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Citing of Internet sources

English translation of „Zitation von Internet-Quellen“

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Abstract:

This article discusses the special aspects of citing electronic sources on the Internet. It describes a proposal for a general referencing scheme, the affected problems and an overview of ISO 690-2 (Information and Documentation – Bibliographic Reference – Part 2: Electronic documents or parts thereof). A detailed part deals with references to sources on the Internet like URL (non persistent identifier) and URN, DOI, PURL, Handles (persistent identifiers) and archived vs. non archived sources. Also, there are examples for a variety of services (WWW, E-Mail, E-Mail Lists, Usenet News, Telnet, FTP, Gopher, WAIS) and the authors view of the expected development.

Remark to this translation

I did this translation with the help of Altavista's Bable Fish and my school english. If you find any spelling or grammatically mistakes don't hesitate to contact me.

Proposal for citation:

Bleuel, Jens: Citing of Internet sources. 2000-08-12. Online in Internet: PURL:

<http://purl.oclc.org/NET/Bleuel/Citing> URL: <http://www.bleuel.com/ip-cit.pdf> [PDF-File].

Remarks, updates and links

can be found at www.bleuel.com

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1 Basics and general scheme

Here it is to be dealt with the special features of citing in the Internet. It concerns mainly suggestions and only partly around standards, which are not present yet in final version or whose complete technical implementation still pends.

Publications can take place via many services of the Internet. Certain sources are not archived in the network and to remain therefore accessible, others do. The different citing ways are not to be represented here. For this numerous suggestions and guidelines exist, for example the APA Style of the American Psychological Association (1983, there in particular the notes to the bibliography: 111-133). The following citing examples follow the publication of Klaus Poenicke of the Duden publishing house (1988, 129-174). Underlinings and italics are not used, since these are only conditionally viewable in the Internet.

„Online“ should additionally specified for a network source.¹ This serves the distinction for printed publications, since online sources are subject to special problems (see chapter „Problems“). Furthermore the type of network should be given (for example „Internet“) since other networks exist or could exist in the future. If a publication is dated it is recommended to give this information between the titel and „Online in Internet“. In the case of using other citing conventions the date can be given for example also after the author's name.

The part „Online in Internet“ can be omitted, if in the bibliography Internet sources are specified in a separate paragraph. Furthermore „Online in“ could be omitted, because today most people know Internet is online. In the following schemes and examples I state „Online in Internet“ for exactness.

Since the originally reference indicated can change and could possibly no longer be valid (see chapter „The inconsistency of the location of a source“) one should according to the source specification give a date with [Cited date], in order to document, when the information was downloaded.

In the case of using long-live references (persistent identifiers, see chapter „URN, DOI, PURL and Handles“) the accesibility is received, however contents can change, why it is meaningful also here to date the download.

All dates of download should be indicated in ISO 8601 (Year-Month-Day) (see chapter „Date format of online sources“).

Below all variables are included in asterisks; so for example *Reference to Internet source* must be replaced by the appropriate address.

General scheme:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: *Reference to Internet source* [Cited *Date of download*].**

It is to be noted that in Internet sources points and hyphens can be contained. These characters, like also large and lower cases are to be used exactly as in the source specification. In Internet sources a blank follows never a point; thus it does not come to misunderstandings with the pointing used in conventional citings.

2 Problems

2.1 Identification and reproductibility of sources

Basically the citing specification is to serve for a safe identification and reproductibility (American Psychological Association 1983, 111).

The reproductibility here is of special importance; not each source can become fair these criteria. By the following examples this is to be clarified:

Books

¹ LI und CRANE (1993, 17) use „[Online]“ Also used in ISO 690-2:1997, see Chapter ISO 690-2.

By the delivery of obligation copies to the German library and a federal state library the verifiability of source specification is secured.

Newspapers and magazines

The most newspapers and magazines are likewise collected in libraries. Furthermore archiving is often given by the publishing house.

Radio and television broadcasts

The producers archive even to a larger extent. The verifiability of the above sources is thus basically given.

CD-ROM and diskettes

The obligation delivery of CD-ROMs to the German library occurs at the moment on voluntarily base (Die Deutsche Bibliothek 1999), whereby the verifiability is only given conditionally by source specification.

Data bases

Archiving takes place at the producer of the data base. The found documents have no unique designation apart from author name, title, date among other things often within the data base. Thus direct search and verifiability are possible only over the given additional information (e.g. document or reference numbers of the data base provider).

