

## USE OF CD-ROM DATABASES: A CASE STUDY

### **Dattatraya Trayambakrao Kalbande**

Sénior Reasearch Fellow (e-Granth Project)  
Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri. Dist.Ahamadnagar (M.S)  
Email: [Kalbanded@gmail.com](mailto:Kalbanded@gmail.com)

### **Dr. Chavan Subhash P.**

Librarian  
Shri. Asaramji Bhandwaldar College, Deogaion (R).  
Tal.Kannad, Dist. Aurangabad. (M.S)  
Email: [subhashchavan05@gmail.com](mailto:subhashchavan05@gmail.com)

### **Dr. Golwal Madanshing D**

Librarian  
ASP College, Deorukh, Ratnagiri (M.S)  
Email: [mgolwal4@gmail.com](mailto:mgolwal4@gmail.com)

## ABSTRACT

*CD-ROM Databases play the vital role for upgrading facilities and improving services to effectively meet the information needs of users. The present era is an era of information and knowledge revolution. Many electronic resources have been made most available in the libraries. The paper deals with Introduction, Advantages and Disadvantages of CD-ROM Database, Scope & limitations, Related Studies, Objectives, Methodology and data analysis.*

**Keywords:** CD-ROM databases, ICT, Users study.

## INTRODUCTION

CD-ROMs are therefore very popular for storing databases and full-text materials. Many databases containing details of medical, health or development materials are available on CD-ROM – for example, African Health Line, AIDS Line, Medline, and POPLINE. Most CD-ROM databases are updated regularly. The only cost is an annual subscription. An increasing number of free CD-ROMs contain collections of full-text documents such as e-Talc, and the Humanity Development Library. No special software is needed to use CD-ROMs. Using CDROMs to distribute and access information is useful in situations where using the Internet is costly, unreliable or unavailable.

### **ADVANTAGES OF CD-ROM DATABASES:**

1. Can provide access to large databases
2. Easy to search
3. Fast to use
4. Easy to transport
5. Durable; not easily damaged
6. Can be used on any computer with a CD drive
7. Available in multimedia (containing sound and movement) on a computer
8. With multimedia facilities
9. No telephone/internet service costs
10. No reliance on telephone/internet access/availability
11. Fixed subscription cost.

### **DISADVANTAGES OF CD-ROM DATABASES:**

1. Data may not be completely up-to-date
2. Subscription cost can be high.

### **MAHATMA PHULE KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, RAHURI (M.S).**

The Maharashtra Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri is established on March 29, 1968 and subsequently named as *Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth (MPKV)* after a great social reformer "*Mahatma Jyotiba Phule*". It has started functioning from October, 1969 at Rahuri, District Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India. The Campus is situated 160 km from Pune on Pune-Delhi highway in Ahmednagar district.

The basic mandates assigned to this University are advancement in teaching, research and imparting extension education to the farmers of the State. There are four Agricultural Universities in the State, catering the similar services in their locality. The jurisdiction of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri extends over Western Maharashtra covering ten districts. The University has two faculties namely Agriculture and Agricultural Engineering. The under-graduate and post-graduate programmes are offered in both faculties. The University also deals with lower agricultural education through Agricultural Schools, Mali Training Centre and Training's for Livestock Supervisors. The University has a very good network of research stations spread over different agro-climatic zones. In all 23 research stations, 4 State level specialists and 16 research testing/verification centers are located in different agro-climatic zones in addition to 4 Zonal Research stations. Of the three fold functions, it is mandatory on the part of the University to transfer the technology from the research centers to the ultimate users through extension education programme.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of the study was to explore the awareness and usage of CD-ROM Databases by the post graduate (PG) and doctoral students of MPKV. The main objectives were to:

- Evaluate the pattern of access and use of CD-ROM Database by the PG and doctoral students
- Find out the purposes for CD-ROM Database use
- Assess the impact of CD-ROM Database based delivery of digital resources
- Know the satisfaction of users regarding CD-ROM Database
- Assess the provision and impact of user education and information literacy courses for PG and doctoral students
- Suggest suitable measures to improve the CD-ROM Database based delivery of digital resources

## **SCOPE AND LIMITATION**

The study is based on the user behavior and the pattern of the utilization of information resources by the PG and doctoral students of MPKV. The scope of the study is limited to the digital resources mainly available through CD-ROM Databases in MPKV.

## **RELATED STUDIES**

Dubey, Soniya and et-al (2004). CD ROM Databases: an Approach for Creation of Personalized Databases. This paper discusses approach for information extraction and tailoring of information as per user requirements – Database Personalization. This paper also addresses the issues of database security and Intellectual Property Rights involved in creation of CDROM Databases. Database personalization is a better solution for fulfilling the increased demand of customized and up-to-date information. CDROM databases are one of the best ways to make these personalized databases available to specific group of persons without any network connectivity.

