# Internet Information for Social Science Research INFORMATION INTERNET POUR LES RECHERCHES EN SIENCES SOCIALES

### YANG Dan<sup>1)</sup>

**Abstract:** In the knowledge innovation for social science, Internet information has become an important information resource than paper resources. In the social scientific research, leaving the Internet resources only on paper resources, the quality and level of research will be greatly affected. Therefore, the information Internet will become an important research resource. In this paper, analyze Internet information characteristics and the role of knowledge in the social scientific knowledge innovation. This will enable researchers to more fully understand the Internet resources for the production of knowledge, and make full use of their predecessors, research results and experience to achieve the purpose of social science research innovation.

Key words: Social science research; Internet information

**Résumé:** En ce qui concerne l'innovation des connaissances en sciences sociales, les informations sur Internet sont devenues une source importante plutôt que les informations en papier. Dans les recherches en sciences sociales, si on utilise seulement les informations en papier et laisse à côté les informations sur Internet, la qualité et le niveau de recherches seront vivement affectés. Les informations sur Internet deviendront ainsi une source importante pour les recherches. Dans cet article, on fait des analyses sur les caractéristiques des informations sur Internet et le rôle de connaissance dans l'innovation de connaissances en sciences sociales. Cela encouragera les chercheurs de comprendre mieux le rôle des sources Internet pour la production de connaissance et faire plein usage de leurs prédécesseurs, des résultats de recherches et des expériences afin de réaliser le but de l'innovation de la recherches en sciences sociales.

Mots-Clés: Recherche en sciences sociales; Informations sur Internet

With the development of computer technology, the Internet is widely used and developed. Making online social science academic information resources increased significantly. In the knowledge innovation for social science, Internet information has become an important information resource than paper resources. In the social scientific research, leaving the Internet resources only on paper resources, the quality and level of research will be greatly affected. Therefore, the information Internet will become

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an important research resource.

## 1. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE INTERNET AND TRADITIONAL RESOURCES OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

The Internet and traditional resource have the same content. The main difference between them is in the following ways.

#### 1<sup>st</sup>. Different information state

Information is a dynamic information Internet, and its contents always changing, and the number of web site and page changes all the time. Therefore, the information content is constantly updated. Information has a strong timeliness. Although unique site of Internet literature seemingly stable, but in fact is also changing. Internet changes the access ways of the literature. Page update cycle as short, the content in a dynamic changes. The traditional literature information is fixed material carriers; contents of the same version of the publication will not change.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup>. Different degree of openness

Internet information is provided hyperlinks. Information on the Internet are linked with other pages and sites. Internet users are also open; any user can be linked with others, and interactive. Anyone can use the Internet to launch its own research results at any time. They can also create personal websites, the results of their research would be stored in the web server, ready to use for other users.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Arrangement methods are different

Internet information is hyper linked way, which decided that the information nonlinear characteristics. The traditional literature is fixed material carriers, which decided the storage and reading linear manner of traditional information.

#### 4<sup>th</sup>. Correlation different

The Internet links a multi-dimensional approach to information structure. Different documents of different countries, different regions and different pages through hyperlinks constituted a multidimensional Internet structure. Traditional literature and other documents related mainly embodied in references and notes, and so on.

#### 5<sup>th</sup>. Different carriers

Internet information is the carrier of the virtual. Internet information is stored in digital form. Most of the traditional literature-printing vector is physical vector.

### 2. TYPES OF INTERNET RESOURCES

Internet information can be divided into two parts: the stability and instability of information resources. Most of the stable information can be called the Internet information resources, they are main source of Internet information, and which is a very important source in Social science research.

#### 2.1 Internet paper resource

The part of Social Science Internet resources is the paper Internet resources, which including: electronic journals, electronic books, newspapers, dissertation et al. Digital paper resource on Internet is the same as digital paper resource, only provided a different form.

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A. Online book: online book include bibliographic information and electronic books. Bibliographic information provided by Publishers; online directory provided by Library, documentation and information Center; electronic books provided by digital library; electronic books provided by research institutions; electronic books provided by individuals or groups web site.

B. Electronic journals online resources: electronic journals online is time-intensive, rich content, such advantages as diverse retrieval way, their utilization rate is very high. E-journals, including hardcopy issue and only Internet issued at the same time. The main channels include: publishers and Series retrieval services providers; Internet database information services; Literature intelligence departments or academic institutions to provide services; online periodical service.

C. Online newspapers: E-newspaper time-intensive, wide dissemination provided a great deal information of current affairs, feature about economic, political, legal and other aspects. This information is gradually becoming an important new source of social sciences information.

D. Online degree thesis: Online degree thesis including: national database of graduate theses; information provided by commercial publishing or information intermediaries; on-line retrieval system in the degree thesis database (WANG, 2003).