Unpublished sources

The verifiability here is only given for the case that the unpublished source is provided for example as an attachment.

Sources in electronic networks

The verifiability depends on whether a source was archived or not. If necessary sources are accessible also only for a certain period, then are deleted or are at another place in the network. Beyond that the author could change the contents (with not archived sources). The following paragraph deals with the problems of the reproductibility.

2.2 *Problems of the reproductibility*

2.2.1 The inconsistency of the location of a source

The source could be offered over another on-line service, and within the same in another place. By the example of Internet and Compuserve:

- In the Internet the source could be offered via another service (Gopher, World Wide Web among other things), by another computer or in a new place within this computer.
- Within Compuserve another forum could be selected or within the forum another section (in detail Bleuel 1995).

This problem in the Internet should be solved by so called „persistent identifiers“ similarly to the ISBN with books (see chapter „URN, DOI, PURL and Handles“). If despite of all that the source is at a new place in the network and is not discoverable, the verifiability of a citation is not ensured.

2.2.2 The inconsistency of contents

Everyone can publish in simplest manner in many electronic networks themselves. Thus also the author can change its work. If it indicates these modifications or old versions are archived, the verifiability of the citing is further ensured. Otherwise modifications in contents of a source are to be carried out not according to. The only possibility offers archiving, as this e.g. with scientific magazines or discussion groups in the Internet occur. In the future archiving of individual sources could take place for example also by a voluntarily supply to a library or determined organisation (if necessary universities). Thus a verifiability of the citing would be ensured, what is today only conditionally.

2.2.3 Are sources in electronic networks citabel?

On-line publications are quotable, like other publications, on the condition that the type of publication (e.g. „electronic“ or „on-line“) is indicated. Perhaps sceptical voices would be convinced by the fact that there is an ISO standard since 1997 for citing of electronic sources (see chapter „ISO 690-2“). The verifiability is given only with archived sources. The older a source specification is, which was accessible however not archived, the more probably it has that it was subject to a modification. Otherwise it should be left to the responsible person of a work whether it permits not archived sources to be cited or e.g. requires that these are in the attachment (printed out or also on data storages) available and thus verifiable. With aid programmes, which can copy for example entire Internet pages inclusive diagrams on the local computer, this is possible.

2.3 Different data formats

Electronic sources can be stored in various formats. For the representation of the source an appropriate program is necessary, which can process this format. Fortunately the development goes into the direction that a program detects and represents several formats correctly automatically. Thus this problem is rather unimportant. If the format of a source is not unique, this can be marked by an addition with the citation. The URN standard mentioned below contains among other things the data format of the source in the Uniform Resource Characteristics (URC).

3 ISO 690-2

In november 1997 the International Standards Organization (1997) published the following standard:

ISO 690-2: 1997 Information and Documentation – Bibliographic Reference – Part 2: Electronic documents or parts thereof. Edition: 1 (Monolingual)

Extracts are available from URL: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/iso/tc46sc9/standard/690-2e.htm> [Cited 2000-02-26]. The standard gives the elements and their order. For example for a monografie:

- Primary responsibility (*Required*)
- Title (*Required*)
- Type of medium (*Required*)
- Subordinate responsibility (*Optional*)
- Edition (*Required*)
- Place of publication (*Required*)
- Publisher (*Required*)
- Date of publication (*Required*)
- Date of update/revision (*Required*)
- Date of citation (*Required for online documents; Optional for others*)
- Series (*Optional*)
- Notes (*Optional*)
- Availability and access (*Required for online documents; Optional for others*)
- Standard number (*Required*)

In the following chapters the specific elements were discribed and some tips are given if an element is missing. (for example Date of publication or Publisher)

The following example is given:

CARROLL, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* [online]. Texinfo ed. 2.1. [Dortmund, Germany] : WindSpiel, November 1994 [cited 10 February 1995]. Available from World Wide Web: <<http://www.germany.eu.net/books/carroll/alice.html>>. Also available in PostScript and ASCII versions from Internet: <<ftp://ftp.Germany.EU.net/pub/books/carroll/>>.

