Computer-Assisted Research in Religion Forum

Contents

Electronic Discussion Groups: A Virtual University

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In the last issue of the *Computer-Assisted Research in Religion Forum* (*ARC* XX, 1992), Richard P. Hayes concluded his introduction to electronic mail by describing how electronic discussion has become indispensable for humanities scholars. Electronic discussion groups (also called "**listserv** lists" by virtue of the fact that it is a computer program called a "**listserv**" which automatically distributes e-mail to all members of a group, i.e., a list) allow people from all around the globe to communicate instantly within a topically focused forum. In fact, they form the basis for new, *global* academic communities: they create a "virtual university."

The following leads readers deeper into the world of electronic discussion groups. It tells them where to find information about available groups, how to subscribe to one that interests them, and how to get the most out of their on-line experience.

†These articles appear in the *Computer-Assisted Research Forum: A Reader-friendly Bulletin for Academics and Educators in the Humanities* 1, No. 2 (Winter 1993). They are reprinted here in revised form.

Finding a Suitable Discussion Group

Electronic discussion groups are like conferences that never end, interactive magazines, and academic lounges that are always full (and never closed). They function as research tools, social forums and virtual encyclopedias. There are over two thousand different groups covering topics of academic and social interest (from homebrewing to ethnomusicology). All *you* have to do is find one that suits your interests and subscribe.

Finding the right discussion group can be a little tricky. If you have not yet mastered logging on to your local computer system (I assume that you have purchased a modem, properly configured your communications software and have obtained an e-mail account) than a trip to the computer centre may be in order. University computing centres often provide helpful introductory documentation. If you have mastered the basics of logging on, and using the e-mail facility on your local system, than you may wish to consult one of the following **listserv** directories available on "the Net."

The *BITNET Global List of Public listserv Lists* can be retrieved by sending the following command as a mail message to almost any **listserv** (e.g., **listserv@utoronto**):

```
> list global[1]
```

A similar file can be retrieved on the Internet by sending the above command to **listserv@vm1.nodak.edu**. This file is constantly updated and can be searched remotely by sending the following command as a mail message:

```
> list global /topic
```

The best organized directory of academic discussion groups is Diane Kovacs' *Directory of Scholarly Electronic Conferences*. It contains information on over 800 on-line conferences of interest to academics and educators. The latest version is available via e-mail through the author who can be contacted at **dkovacs@kentvm** or **dkovacs@kentvm.kent.edu**.

Subscribing to a Discussion Group

Most **listserv** lists can be subscribed to by sending the following command to the **listserv** address (**listserv@node.address**) of the discussion group:

```
> subscribe Listname Yourfirstname Yourlastname
```

To unsubscribe from a discussion group, use the command `unsub` or `signoff`. Owing to various technical problems that sometimes occur, it is recommended that you maintain a file that records the address of the discussion groups to which you subscribe, as well as the address you subscribed under (BITNET or Internet[2]).

Please note that before subscribing to a **listserv** list, each new user should send the following command to **listserv**:

```
> register Yourfirstname Yourlastname
```

This command tells **listserv** how to address you. (Diane Kovacs' directory has more detailed instructions on how to subscribe to BITNET and Internet discussion groups.)

When your subscription has been received you may be immediately admitted to the discussion, or you may be asked to submit further personal and/or professional information. When you do receive full admittance, you may participate in the discussion by sending e-mail to the *group/list address* (not the **listserv** address). Thus, to offer your critique of Jacques Derrida's *Of Grammatology* on the list entitled PCM-LIST which you joined by subscribing to **listserv@ncsuvm**, send your e-mail to **PCM-LIST@ncsuvm**.

Making the Most of Electronic Group Discussion

Do not over-subscribe. Since many discussion groups send out more than twenty postings (messages) per day your mail box could get flooded. On some systems this will cause technical problems. Start with

one or two lists and ensure that the volume is not too heavy before moving on to explore others.

