Wikipedia Category Structure in the Light of Dewey Decimal Classification System: an Evaluation

Abstract:

The aim of this study: Wikipedia is a very dynamic and quickly growing encyclopedia which is written in a specific way. Not only that the structure of this huge knowledgebase is also managed and organized in a specific way. The aim of the study is to evaluate this category structure of Wikipedia.

Significance: The present study has the problem to evaluate Wikipedia's category structure and it is very significant. Because in this age of information explosion Wikipedia becomes a knowledge hub. In this people encyclopedia the article writing, editing, category-sub category assignment to the written articles all these are done by the writer himself. Evaluation is needed to know and to explore the classification system and the arrangement patterns of pages exits in this vast mass generated encyclopedia. Evaluation is also needed to visualize the category structure exists in this encyclopedia.

Methodology: The purpose of this study is to evaluate Wikipedia's classification system lying into its category structure. To fulfill this purpose Wikipedia category structure will be compared with the structural hierarchy of Dewey Decimal Classification System (DDC). The present study have used qualitative content analysis with purposive sampling method.

Scope of the Study: The present study have evaluated the categories of **English Wikipedia.** The categories are evaluated in the light of **DDC's 23rd** edition on three main classes, namely **Philosophy, Social Sciences, and Science.**

Key Words: DDC, Wikipedia, Classification, Category, Category Structure, Qualitative Content Analyses