There is a logical inconsistence in using „Available from **World Wide Web**“ for all sources beginning with http: and using „Available from **Internet**:“ for all other sources on the internet. The reader could think World Wide Web and Internet are comparable in any form. [Everyone knows this isn't, but who knows.] The right thing is

World Wide Web is a subpart of the Internet (it's a service). There are a lot of these examples in the standard. But this disqualifies not the standard itself: Chapter 7.12.1 gives no detailed information for citing a location:

The location information for online documents within a computer network such as the Internet shall refer to the copy of the document that was actually seen and should include the method of access to the document (e.g. FTP) as well as the network address for its location. The elements of location information (e.g. address of the host computer, directory name, file name) shall be transcribed with the same punctuation, upper case and lower case letters as given in the source.

For an ISO standard I would have wished more information to the referencing of the locations in the Internet. This only takes place on the basis of examples, which follow the publication of LI and CRANE (1993).

I summarize the following elements in my proposal as the „used way of citing“ and don't discuss them detailed: Primary responsibility, Title, Subordinate responsibility, Edition, Place of publication, Publisher, Date of publication, Date of update/revision, Series, Notes, Standard number.

„Type of medium“ is integrated in the element „availability and access“ (Online in Internet), so the order of elements changes.

„Date of citation“ is given by ISO with [cited date] or an equivalent statement.

Furthermore there is a reference to ISO 8601:1988 for the representation of date and time. (see chapter „Date format of online sources“).

4 Referencing Internet sources: standards, schemes and proposals

4.1 URL

The Uniform Resource Locator (URL) is a proposed standard (RFC: Request for Comments 1738)² and is used frequently by WWW and FTP. The source begins with "URL:", simplified:

URL: scheme://host/path

Scheme gives the service, for example "mailto" (E-Mail), "news", "ftp", "telnet", "gopher", "wais" or "http" (WWW).

The path gives the location on the host.

Cornell Law School: The Legal Information Institute. Supreme Court Collection. Online in Internet:
URL: <http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/> [Cited 2000-03-11].

An URL can simply entered in WWW browsers

4.2 URN, DOI, PURL und Handles

The URL described above is a world-wide, unique naming of a source, which can be subjected however modifications. So their location could not be valid any longer. A solution of this problem represents the Uniform Resource Name (URN): The URN defines (similarly the ISBN with books) a source in the Internet world-wide and unique (Lasher 1994, 38). The difference to URL consists of the fact that a URN remains always valid also with the modifications specified above. This is implemented by a data base, which stores the appropriate URL to a URN. If the URL changes, this is noted in the URN data base (Sollins 1994, 37). The source becomes described additional through a Uniform Resource Characteristics (URC). Here information is stored like the available data formats, size or version of a source and much more (Sollins 1994, 35). By calling a URN it returns thus URL (the „place“) and an URC (the „type and form“) of the source. The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is working for years on the standard; At the beginning of year 2000 it is unfortunately not yet finished. It appears however that the fundamental systematics (Name Space Identifier as Prefix and Name Space Specific

² The actual protocol standard is available from URL: <http://ftp.isi.edu/in-notes/std/std1.txt> [Cited 2000-02-27].

String as Suffix) will remain. Until these procedures are avowed as the official standard, the well-known URL should be indicated additionally.

In the suggested Internet standard (RFC 2141) a URN is indicated as follows:

URN:Prefix:Suffix

By the integration of URL and URN to Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) (Berners Lee 1998), in which the diagonal stroke is used for separator, and in combination with the Handle-System represented below, a URN should indicated as follows:

URN: hdl:Prefix/Suffix

The Corporation for National Research Initiatives: The Handle System. 10.02.2000. Online in Internet: URN: **hdl**:4263537/4000 URL: <http://www.handle.net/index.html> [Cited 2000-02-20].

The publishing industry has a similar proposal, the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). The difference to the URN exists particularly in the integration of account possibilities and copyrights. At present the DOI assignment is bound to a membership in the DOI organization, which is used due to high membership charges, thus only large publishing houses and organizations are members. Beginning of year 2000 the german bookseller union wants to advance this standard and enable its assignment even for smaller publishing houses.

DOI: doi:Prefix/Suffix

International DOI Foundation: The Digital Object Identifier System. DOI Technology. 14.02.2000. Online in Internet: DOI: **doi**:10.1000/100 URL: <http://www.doi.org/tech.html> [Cited 2000-02-20].

