The Obtain and Utilization of The Grey Literature on Internet

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Abstract. The obtain of network information becomes increasingly important. The grey literature are important parts of the information ocean. These information is difficult to obtain by general search engine. The purpose of this thesis is going to arouse the users' great attention, so they can obtain multi-professional information by using invisible website.

Keywords: network information, grey literature, general search engine

1. Introduction

Information has become an important strategic resource In the 21st century. Web information research has become the main channel of obtaining information. People will face an important question about how to master the latest information and obtain the latest knowledge.

2. The Defination Of The Grey Literature

Information research may be divided into two stages since the 20th Century: manual searching and computer retrieval. With the development of computer network, network resources are increasingly rich and colorful. But because of the limitation of collection and indexing technology, more and more information can not be effectively indexed, so some numerous invisible website have been formed.

What is the invisible website? The web text, files and the authority information that can be obtained by web haven't been brought into webpage index of general search engines, because of the limitation of Network Technology.

In fact, most information can be researched. If we want to search database, we must use powerful retrieval tools which provided by database itself. The advantage of this method is the stability of the database structure, so the website's maintaince is much easier. Certainly, user needs to find out the database first. General research engine is helpless for it.

3. The Characteristics Of The Grey Literature

3.1. The Resources Contents of The Grey Literature is Limited With Specific Subject Area

Many databases are provided by government agency and academic institution. The search results from these resources are more comprehensive than the visible website. The causes are as follows:

This kind of database has no restriction for retrieval speed. All the related results can be feedbacked.

The creator of database resources will construct it as much as possible. Users can search for lots of related literature. This is completely different from the general searching engine. Because there is no indexed depth problem, all of literature should be indexed in databases.

3.2. It Can Widely Provide Professional Searching Interface and Practice Control for Retrieval Result

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Although general search engine has the ability of searching professional information, it is inferior to searching service of professional information. The searching range of general search engine is wide, but the searching precision of invisible website is very exact. Those databases provide uses with the measures of relative degree, data, author or other standards for literature classification. The combination of flexibility and general search engine's function can realize WYSIWYG.

3.3. Invisible Website Has Higher Precision Ratio and Recall Ratio

In order to improve the furthest degree of correlation for users' question asking and database, both the recall ratio and precision ratio should be improved by search engine. Commonly, both of them are not gained meanwhile. But information collection and treatment scope was limited to special subject area by invisible website and special searching service, its database is also smaller, so the recall ratio and precision ratio are very exact. User can gain greater benefits.

3.4. Providing of Authoritative Information

Many invisible websites are maintained by authoritative organization, so they have higher authority and legality in some subject area. Most of these websites are provided by magazine publisher. Its' authority is easy to be determined because of good reputation in library or scholars.

3.5. Providing Information That Difficult to Obtain in Other Places

In general, users think those information can not be viewed in other websites because they can not be searched in general engineer. In fact, many information can only be obtained from invisible website and they are stored in database. Although general engineer can not access it directly, they are existing in network and they can be obtained freely.

4. How To Use The Resources Of Invisible Website

It isn't easy to do when selecting invisible website. The cases are as follows:

If users completely understand some subject area, he can naturally find out some suitable resources. Knowing and familiarity with the subject area, it can help user to find optimum results and method of new resources.

If users are familiar with some special retrieval tools, he may also obtain information by an invisible website. Although some websites cover many subjects, most of them provide advanced retrieval interface. By using modify symbol, boolean logical search or other advanced search function, users can obtain high search efficiency.

If users want to find a simple answer, for example, a special fact, telephone number, names, Booklists, etc, it will be more efficient by invisible website. On the contrary, if users use general search engine, he can obtain massive possible answers, so he must view and inquire results by plenty of time.

When users need more detailed and authoritative results, he can search it with. But general search engine can not return authoritative results because of its depth of index, fressness and lack of filterability.

When users need the information in time, he can use invisible website too. Because the resource of it is more new and faster than general search engine and network guidebook.

5. Conclusions

Usually, the data of invisible website is more complete and convenient than the general search engine.

Database of invisible website is more frequently newer, so it can provide the latest on-line information.

The precision and correlation degree of invisible website are high.

The information content of this kind of web has higher reference value.

This kind of information is free or very low cost for searching information. Meanwhile, it can provide multi-format for users' selection.

We can search non-text information by invisible website.

The database of invisible website provide special interface, so its retrieval efficiency is higher.

The search software of some websites (such as Targeted Crawler) for indexing resources will make detailed description according to some special subject.

Compared with the general search engine, invisible website not only collect more pages of every website and renew its data frequently. Certainly, invisible website is not the only method of obtaining information. In order to get higher search results, we should combine invisible website with general search engine and web guide.

6. References

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