Beyond interfaces: A usability study of Chinese journal databases

Rutgers University has made this article freely available. Please share how this access benefits you. Your story matters. [https://rucore.libraries.rutgers.edu/rutgers-lib/22366/story/]

Citation to Publisher
Version: No citation available.


Terms of Use: Copyright for scholarly resources published in RUcore is retained by the copyright holder. By virtue of its appearance in this open access medium, you are free to use this resource, with proper attribution, in educational and other non-commercial settings. Other uses, such as reproduction or republication, may require the permission of the copyright holder.

Article begins on next page
Beyond Interfaces: A Usability Study of Chinese Journal Databases

Tao Yang

Yale University
March 21, 2007
Why does usability of digital resources matter to libraries?

- Usability is a concern in the selection process, along with cost and content.
- Online databases are changeable.
- Librarians (and users) expect the databases to improve.
- Librarians are in a unique position to make a difference.
Two types of usability issues

- Issues with the native interface of a database
  - What to use as a default search: simple or advanced?
  - Where to put a button?

- Issues in an integrated online environment
  - Federated searching
    - Example: Metalib
  - OpenURL
    - Example: SFX
  - Bibliographic manager
    - Example: EndNote
  - RSS feeds
Subscribing to RSS feed in CAJ
Viewing latest CAJ content via RSS
Bibliographic management solutions

- Different bibliographic managers
  - Standalone: EndNote
  - Web-based: RefWorks
  - Hybrid: Zotero
- CAJ and Wanfang COJ work well with both EndNote and RefWorks, but not Zotero
Importing CAJ records into RefWorks
## Scorecard: CAJ vs. Wanfang Journals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>CAJ (EastView/CNKI)</th>
<th>Wanfang China Online Journals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RSS Feed</td>
<td>Y (glitch in accessing full text)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliographic Management Solutions</td>
<td>Y (with EndNote and RefWorks)</td>
<td>Y (with EndNote and RefWorks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenURL</td>
<td>Partial (target-compliant only; journal level only; glitch with Century Journals)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federated Search</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Google Scholar as a solution for Wanfang
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CAJ (EastView/CNKI)</th>
<th>Wanfang China Online Journals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RSS Feed</td>
<td>Y (glitch in accessing full text)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliographic Management Solutions</td>
<td>Y (with EndNote and RefWorks)</td>
<td>Y (with EndNote and RefWorks, plus others that can work with Google Scholar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenURL</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>Partial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(target-compliant only; journal level only; glitch with Century Journals)</td>
<td>(source-compliant, through Google Scholar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federated Search</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Y (through Google Scholar)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>