Bhatnagar, Anjana (2004). Search Techniques for Accessing CD-Rom Databases. This study have attempt in details about what are the CD-ROM Databases, why we use them and why we don't want to use them in academic libraries are discussed briefly. Types of databases are explained by illustration. Search features commonly available in four selected CDROM databases such as keyword search, phrase search, Boolean search etc are discussed briefly. The selected CD-ROM databases are Ulrich's on disc from Directory, Ei Compendex Bibliographic database, and Emerald full-text database of journal article. Some of the general issues related to the searching and retrieval of information from CD-ROM databases are briefly discussed. Some common points have been identified that the user must consider in order to quickly accessing information on CD-ROM databases in an effective way.

Abdul M.K. (2011). Utilization of CD-ROM Databases by the Users of Indian institute of technology-Kharagpur: A Survey. The study reveals that most of the users consult CD- ROM databases not only for updating their knowledge but also for collecting relevant information for

the study and research purposes. A majority of the users have become aware of CD-ROM databases through library staff, discussions with colleagues and from observation. The most popular search method for searching CD-ROM databases is keyword followed by Boolean operators and phrases.

Shaw Debora (1995). Undergraduate Use of CD-ROM Databases: Observations of Human-Computer Interaction and Relevance Judgments. This study indicates that ten students in a freshman Elementary Composition course were observed as they searched bibliographic databases on a CD-ROM LAN. All were preparing term papers, and were asked to think aloud as they conducted their searches. A total of 329 relevance judgments were made as the students searched an average of 2.7 databases per session. Basic familiarity with computers and a tendency to get out of unproductive searches helped in avoiding problems with the variety of databases and search interfaces. All students found records they chose to print, with relevance judgments often made from information in the controlled vocabulary, title, or abstract. The browse interface was used most often, and its similarity to Info trac was helpful. Some students were able to use keyword access effectively, though Wilson disc's multitier search required adjustments and adaptation of strategies. Silver Platter's record display and print functions caused confusion for searchers unfamiliar with this interface.

Okpala, Angela E. and Igbeka, Josephine U. (2005) .Analysis of users' searches of CDROM databases. investigated the behavior of searchers of CD-ROM databases in the Kenneth Dike Library of the University of Ibadan, Nigeria .The result shows that logical operators "AND "and "OR" are significantly used for searching by end-users; that search results are dependent on search strategy employed by the user.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The study was conducted among the PG and research students of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth Rahuri. Data was mainly collected using a Questionnaire. As a course teacher of 'library and information services'; and 'research methodology' for the PG and doctoral courses of the university, the investigator has made additional discussions with the students and enriched the data thus collected. The data was collected from total 359 PG and PhD students.

## **DATA ANALYSIS**

An attempt has been made to analyze the research data collected from students from MPKV and interpret the results revealing their awareness among the use of CD-ROM Databases that provides valuable source of information to the library managers and planners in designing and developing a suitable strategy in promoting the better use of valuable information sources including electronic format and thus justifying the cost effectiveness of library efforts.

The results of the user observations, questionnaire schedule, interviews and participatory design sessions provide a rich description of how CD-ROM Databases use, searching methods employed in obtaining desired information and problems of not using CD-ROM Databases, if any. The research study is confined to students of MPKV. Questions like name, Gender and educational qualification were asked.

The data is analysed in view to the objectives mentioned in the study as follows:

### LIST OF CD ROM DATABASES AVAILABLE IN MPKV LIBRARY

**Table no 1: List of CD-ROM Databases**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Year/s</b>	<b>No. of CDs</b>
1.	Agricultural Economics Database	1972-2009	Four CDs
2.	Animal Production Database	1973-2009	Four CDs
3.	CAB Abstracts (General Edition)	1972-2009	Twenty Six CDs
4.	Crop Science Database	1973-2009	Five CDs
5.	FSTA Currents	1990-2009	Two CDs
6.	Horticultural Science Database	1973-2009	Four CDs
7.	Plant Protection Database	1973-2009	Five CDs
8.	Soil Science Database	1973-2009	Five CDs
		<b>Total CDs</b>	<b>Fifty Five Only</b>

The list of the CD-ROM databases in mahatma phule krishi vidyapeeth available in the year of 2010-2011. This database is available in subject wise with separate CDs.

**Table No.2: Knowledge of CD-ROM Database**

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>No of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Through Library staff	275	76.60
2	Through friends	125	34.82
3	Through Observation	89	24.79
4	Through bulletin board	15	4.18

The table no 2 shows that the knowledge of CD-ROM Databases of the users so majority of users 275 (76.60%) got knowledge about CD-ROM databases through library staff. Followed by 125 (34.82%) users became aware through friends, 89 (24.29%) users know about CD-ROM databases through observation. and only 15 (4.18%) of MPKV library users became aware

through bulletin board. Respondents may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

**Table No 3: Frequency of Using CD-ROM Databases Services**

Sr. No	Frequency	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	189	52.65
2	Twice in a week	87	24.23
3	Weekly	47	13.09
4	Monthly	29	8.08
5	Occasionally	7	1.95
	<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The distribution of respondents according to the frequency of access and use of CD-ROM Databases is shown in Table 3. It is evident that 189 (52.65%) per cent students were accessing and using CD-ROM Databases for every day, 87 (24.23%) Twice in a week, 47 (13.09%) per cent weekly, 29(8.08%) per cent monthly and 7 (1.95%) Occasionally.

