E-books in MetaLib—The PoliBuscador experiment

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If many aspects of a perfect management system for e-journals still have to be defined, this is more than true in the case of e-books. E-books are new and the immaturity of existing models is even greater.

This lack of maturity is evident in the integration of e-books in MetaLib and SFX. The limitations of SFX for the administration of the ISBN restrict the functionalities of this link technology. On the other hand the interoperability of the portals of e-books leaves much to be desired.

E-books in the UPV catalogue

The *Universidad Politécnica de Valencia* (UPV) currently has almost 45,000 e-books belonging to the Safari, E-Libro, NetLibrary, and Referex Engineering (Ei Village) portals, together with several encyclopaedias. These books are systematically included in the catalogue by means of the importation of the Marc records provided by the editors.

Configuration of the Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico

A few months ago, the UPV catalogue was configured in *PoliBuscador (PB)*, the MetaLib portal at Valencia,[1] as *Search and View*, in such a way that metasearches may be carried out from the portal against the *Catálogo UPV* resource.

E-books become part of the portal because they are downloaded to the catalogue, but it seemed interesting to isolate them as a subset and to be able to search them separately. Thus, a logic sub-catalogue of the *Catálogo UPV* was created and the new *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico*[2] was configured.[3]

The first step was to make a copy of the configuration of the catalogue that was already included in the Local Knowledge Base. Secondly the configuration was modified so as to achieve a filter to produce the sub-catalogue of e-books. In order to do so the ExLibris manual was followed to use the *Filter for subset* field on the *Presentation Primary* form. This option allows filtering through one of the fields of the library register: WRD (all fields), WAU (author), WTI (title), WSU (subject), WYR (year), ISSN, or ISBN.

A few options were discussed until a feasible one was found: We decided to filter e-books on the basis of the *entry-corporative name field 710,* where in all cases the name of the editor appears as standardised: Safari, E-Library, etc.

The disadvantage of this filter is that it is very sensitive. As this is a field that is introduced manually by the cataloguing team, any change in the wording will need to be corrected on the configuration of the resource.

PoliBuscador

Resource Name: Catálogo UPV- libro electrónico - UPV
*Mandatory fields

Subscription	Presentation: Primary	Presentation: Secondary	Presentation: Library

Type	MetaBuscable
Status	⦿ Active ○ Testing ○ Inactive
Link to Configuration Active?	⦿ Yes ○ No
Suppress SFX Button?	⦿ No ○ Yes
Resource Icons	
Description	Catalogo bibliográfico de libros electrónicos de la Universidad Politécnica de Valencia
Filter for Subset	WRD=(ebrary OR Safari OR NetLibrary OR Engineering Village 2 OR Science
Expiry Date for NEW Resource	20070307 (YYYYMMDD)
Filter for NEW Resource	User Group / User Group / User Group
Link to Holdings in Native Interface	http://www.upv.es/pls/obib/cat_biblio.doc_ficha?p_nlib=$0100
Rank	3

WRD=(ebrary OR Safari OR

NetLibrary OR Engineering

Village 2 OR Science Direct)

[1.] http://polibuscador.upv.es PoliBuscador is the MetaLib portal at the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia (English version available for some screens)

[2.] TN: *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico - UPV e-book catalogue*

[3.] The same procedure, copy of the Catalogue UPV configuration and production of the filter, has been used to create the *Tesis* (Thesis) and *PoliEnlaces* (*Polylinks*) resources. *PoliEnlaces* is a database elaborated by the UPV Library in order to include resources of interest on the WWW.

E-books in MetaLib—The PoliBuscador experiment (cont.)

The *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico* in PoliBuscador

Part of the success of an electronic resource lies in its suitable location in the portal architecture. The main aspects that MetaLib offers to design the architecture are:

- The categories and sub-categories

- The keywords

- The quicksets

Since the implementation of the PoliBuscador e-books have been considered a typological category that, like others, coexists with the subject categories. This one includes all portals of e-books. For the moment it has not been thought necessary to develop them in sub-categories; if this occurs later they will not be thematic but typological in all cases.

The specific resources of e-books specialising in a subject have been included in the corresponding topic categories. For example, *Safari* has been included in the *Informática* [4] Category. In the case of multi-disciplinary resources, such as *E-Libro* [5], they have been allocated to several sets.

On the other hand, the lack of inter-operability of some e-book portals is compensated for by the fact that the *Catálogo UPV* resource is included in all appropriate categories.