Both solutions to the unique reference in the Internet function already. The Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI) operates the Handle-System for the resolution of the URN or DOI to URL. An URN or a DOI can be inputed directly in the Browser, if the CNRI-resolver is installed. Further information can be found at:

URL: <http://www.handle.net> or URL: <http://www.doi.org/resolver.html> [Cited 2000-02-20]

A final standard is not finished yet. It is to be expected however that in the future both systems will become generally accepted.

Due to the long time, which will still need this to be a standard, OCLC (Online Computing Library Center) already established an operational solution by a Persistent Uniform Resource Locator (PURL). Everyone can request a unique PURL world-wide. The system is compatible with the future URN standard and CNRI and OCLC agreed to guarantee an interoperability between PURLs and Handles. On February, 26th 2000 already 563,231 PURLs were created world-wide. A „Resolve server“ is placed before the prefix, which resolves the prefix and suffix into the URL.

PURL: Resolve Server/Prefix/Suffix

In the following examples <http://purl.oclc.org> is the „Resolve Server“, „NET“ is the Prefix and „Cite2“ and „Bleuel/Citing“ are Suffixes.

Payette, Sandra: Persistent Identifiers on the Digital Terrain. In: RLG [Research Library Group] DigiNews, April 15,1998, Volume 2, Number 2. Online in Internet: PURL: <http://purl.oclc.org/NET/Cite2> URL: <http://www.rlg.org/preserv/diginews/diginews22.html#Identifiers> [Cited 2000-02-26].

Bleuel, Jens: Citing of Internet sources. 12.08.2000. Online in Internet: PURL: <http://purl.oclc.org/NET/Bleuel/Citing> URL: <http://www.bleuel.com/ip-cit.htm> [Cited 2000-08-12].

On a long-term basis PURL will be transformed into URN and will be supplied by the libraries. DOI is supported by the publishing industry. A central resolution of all systems is to be guaranteed by the Handel-System.

4.3 Archived and non archived sources

For sources, which do not fit into the URL pattern, but although are available online, terms should be used like „available“ or „accessible“. Due to the recommendation in ISO 690-2 to „available“ or a comparable term one should use „available“. URL and „available“ is to be used for the indication of sources, which are archived and accessible. Non archived or not accessible sources (e.g. e-mails and most Usenet News) are indicated without URL and without „available“. However it always depends on the information supplier whether it keeps a source accessible or also changes it. The boundaries are to be drawn thus not unique. Nevertheless it is to be expected that „high-quality pages“ are on a long-term basis available. With a specification of URL or „available“ the citing should, as represented in the previous paragraphs, contain the dating with [Cited date].

5 Sources on several Internet services

5.1 E-mail and mailing lists

Non archived e-mails:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: E-mail from *Sender* <*E-mail address*> (*Date of e-mail*).**

After the name of the author the title follows or, if missing, the „Subject“ of the e-mail. An explicit date is very rare, since the date of sending is inserted always automatically. This should be placed at the end. Since the sender of an e-mail does not have to be necessarily the author, it is meaningful to mention him explicitly (*Sender*). The specification of the e-mail address of the author or sender can be given in <>. By specifying a private e-mail address as the source an agreement of the sender should be caught up, since he or she could receive unsolicited e-mails.

Doe, John: e-mail sample. Online in Internet: E-mail from John Doe <JD@nothing.com> (2000-3-11).

Non archived mailing lists:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Mailing list *Name of List* <*E-mail address of mailserver*> (*Date of sending*).**

Strangelove, Michael: How to Advertise on the Internet NOW AVAILABLE: An Introduction to Internet-Facilitated Marketing and Advertising. Online in Internet: Mailing Liste VPIEJ-L <listserv@vtvm1.cc.vt.edu> (10/24/1994).

It can be that, so far not archived mailing lists to be archived. If these are accessible, the value of the citing increases. With attention to the above suggestions the reproduction is given.

Archived and available mailing list sources:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Available: E-mail to *E-mail address of mailserver* * Content: *Contents of e-mail* [Cited *Date of download*].**

As it is needed, „Content:“ can be replaced by „Subject:“.

Okerson, Ann: The Electronic Journal: What, Whence, and When? In: Public-Access Computer Systems Review 2, no. 1 (1991). 5-24. Online in Internet: Available: E-mail to: listserv@uhupvm1.uh.edu Content: get okerson prv2n1 [Cited 1995-01-03].

