

3. 'Sous-vedette de localisation spatiale', in früheren Auflagen noch – weniger präzise – als "localisation géographique" bezeichnet: Unterschlagwort der räumlichen Einordnung.
4. 'Sous-vedette de localisation chronologique': Unterschlagwort der zeitlichen Einordnung.
5. 'Sous-vedette de forme et ses compléments': Unterschlagwort der Form und seine Ergänzungen.

Eine unangemessen strikte Trennlinie unterscheidet dabei die Schlagwörter 1 (und 2), die für die Inhaltserschließung als unerlässlich bezeichnet werden, von den anderen Schlagwörtern – des Ortes, der Zeit und der Form –, die allzusehr als eher beliebige Akzessorien gewertet werden (s. u.a. p.32).

Die fundamentale "grammaire" und die ausführlichen "Regeln für den Schlagwortkatalog" lassen sich kaum vergleichen; zu unterschiedlich sind ihre jeweiligen Intentionen. Doch zumindest einige grundlegende Unterschiede seien hier – zumindest für den deutschen Leserkreis – kurz genannt: Die 'grammaire'

- verzichtet auf die Kategorie 'Personenschlagwort', die hier der Kategorie 'Sachschlagwort' zugeordnet wird,
- setzt Permutationen nur sehr sparsam ein. Sofern sie jedoch gebildet werden, können sie – zumindest aus einer RSWK-Perspektive – zu recht ungewöhnlichen Schlagwortketten führen, wie z.B. "Mathématiques, Descartes (René)" (p.87),
- mißt dem geographischen Schlagwort und somit insgesamt dem topographischen Moment eine weit geringere Bedeutung zu. So empfiehlt der Autor beispielsweise die Schlagwortkette "Etats-Unis, médecine" (p.109), bezeichnet hingegen die Permutation "Médecine, Etats-Unis" als Verirrung, die ohne guten Grund gegen das Gebot der Präzision verstoße!
- verlangt von dem Hauptschlagwort Spezifitäts- und Ausdrucksmöglichkeiten, wie sie aus Sicht der RSWK nur von einer längeren Schlagwortkette erwartet werden können.

Die Studie enthält ein Glossar, das sich – dem Trend der Arbeit entsprechend – gerne auch aus dokumentarischen Quellen speist ("Lexique de l'indexation", p.134-144), eine Auswahlbibliographie ("Note bibliographique", p.145-148) sowie ein Register, in dem leider die zentralen französischen Normen nicht erfaßt werden. Dem nicht-französischen Leser gewährt die "grammaire" im Sinne eines comparative librarianship – aufschlußreiche Einblicke in französische Tendenzen der Sachererschließung?
Werner Bies

- 1 Dieselben Zielgruppen will auch N.RICHTERs Grammaire de l'indexation décimale (Le Mans: Bibliothèque de l'Université du Maine 1987) erreichen.
- 2 Dem eiligen Leser sei an dieser Stelle die "Présentation générale" in M.BLANC-MONTMAYEUR und F.DANSET: Choix de vedettes matières à l'intention des bibliothèques (Paris; Ed. du Cercle de la Librairie 1984), p.VII-XXXVI, empfohlen.

Dr. W. Bies, Universitätsbibliothek der FU Berlin, Garystr. 39, D-1000 Berlin 41

Informationsverdichtung und Standardisierung in wissenschaftlichen Veröffentlichungen (Information compression and standardization in scientific publications). Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Karl-Marx-Universität Leipzig, Gesellschaftswissenschaftliche Reihe 37(1988)No.6, p.521-623. ISSN 0043-6879

The thin, yet informative issue contains – in addition to some remarks and reports which are not subjects of the present review (such as news on the scientific life at Karl Marx University, Leipzig) – seven interesting and valuable contributions to LSP (Language for Special Purposes) research: Klaus-Dieter BAUMANN: "Die Betrachtung des normativen Aspektes bei der integrativen Beschreibung der Bedeutung von Fachtexten" (Normative aspect analysis within an integrative approach to the meaning of LSP texts), p.525-38; Liane FIJAS: "Zur Rolle der Textkompression in Primär- und Sekundärtexten" (On the role of text compression in primary and secondary texts), p.539-51; Lothar HOFFMANN: "Makrostruktur und Kohärenz als Fachtextsortenmerkmale" (Macrostructure and coherence as markers of text types), p.552-65; Angelika RUST: "Zu Standardisierungstendenzen in wissenschaftlichen Veröffentlichungen, dargestellt an russisch- und deutschsprachigen Fachbuchrezensionen der Pädagogik" (Tendencies toward standardization in scientific publications, exemplified by Russian and German book-reviews in the field of education), p.566-74; Kerstin SEISE: "Pronomina und Informationsverdichtung" (Pronouns and the compression of information), p.575-85; Natalia WENZEL: "Textgestaltungsprinzipien in der Zeitschrift Zhurnal Neorganicheskoy Khimii" (Principles of text composition in the journal 'Zhurnal Neorganicheskoy Khimii'), p.586-92; Ines WIEGAND: "Zur Rolle der Termini bei der Informationserschließung in russischsprachigen wissenschaftlichen Fachtexten der Stomatologie" (The role of technical terms in information retrieval from stomatological texts in Russian), p.593-603.

