else but family of equivalence classes of some equivalence, we have relation  $R_I$  which determines the decomposition  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$ . We may identify  $I$  with  $A/R_I$ .

Definition 1.3. Let  $S < R_I$ ,  $\mathcal{S}$  be i.s.r. system,  $\mathcal{S} = \langle X, A, I, U \rangle$

We define  $\mathcal{S}/S$  as follows:

$$\mathcal{S}/S = \langle X, A/S, I, U/S \rangle$$

$$\text{where } U/S(a/S) = \bigcup \{U(b) : bSa\}$$

Clearly  $\mathcal{S}/S$  determines language  $\mathcal{L}(A/S)$ . The unique relation  $T$  such that  $R_I = T * S$  comes into the axioms of corresponding theory as follows:

$$\sum_{b/S \sim T a/S} c_{b/S} = v$$

Let us now enrich the language  $\mathcal{L}(A)$  by constants  $c_{a/S}$ .

Our theory is also enriched as follows

$$(*) \quad c_{a/S} = \sum_{bSa} c_b$$

In this way we obtain hierarchical i.s.r. system of rank 2 generated by  $S$  as follows:  $\mathcal{S}_S = \langle X, A \cup A/S, I, U \cup U/S \rangle$

(Notice that this is nothing else but  $\mathcal{S} \oplus \mathcal{S}/S$  !!!)

Lemma 1.4.  $\mathcal{S}_S$  satisfies (\*).

Full power of the operation  $\oplus$  is seen when we have a sequence of relations:

$$S_1 < S_2, \dots, S_n < R_I$$

Definition 1.4. Under above assumptions we define

$$\mathcal{S}_{S_1, \dots, S_n} = \mathcal{S} \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathcal{S}/S_i \right)$$

Let  $T_1, \dots, T_{n-1}$  be relations such that  $S_{i+1} = T_i * S_i$

Lemma 1.5.  $\mathcal{S}_{S_1, \dots, S_n}$  satisfies the following formula

$$c_{a/S_{i+1}} = \sum_{b/S_i T_i a/S_i} c_{b/S_i}$$

Proof: It is clear that it is enough to give the proof for the case  $S_1 < S_2 < R_I$ ,  $S_2 = T * S_1$ .

$$\text{Indeed, for } a \in A \quad c_{a/S_2} = \sum_{b/S_2 a} c_b \text{ and } c_{a/S_1} = \sum_{b/S_1 a} c_b$$

Since however  $S_1 < S_2$  we have, for  $a, b \in A$ .

$$c_{a/S_1} \leq c_{a/S_2}$$

Using idempotence law we get

$$c_{a/S_2} = \sum_{b/S_2 a} c_{b/S_1}$$

But this exactly reduces to the desired equation.

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Received October 25, 1973

D11746a

<http://rbc.ipipan.waw.pl>