If it is available via WWW:

Okerson, Ann: The Electronic Journal: What, Whence, and When? In: Public-Access Computer Systems Review 2, no. 1 (1991). 5-24. Online in Internet: URL: <http://info.lib.uh.edu/pr/v2/n1/okerson.2nl> [Cited 2000-03-18].

5.2 Usenet news

Non archived usenet news:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Usenet news *Name of group* (*Date of sending*).**

Although the service usenet news is defined also in the URL scheme, this specification is not suitable for the citing: By the URL the group of discussions with the current contributions is addressed. Individual contributions are deleted after a defined time from this group and are not available any longer, therefore no URL is used here.

Noring, Jon: Recommendations for Pre-1920 Books to Electronically Reissue. Online in Internet: Usenet news alt.etext (11/2/1994).

Archived and available usenet news:

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Usenet news *Name of group* (*Date of sending*). URL: *URL-Address* [Cited *Date of download*].**

It depends on by which service the archived usenet news is offered. In the example down mentioned the service ftp was selected, which can be indicated as URL (see chapter „FTP“). If archiving should be made e.g. by Gopher, „available“ can be used instead of URL (see chapter „Gopher“).

Dell, Thomas: [OBI] Online Book Initiative FAQ. Online in Internet: Usenet News alt.etext (2/10/1993). URL: <http://wiretap.spies.com/alt.etext/018.obifaq> [Cited 1995-05-17].

5.3 Telnet

This service is hardly still used in the Internet. For the sake of the completeness the citing for this is however further indicated.

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Available: *URL-address* Enter: [*Messages at the display*] „*Key inputs*“ <*Selection*> *Remarks* [Cited *Date of download*].**

With telnet e.g. a key input could indicated as „Key inputs“. Messages at the display, after which the input has to take place, are set into square brackets, since they serve as additional information. The inputs are indicated in quotes or inverted commas. Remarks or notes take place without this indication.

Listing of all locations of gatt_1.zip: Available: telnet://archie.th-darmstadt.de/ Enter: [login:] „archie“ [th-archie>] „prog gatt_1.zip“ [Cited 1995-01-03].

There is also a possibility of indicating the login name for telnet within the URL:

Listing of all locations of gatt_1.zip: Available: telnet://archie@archie.th-darmstadt.de/ Enter: [th-archie>] „prog gatt_1.zip“ [Cited 1995-01-03].

With several options the one which can be selected can be indicated by pointed brackets. With clarity omissions can be used... and messages, which are contained in pointed parentheses, must not additionally in angular be indicated.

Listing of all books at Uni-Erlangen by Titel, Keyword or Author which are beginning with „zitier“:
Online in Internet: Available: telnet://fau43.informatik.uni-erlangen.de/ Enter: [login:] „gi“
<Recherchieren> <Autor Titel Schlagwort> „zitier“ [Cited 1995-01-03].

5.4 FTP

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: URL: *URL-address* [Cited *Date of download*].**

FTP sources are defined unique by the URL:

Berners-Lee, Tim, L. Masinter, M. McCahill: Uniform Resource Locators (URL). Dezember 1994. Online in Internet: URL: <ftp://ftp.isi.edu/in-notes/rfc1738.txt> [Cited 2000-03-11].

5.5 Gopher

This service is hardly still used in the Internet. For the sake of the completeness the citing for this is however further indicated.

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Available: *URL-address* Enter: <*Selection*> [Cited *Date of download*].**

Specification of Gopher sources can be indicated likewise by URL, to Gopher URL requires however the denomination of a type of document. The user does not have this numeric code always to be obvious and a citing without this type of document would be a false URL. Gopher supplies always contain options, which are indicated for the acquisition of the source in pointed parentheses:

Guedon, Jean-Claude: Why are Electronic Publications Difficult to Classify?: The Orthogonality of Print and Digital Media. University of Montreal: Department of Comparative Literature 1994. Online in Internet: Available: <gopher://arl.cni.org/> Enter: <Scholarly Communications> <Directory of Journals> <Why are Electronic...> [Cited 1995-01-03].

5.6 WAIS

This service is hardly still used in the Internet. For the sake of the completeness the citing for this is however further indicated.