#### 2.2 Open-access resources

Open-access resources are increasingly subject to the attention of the people and become the important academic research resources. Open access is take action by the international academic community, the publishing industry and the library and information sector. The purpose is to promote the Internet Communications and utilization of the results of scientific research, to promote academic freedom and the extensive information exchanges, and the exchange of scientific research and publishing, enhance the degree of public use of scientific research, to protect the long-term preservation of scientific information, and improve the efficiency of scientific research.

Open access with the following basic characteristics: 1) in content, open access only control the information quality, but not the content and form. 2) Search way: It stress that open communication. The same document can be retrieved and viewed with a variety of ways, to cover the whole Internet. 3) The systems need to have good interoperability to reducing barriers to access. Authority of use the academic literature is expanded. 4) This form can achieve authors, readers, editors and one-on-one, one-to-many, many-to-many interactive mode, the importance of improving the timeliness of academic exchanges, the promotion literature dealing with automation the extent to shorten the publication cycle (QIAO, 2004).

Open access has short publishing cycle; publishing low-cost, convenient retrieval, facilitate the dissemination of research results, the advantages of wide readership audience. Open-access form has the following advantages: 1) increase research staff of the article cited rate, speeding up the rate of the spread of scientific research; 2) can raise the visibility of scientific research institutions; 3) reduce the cost of access to research results, beneficial to the least developed countries to develop the cause of scientific research. 4) Open access to resources of openness, we can reduce academic corruption.

#### 2.3 Internet Forum

Internet Forum is a place that the people can release personal views, ideas, and experience. It is time to understand and study disciplines tracking dynamic and effective way to the forefront of one, can eliminate the time lag of print publications. Internet forum has many characteristics. The ways of theoretical exchanges among scholars are both synchronous communication and asynchronous transmission. The methods of exchange expand on the scope of discussion of academic issues, and facilitate individual tacit knowledge into explicit knowledge. The "relay" dissemination of Thinking is an interactive format of Internet forum. The "upstairs" and "downstairs" follow the "Notes" is actually a way of thinking and inspired the collision and academic exchanges. Each other's views can be tit-for-tat, can be mutual recognition, mutual inspiration from each other. All these make Internet forums with individual characteristics. The application of Internet forum in the social scientific research can quickly

be embedded in the forum, a hot-button issue on many people's view. This is hidden resource of Internet richly.

#### 2.4 Blog

In social science research, the blog is an important information resource. A blog is simply a personal web page in a journal format. Blog is the acronym of "Web Log". "From tiny beginnings in the late 1990s, blogging has grown rapidly and continuously. In September 2003, Technorati claimed to watch nearly 4 million weblogs, with more than half a billion links. By October 2005, the number had risen to 21 million, although an increasing proportion of these are 'splogs', spurious or 'Spam' blogs set up automatically by computer programs and designed solely to attract automated advertisements from firms such as Google. Other estimates are as high as 50 million."(John, 2006, 483)

Blog refers to the way to use of Internet publishing and published an article. People use blog to exchange ideas. Blog is the personal and ideological essence of timely recording posted on the Web. Social science researchers often use a blog for issues discussion. These issues are often a hot fields or difficult problems. Personal blog is links with the world's most valuable and the most relevant, the most interesting information and resources. Blog generally include the following three aspects: First, the content of the expression of personality; second, diary form, and frequently updated; third, make full use of links, expand articles, as well as knowledge of the link with other blog. From the point of view of knowledge management, the blog is a simple and efficient knowledge management tools. Blog is a very good access to hidden knowledge. It can be personal tacit knowledge into explicit knowledge. A paper published from conception to take a few months time; a book from the selection of subjects to materials, and then to the needs of the publication for several years.

The blog is different. People have ideas can be written, will be published finished. If you encounter Concert, you will soon produce exchange with others. The delay of the paper published has been effectively reduced in the open environment provided by the blog; blog is Capriccio. Compared with the Forum, blog is the more personalized more depth of thinking and writing even more arbitrary. We can be found in his own research interests in the Scholars 'blog. Scholars in the blog can be found his own research interests, current issues of greatest concern on particular issues, and the in-depth thinking. We can even from the author himself to a dim awareness of the problem to the analysis of very valuable research topics and academic activities. Internet links is very important academic resources. The scholars will link the Internet of professional resources to do systematic collection and collation, and continue to add links. This is a very good Internet of academic resources from the actual needs of the readers of sorted out. Most blogging software includes, by default, comments thread attached to each post. While some blogs do not allow comments, the view is widely held that, in the absence of comments, a site is not really, or not fully, a blog. Typically, each blog attracts a group of regular commenter, mostly pseudonymous, but with well-established identities within the group. This regular commenter may be regarded as subaltern authors, since the final product consists of the post and comments, taken together (John, 2006, 483).