The contributors have done research on the multifarious means of text compression and information compression in various text types typical of LSP communication: abstract, summary, brief report, review, review article, article in an encyclopedia, article in a scientific periodical, package circular, directions for use. Economy of expression and condensation of meaning, linguistic sparseness and density of information and the efficient compression of a text are all achieved by a wealth of means of compression and rationalization: complex nominal phrases, verbal nouns, participial constructions, adverbial-participial constructions, pronouns, conjunctions, ellipses, enumerations, numerals, abbreviations, signs, symbols, formulas, tables, and colons followed by enumerations. In view of these means of compression it is no wonder that the study of information compression relies, to a large extent, on the discoveries of cohesion and coherence research. It may suffice here to recall the concepts of terminological isotopy and semantic dominance. In many cases information compression may be considered as a specialized form of creating coherence. After reading the seven contributions in question it becomes clear that the co-

hesion and coherence of a text can only be examined by making use of an 'integrative' approach, an approach which does not focus on isolated linguistic levels (such as syntax or lexicology), but, instead, analyzes the synergistic working of all linguistic means, in order to seek out the structural and functional unity of a text.

The innovative character of the present collection of articles, however, is neither due to the turning away from a mere analysis of isolated linguistic levels nor to the focusing on the overall architecture of the text: it has been a long time since these methodological prerequisites became commonplace in the science of language. As major innovation should be considered: the linguists' wish to no longer confine themselves to description and interpretation; the striving to derive recommendations from the results of linguistic research, i.e., to formulate standards for the future composition of LSP texts. The title of Lothar Hoffmann's preface, "Von der linguistischen Beschreibung zur bewußten Gestaltung wissenschaftlicher Texte" (From linguistic description to conscious composition of scientific texts, p.523-24), should be read as a signpost.

Various dangers loom on the road taken by the Leipzig linguists. Of course, it may be tempting to gain means of an efficient and economic, regulated and standardized textual progression of information by the results of text linguistics. And I suppose that most abstractors and librarians will be glad to hear the suggestion that "the main isotopy chain should be ... represented in the title of the publication" (p.564). But most recommendations given by the authors (cf. especially p.363-65) seem to be rather dubious. Will the authors of LSP-publications really take the linguist's advice, that

LSP texts of the same function and the same subject should follow a uniform intellectual structure (which will allow of a limited number of possible complements) which - from a formal point of view - should also be easily recognizable? (p.564)

To our astonishment we also learn that LSP texts should "make conscious and economic use of syntactical-lexical binding means such as ... conjunctions" (p.564). Very often conjunctions are the very parts of speech praised as an aid in the creation of syntactical inambiguity, a support which is indispensable to LSP communication (1). The reviewer is also sceptical about the somewhat naive suggestions that it would be possible to "submit... proposals for the compression of information and thereby to contribute in a decisive way to the damming of the steadily rising information flood" (p.575). Equally irritating are tendencies towards a two-cultures-theory based on the macrostructure of text production: Science, medicine and technology are praised for their "well-considered austerity", whereas "some social sciences" are accused of "careless generosity" (p.556).

Applied linguistics, especially LSP research, as a standardizing force of text production? As a science striving to adjust language usage to scientific 'progress' pressing for the abridgement and compression of scientific texts? Applied linguistics as a critic of language and, at worst, as a stern judge of the composition of texts? The history of linguistics clearly shows that prescriptive and normative tendencies tend to be detrimental to the cautious analysis of texts.

The criticism of the prescriptive, normative and standardizing tendencies of the collection under review should not blind us to its enormous strong points. Let us put emphasis on the strong points reminiscent of the major publications of the so-called 'Leipzig School' (2): A highly sensitive methodological consciousness; an empirical and detailed account of language based on ample data collections; a liking for statistics; terminological precision; the endeavour to understand the structural and functional complexities of language; the concentration on the communicative and pragmatic aspects of language; the evaluation of language as a social phenomenon.

There are many observations on the creation of information compression useful to all those compressing texts, reading compressed texts or teaching the know-how of text compression: indexers, abstractors, documentalists, librarians, even editors and translators, and, of course, all members of the scientific community as authors of LSP texts. This welcome collection offers no directions for use, but the raising of awareness among the practising profession is one of its major strengths.

Werner Bies

References

- (1) Dressler, W.U.: Textuelle Kohäsionsverfahren in der Wissenschaftssprache. Eine funktionelle Ableitung. Fachsprache 5(1983)No.2, p.51-57
- (2) To the 'Leipzig School' belong among others: Hoffmann, L.(Ed.): Fachsprachen und Sprachstatistik. Beiträge zur angewandten Sprachwissenschaft. Berlin: Academic-Verlag 1975. - Hoffmann, L., Piotrowski, R.G.: Beiträge zur Sprachstatistik. Leipzig: Verl.Enzyklopädie 1979. - Hoffmann, L.: Kommunikationsmittel Fachsprache. Eine Einführung. 2nd ed. Tübingen: Narr 1985. - Hoffmann, L.(Ed.): Fachsprachen. Instrument und Objekt. Leipzig: Verl.Enzyklopädie 1987.

Dr.W.Bies, Universitätsbibliothek der FU Berlin,
Gaystr. 39, D-1000 Berlin 41

RIGGS, Fred W. (Ed.): **Ethnicity. Intercocta Glossary. Concepts and Terms Used in Ethnicity Research.** (Pilot edn. published under the auspices of the Intern.Social Science Council. Committee on Conceptual and Terminological Analysis (COCTA), with the financial assistance of UNESCO. Available from INDEKS Verlag, Frankfurt. = Int.Conceptual Encyclopedia for the Social Sciences. Vol.1. 1985.

The early development of the INTERCONCEPT Programme of Unesco has already been described in this journal by Pal VASARHELYI (1), and much of the work of organising the INTERCOCTA Project for the ISSC has been carried out by Professor Fred W.Riggs at the Department of Political Science, University of Hawaii, Honolulu. In many articles and other contributions Riggs has been expounding his views on the problems and difficulties facing social science documentation. His approach is "the Onomantic Solution", which differs from the conventional dictionary definition approach to the identification of the meaning of terms, and instead "requires us to define a concept by means of words before we can identify the best terms for it"(2). That article brings us up to date with the latest work on the Project.