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: URL: *URL-address* [Cited *Date of download*].**

or (see also Telnet):

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: Available: *URL-address* Enter: [*Messages at the display*] ,,*Key inputs** <*Selection*> *Remarks* [Cited *Date of download*].**

WAIS sources can be likewise indicated by URL, a wais URL can become however very long. If the specification is not required to URL, it can be proceeded as with telnet. Example of an WAIS inquiry to „Germany“ from the „CIA World Factbook 1993“ over WWW:

Germany (CIA World Fact Book 1993). Online in Internet: Available: <http://www.wais.com/> Enter: [Find:] „world- factbook“ <search> <search of world-factbook93> [search terms:] „germany berlin“ <submit query> <Germany...> [Cited 1995-06-20].

5.7 WWW

WWW sources are defined unique by an URL.

***Used way of citing* Online in Internet: URL: *URL-address* [Cited *Date of download*].**

Cornell Law School: The Legal Information Institute. Supreme Court Collection. Online in Internet: URL: <http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/> [Cited 2000-03-11].

For presence of URN, DOI or PURL this should be indicated additionally (see chapter „URN, DOI, PURL and Handles“).

6 Special aspects

6.1 Separations in specifications of Internet sources

The specification of Internet sources can also be longer than a line, so that it must be separated with a hyphen. In order to exclude mistakes with address constituents, the paragraph separation in this case should take place directly before the „/“.

Gray, Matthew: Measuring the Size and Growth of the Web. 11/10/1994. Online in Internet: URL : <http://www.mit.edu:8001/afs-sipb/user/mkgray/ht/webgrowth.html> [Cited 1995-01-03].

6.2 Citing of certain sections of an online publication

How can a certain part of an online publication be cited? If the text is printed out, also here, by different printers, paper and character sizes, character fonts, a.s.o. the page numbers can differ. A minimum standard for electronic documents should be developed, in which for example the specification of page numbers in the text are defined. As a way out so far the possibility exists, of indicating sections or paragraphs; with large passages this is however in the long term unsatisfactory. There is the possibility of indicating a certain article as orientation, as increasing scope however also here arises the same problem. If in the published document an so called „anchor“ is available, it can be indicated at the end of the URL after the character #.

Payette, Sandra: Persistent Identifiers on the Digital Terrain. In: RLG [Research Library Group] DigiNews, April 15, 1998, Volume 2, Number 2. Online in Internet: PURL: <http://purl.oclc.org/NET/Cite2> URL: <http://www.rlg.org/preserv/diginews/diginews22.html#Identifiers> [Cited 2000-02-26].

6.3 Citing with references to original or printed sources

If the online publication contains the abstract of another source and if the original is not accessible, then it should be proceeded as with a „literature source from second-hand“. This is marked usually by „Cited in“ (Poenicke 1988, 170). For online publications in the Internet this could be indicated as „Cited online in Internet“ or similar.

America Online and Prodigy in Price War. In: Atlanta Journal-Constitution (10/13/1994). S. E2. Cited in Edupage (10/13/1994). Online in Internet: URL: <http://www.educause.edu/pub/edupage/archives/94/edupage-10.13.94.html> [Cited 2000-03-11].

The information loss can be very high not only by the summary, but also by the omission of the original author in some publications.

For existence of a printed and an online source both should be given, since the possibility of finding is increased thereby. For differencing „and online in Internet“ can be used. Differences to the printed source, like the absence of pictures, diagrams among other things, should be indicated as e.g. [diagrams are missing]. In the example below the difference is indicated for the printed version of a book (the absence of the addresses) directly after „and online in Internet“ as [addresses are missing].

Itschert, Michael: 33 Tips für Kleinverleger. Literatur, Adressen, Anregungen. 4. erw. und überarb. Auflage. Mainz: Gardez! 1995. And online in Internet: [addresses are missing] URL: <http://surf.de.uu.net/bookland/general/tips/> [Cited 2000-03-11].

6.4 Unfinished versions, work on progress

It frequently occurs that in the Internet unfinished versions of publications are published to discuss these. During such a publication a remark in the source and in the citing should take place as for example „work on progress“.

6.5 Date format of online sources

The specification of the date in english-language publications often takes place in the form month/day/year. To the better discoverable in online archives the format of date should be transferred in the original form.

For the representation of current date and time-of-day ISO 8601:1988 (ISO 1988) should be used. This standard defines the specification with YYYY-MM-TT [year-month-day]. Depending upon requirement also more exactly with YYYY-MM-TT HH:MM:SS [heure:minute:second] (International Standards Organisation 1988).