**Table No 4. Purpose of Using CD-ROM Databases**

		RANK				
Sr. No	Purposes	1	2	3	4	Total
1	Keeping abreast of new developments	162 (45.13)	97 (27.02)	76 (21.17)	24 (6.69)	<b>359 (100)</b>
2	Finding Relevant Information	225 (62.67)	91(25.35)	35(9.75)	8(2.23)	<b>359 (100)</b>
3	Study and research	235(65.46)	67(18.66)	36(10.03)	21(5.85)	<b>359 (100)</b>
4	For career Development	147(40.95)	97(27.02)	68(18.94)	47(13.09)	<b>359 (100)</b>

It is revealed from the above table that 162 (45.13%) respondents were use CD-ROM Databases for the keeping abreast of new developments purposes with first rank, 225 (62.67%) to use Finding Relevant Information, 235(65.46%) of users to use to Study and research, and 147 (40.95%) used to career development.

**Table No 5. Used Search Techniques**

Sr.No	Search Techniques	No of respondents	Percentage
1	Keywords	253	70.47
2	Phrase	54	15.04
3	Boolean operators	52	14.48
	<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 5 shows that majority of the users of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth i.e. 253 (70.47%) search CD-ROM databases by keywords. Followed by 54 (15.04%) users use phrases to search CD-ROM databases. Similarly 52 (14.48%) respondents expressed that they are using Boolean operators to search CD-ROM databases respectively.

**Table No 6. Problems of Using CD-ROM Databases**

Sr. No	Reasons	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Lack of trained staff	109	30.36
2	Inadequate infrastructure	106	29.53
3	Lack of maintenance	39	10.86
4	Lack of training	77	21.45
5	Others	28	7.80
	<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 6 shows the problems of using CD-Rom databases. A majority of the respondents 109 (30.36 %) say that there is lack of trained staff to guide them. Followed by 106 (29.53%) users says that inadequate infrastructure of the library, 77 (21.45%) feel lack of training & About 39 (10.86%) users replied that lack of maintenance.

**Table No 7. Level of Satisfaction with CD-ROM Database Services**

Sr. No	Level of Satisfaction	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Highly Satisfied	176	49.03
2	Satisfied	89	24.79
3	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	53	14.76
4	Dissatisfied	24	6.69
5	Highly Dissatisfied	17	4.74
	<b>Total</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is founded that the out of 359 respondents the 176 (49.03%) respondents were Highly Satisfied that CD-ROM Databases proved helpful in their needs, followed by 89 (24.79%) have the Satisfied, 53 (14.76%) were Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with it and only 17 (4.74%) users highly Dissatisfied.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are made to improve the access and use of CD-ROM Databases by the students:

- CD-ROM Database services should be strengthened by adding more resources like books, theses, reports, union catalogue of all information documents available in all libraries.

- 
- Information literacy and user education courses with emphasis on retrieval software, tools and techniques of searching, etc., should be provided to all categories of the users.

## CONCLUSION

CD-ROM Database has become a heavily-used service by the students. Curriculum-based information literacy courses like 'library and information services', 'research methodology', etc., have contributed much towards imparting required skills for the access and use of CD-ROM Databases. CD-ROM Database services by adding more resources and facilities will provide strong information support for the education, research, and extension programmes.

## REFERENCES

1. Abdul M.K. (2011). Utilization of CD-ROM Databases by the Users of Indian institute of technology-Kharagpur: A Survey. *International Journal of Digital Library Services*. Vol.2 Issue 1. pp.1-8.
2. Bhatnagar, Anjana (2004). Search Techniques for Accessing CD-Rom Databases. 2nd Convention PLANNER - 2004, Manipur Uni., Imphal, 4-5 November, 2004. Pp.111-123.
3. Dubey, Soniya and et-al (2004). DCDROM Databases: an Approach for Creation of Personalized Databases. 2nd International CALIBER, New Delhi, 11-13 February, pp.307-311.
4. Okpala, Angela E. and Igbeka, Josephine U. (2005), "Analysis of users' searches of CDROM databases", *The Electronic Library*, Vol. 23 No. 3, 2005, pp. 362-68.
5. Shaw, Debora. (1995). Bibliographic database searching by graduate students in language and literature: Search strategies, system interfaces, and relevance judgments. *Library & Information Science Research*, 17, 327-345.

---@ @ @---