Internet is changing Internet with a function of a communication. It is no longer just the beginning Internet for the information. It is a gradual rise, unlike conventional communication technology. Exchange enriched blog; make the blog the broader academic resources involved. Blog is a chain of academic resources collection and use of the process. It is more than the traditional academic resources practicality, refers specifically, dynamic, forward-looking. The development and utilization of blog resources and the Internet forum are both with the potential development and the important academic resource.

#### 2.5 Internet Meeting

Web conferencing is a new form of academic exchanges. With the traditional academic conferences, academic papers published in the Internet conferences are also important research resources. It includes two parts: one is to use the Internet to held academic conference, and the other is using the Internet

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meeting to release of academic information. Some academic groups and organizations have already successfully held a number of the international Internet of professional academic conferences. Participate in the meetings, so that more scholars will have the opportunity to participate in academic exchanges, without the limitations of Distance and academic status. Compared with the traditional academic conferences, Web conferencing can make dissemination of academic information even faster and publishing cycle do not be restricted. Scholars can quickly understand the latest research developments. Internet academic conference papers are important source of social sciences innovation.

#### **2.6 Internet Database**

There is a wide range of academic journals. This gives access to a great deal of inconvenience caused. Periodical Literature database for retrieval brings about a revolutionary impact. According to the traditional methods of investigation, collection scattered in the relevant articles in the journals is almost impossible. Database has a way of changing this situation. Internet Database provide more convenient for professional staff which in the different regions and in the different research field.

#### 2.7 Professional website

With the rapid development of the Internet, more and more research institutes pay attention to building professional website. There are 36 have set up their own websites or web page among 49 Academy of Social Sciences (excluding Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan) (SHI and DENG, 2005). There set up the professional websites. Professional web site is a shortcut to obtain academic information. It is directed at any particular fields or disciplines related to a particular theme for the collection and organization of related resources on the Internet, and the establishment of academic resource guide system.

### **3. INTERNET RESEARCH TOOLS**

Social science research tools can be used, such as Internet search engines, digital Reference Books, Internet navigation, professional portals, and other software tools.

#### 3.1 Search engine

Search engine is a kind of intelligent software tools of automatic indexing. It uses the Internet to automatically retrieve information through the combination approach. Internet search engine is divided into two parts: public and professional search engine. Public search engines: such as Google, Yahoo, Baidu, Google. These search engines can be searched for a considerable number of Internet research resources. These are research tool that must be used in social science research. Ask website (http://www.ask.com/) is an important research tool. Ask.com truly realizes the "wisdom search." The web site will be based on facts, vertical search results combined with the expert team to provide intelligent information services.

#### A. Based on the facts

Wisdom search results include information from encyclopedias, dictionaries or authoritative source. Large-scale database will provide information to ASK websites.

#### B. Vertical search results

Similar with the fact search, vertical search is expanding professional database information. One in ASK search engine Team said: ASK may convene a Dream Team, the members of which are experts within a dynamic community of some field. These experts edit the content on the Internet.<sup>2</sup> Professional search engine has a good reference specifically to the access the various professional and social science

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.marketingman.net/blog/wangbeilei/2845.html.

research resources. Search result has the higher quality and degree of refers specifically.

#### 3.2 Internet navigation

Professional navigation than the search engine refers specifically to a higher degree. Internet navigation includes more subjects at all, which have high academic value and information reliability strong; enter the Internet of professional disciplines by linking. Social Science Information Resources navigation is the use of Web search technology to guide users to enter professional disciplines portal sites (CHEN, 2006).

#### 3.3 Professional portal

Subject information portal, also known as the theme of Gateway, is the entrance and channel for Internet users to access the information resources. "Technically, the subject information portal that is, the use of information technology, such as cross-system retrieval, metadata collection technologies, the collection, analysis, collation and the merger of the decentralized and distributed Internet information will be integrated. The content can be integrated into a customized personalized interface presented to the user. This interface can be a Web browser, or other possible way. "(KHON and LI, 2005, 50-53)

Subject information portal is the field of information resources into a single platform. Users can use the convenient entrance to retrieve information, and to achieve a one-stop search. To engage social science research by use of Internets is strong improvement. Academic research in almost steps can all complete by one machine and an Internet connection. This will significantly save time, promote the academic and research innovation.

In short, social science research innovative needs for development and utilization of information resources, and for effective information security. Social science innovation is the basic guarantee with the subject, related disciplines, interdisciplinary, crosses disciplinary and other academic resources. It can be said that the resource advantages in social science research determines their academic strengths, determine the intensity of social science research innovation.

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