So as to facilitate retrieval from the WRD field, all e-book resources have been classified with the descriptors *libro electrónico* [6] and *libro-e.*

Inclusion of the *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico* [7] in the *quicksets* [8]

There is no doubt that *quicksets* are the key element of the architecture of a MetaLib portal; as both the list of *quicksets* and the resources allocated to each one are determinant as to the level of relevance of the replies Quicksets in PoliBuscador, as in any other MetaLib portal, have been designed in the interests of teaching and research. All of them follow a criterion of thematic grouping except that of *Patents*, which

strictly speaking is typological in nature, and that of *En castellano* which responds to a linguistic criterion (resources that preferably may be consulted in Spanish).

The decision as to which quickset both the global Library Catalogue and the e-book Subcatalogue should be included in, was taken after a period of study and internal debate during which arguments in favour and against each possibility were considered.

It was initially thought to include the *Catálogo UPV* resource in all the quicksets but, although increased visibility was an advantage, there were considerable linguistic disadvantages and others referring to content:

- A large number of the books in the catalogue are in Spanish and will therefore not respond to queries in English.

- A large part of the contents of the catalogue consists of general handbooks, while databases contents are mainly articles, patents and other research material. Metasearching resources with such different scope, could lead to irrelevant results.

The solution was provided by the *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico*. Once configured, the trial period showed that its inclusion in the quicksets could comply with two important aims:

- The search results would be enriched by this e-content

- The e-book collection would be more visible and would make an investment that was beginning to be important become more profitable.

The records of this subset do share the same language and scope in the contents of the external databases. They both collect specialized contents written in English.

At present, the *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico* has been introduced in all the quicksets. In time, a more domain-specific filter may be necessary, which would require multi-disciplinary portals to offer distinctive fields for creating

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[4] TN: *Informática - Computing*

[5] TN: *E-Libro - E-book*

[6] TN: *Libro electrónico - E-book*

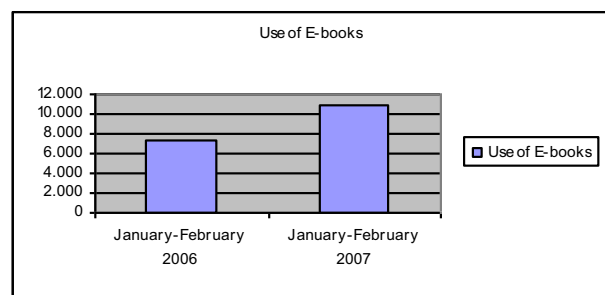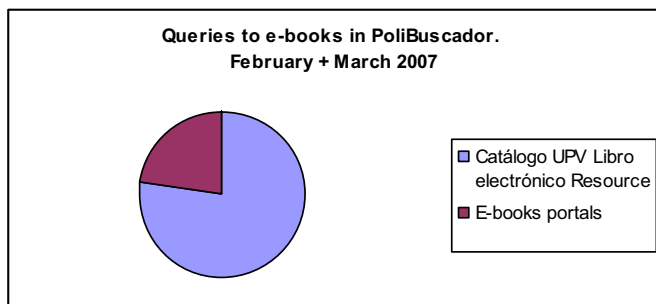[7]. TN: Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico - *UPV E-book Catalogue*

[8]. For a more detailed study of PB architecture consult: Colomina-Fons, Gloria, et al. (2006) Gestión de contenidos en PoliBuscador, el portal de acceso a la Biblioteca Digital de la Universidad Politécnica de Valencia. In *Proceedings VII Jornadas de Gestión de la Información*, Madrid (Spain). http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00008600/ (consulted 25-04-2007)

E-books in MetaLib—The PoliBuscador experiment (cont.)

First resume

The two months of statistics available in the *Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico* do not yet allow us to appreciate a clear trend, but it is evident that the number of queries made to this resource is very much higher than those directed to the totality of e-book portals, as can be seen from the graph below. We must await the accumulation of sufficient critical data in order to analyse the replies of the resource from the report module before the suitability of the decisions made can be confirmed. On the other hand, if the months of January and February in 2006 and 2007 are compared a considerable increase in the use of e-books can be observed. Although a more detailed study remains pending, it can be considered that the actions carried out in the PoliBuscador have contributed to this increase.

AÑO de la CIENCIA 2007

Queries to e-books in PoliBuscador. February + March 2007

- Catálogo UPV Libro electrónico Resource
- E-books portals

Use of E-books

- Use of E-books

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Valencia University campus (credits to Jan Jernmark, Flickr.com)