

**RESEARCH WORKS IN LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SCIENCE
VOLUME 2**

Yushiana Mansor



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AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
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Editor

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1. FRBR AND OPAC

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ABSTRACT

This chapter emphasises on the functions of online library catalogues (OPAC). The FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) model is introduced and its potential in enhancing OPAC performance is discussed. Conclusively, FRBR promotes user-centered bibliographic database design. Findings from initial FRBR research suggests improved searching results, improved user satisfaction, and enhanced user search performance.

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Locating information is one of the major challenges which library users encounter when they are searching for information from all information sources such as online catalogues (OPAC), Internet and library databases. The development of information technology (IT) and the growing of information volume which is available in different formats such as printed, CDs, DVDs, manuscripts, microfilms and digitised theses could discourage users to find information that can fulfil their needs. The availability of information in various formats tends to be as a challenge more than as an advantage as locating relevant information effectively and efficiently requires a number of skills and competencies from the users.

Nowadays, most information searchers are familiar with search engine such as Google and they get used to the try and error strategies (Bates, 2003). As a result, they expect the library online catalogues to be in a similar way if not better. These expectations might influence the behaviours of online library catalogue users based on their experiences with the commercial books catalogues such as *Amazon.com* and other search engines.