6.6 Further technical specification to the source

Often the range of a publication is unknown. So it can occur that in unawareness a very large publication is downloaded over the network, this is strongly loaded thereby and the transfer costs could be high. E.g. the citing is given with a remark [size: ...]. It can be decided in such a way whether the source is referred if necessary on another way. In the future this aspect might become secondary due to the constantly growing transfer capacities.

If the quoted source is not pure text (ASCII) or the data type is not clearly recognizable, these should additionally indicated at the end of the citing as e.g. [grafik], [audio] or [video]. In certain cases, it can be also meaningful to indicate certain character sets with the use of special characters (e.g. with necessity for a Chinese character set). If the text needs a special character set for the representation, this should be indicated by [character set:], with texts only for certain computers, printers or programs e.g. by [Postscript version]. Likewise differences can exist with the marking of a line end; by the used operating system and the data type this is however often evident. In cases of doubt additionally [CR+LF], [CR] or [LF]³ can be indicated. In order to simplify the source specification, already existing standards for electronic documents if available should be used. (see chapter „Dublin Core Metadata“)

6.7 Sources, which are available at several locations in the Internet

By storing of sources at several different locations in the Internet, for example in the US and Germany, the data lines are fewer loaded during transfer of a place which was situated more near. Here it is to be noted that at different storing places different versions of information can be available, since an update can be delayed temporally or does no longer take place. The URN standard is intended to be able to refer with a URN to several locations.

7 Authors view and the expected development

Today, most citings use mainly the specification of an URL with the date of download. The standards URN and DOI are not finished yet and I assume it still will take years to be adapted by the users and become generally accepted. If a publication has an URN or a DOI, additionally also the URL should be indicated for a certain transition period.

An integration of the URL and URN is furthermore planned to the Uniform Resource Identification (URI); whether and when this standard is present and will be accepted is not clear.

For the systematic description of electronic sources Dublin Core (DC) meta data can be inserted into the publication (Dublin Core Metadata initiative URL: <http://purl.org/dc> [Cited 2000-03-11]). Among other things the bibliographic information are scanned automatically, distributed to other libraries and the publications can be substantially better looked up and found.

In the future, the reader of an electronic work might be able to access a cited electronic publication „with one mouse click“ either free of charge or against a (hopefully small) fee. It would be desirable to directly access certain paragraphs directly, in order to find the quoted location faster. The latter is so far however only rarely possible.

³ Carriage Return, Line Feed

8 List of literature

Monographies

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International Standards Organisation (1988): ISO 8601. Data elements and interchange formats – Information Interchange – Representation of dates and times. Online in Internet: URL: <http://www.iso.ch/markete/8601.pdf> [Cited 2000-02-26].

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Further Internet sources

Die Deutsche Bibliothek
URL: www.ddb.de [Cited 2000-03-17]

Sammlung von Netzpublikationen der Deutschen Bibliothek in Frankfurt
URL: deposit.ddb.de/index.htm [Cited 2000-03-18]

Digital Library: Projekte und Arbeitsgruppen beim BSZ. Bibliotheksservice-Zentrum Baden-Württemberg.
URL: www.bsz-bw.de/diglib [Cited 2000-03-18]

Dublin Core Metadata Initiative
URL: <http://purl.org/dc> [Cited 2000-03-11]

Handle-System
URN: **hdl:**4263537/4000 URL: <http://www.handle.net/index.html> [Cited 2000-02-20]

International DOI Foundation
DOI: **doi:**10.1000/100 URL: <http://www.doi.org/tech.html> [Cited 2000-02-20]

Online Computer Libraray Center (OCLC)
URL: <http://www.oclc.org> [Cited 2000-03-18]

PURL, Persitent Uniform Resource Locator
URL: <http://purl.oclc.org> [Cited 2000-03-18]

List of actual Internet protocol standards
URL: <ftp://ftp.isi.edu/in-notes/std/std1.txt> [Cited 2000-02-27]

International Organization for Standardisation (ISO)
URL: <http://www.iso.ch> [Cited 2000-03-17]

Internet Society (Organisation für das Internet, seine Technologien und Anwendungen)
URL: <http://www.isoc.org> [Cited 2000-03-17]

IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force (Download of RFCs)
URL: <http://www.ietf.org> [Cited 2000-03-17]

An updated link list can be found at www.bleuel.com