Write clearly and concisely. When writing, keep in mind that reading a long text on a computer screen is not entirely pleasant. If you must write more than one hundred lines, break the message up into sections and give each section a heading. Limit each posting to a single question, so as to not overwhelm your reader(s). Moreover, take the time to write properly and spell correctly.

The tone of your letter should be as polite as possible, because electronic text does not convey all the subtle body language clues that soften humour, sarcasm and wit. Note that writing in capital letters is like SHOUTING and is always annoying. Finally, always remember that your posting is public, will likely be recorded on a university mainframe somewhere and, if libelous, may end up in a lawyer's briefcase.

Use the `nomail` listserv command. When you are going to be away from your computer terminal for more than a few days, use the `nomail` command to tell **listserv** to stop sending you mail. To do this, send the following as an e-mail message to the **listserv** address of the discussion group (**listserv@node** where "node" is the address of the list):

```
> set Listname nomail
```

Do not send this and other commands to the list's mailing address (the address you normally use when posting messages), as this will lead to the command being posted to all of the list's subscribers. This is embarrassing for you and annoying to others. It is best to write down the list name and address of each **listserv** list that is set to `nomail` so that upon your return you will remember to set these lists back to their previous state with the command:

```
> set Listname mail
```

Using the `nomail` command will save you the annoyance of a full mailbox upon return and will prevent error messages being returned to the list moderator. List moderators frequently unsubscribe members whose mailboxes are returning error messages.

Use the <DELETE> key. New networkers often succumb to the temptation to read every posting sent to a discussion group. This is no more necessary or productive than reading every item in a newspaper or journal. By paying careful attention to the subject headings and through a liberal use of the <DELETE> key (or your systems equivalent command), it is possible to wade through a large number of postings quickly and efficiently. Always include a subject heading to any e-mail message as a courtesy to others.

Take care when replying. Occasionally, you will read a group message and want to reply to the individual who wrote it. Some systems have a `reply` command that will allow you to compose a reply without retyping the entire e-mail address. This command will send your reply back *to the entire list*, not just to the person who wrote the original posting. `Reply` (or your system's equivalent command) must be used with care to avoid sending a personal and private note to an entire list. This mistake occurs quite often on "the Net" and has been the source of acute embarrassment.

Subscribe to NEW-LIST@vm.nodak.edu. This information service posts messages concerning newly created lists, list changes and deletions. It also provides a forum for asking if a list on a certain topic presently exists. To subscribe, send the following message to **listserv@ndsuvm1**:

```
> sub NEW-LIST Yourfirstname Yourlastname
```

If all else fails, start a new discussion group. If you find that there is no existing group for the topic you wish to discuss, talk to your system administrator or postmaster. (You can get their electronic addresses from your local computing centre.) It is not difficult to obtain permission to start a new group. You should also talk to a group moderator, to find out how much work is involved. In addition, the article, *How to Start a BITNET listserv Discussion Group: A Beginner's Guide*, by Diane Kovacs *et al.* can be retrieved by sending the following message to **listserv@uhupvm1** or **listserv@uhupvm1.uh.edu:**

```
> get kovacs prv2n1
```

Endnotes

1. Text preceded by ">" must be typed by the user. Material in `constant` type must be entered literally. Variables are printed in *`constant italics`*. (Note: The ">" is not to be typed.)

2. The Internet is the global "network of networks" that communicate using a similar "language" (protocol). BITNET is a network of academic and research institutions around the world. In Canada it is known as NetNorth and in Europe as EARN, but it is effectively a single entity. BITNET participates in the Internet. While recognizing the distinction between the Internet and BITNET may have few practical consequences there are times when it is important. For example, some Internet-based systems only accept Internet-type addresses. Moreover, while BITNET users can use either an Internet or BITNET-type address, an Internet address will always function with greater speed. An easy way to tell a BITNET address from an Internet address is by noting how many sections follow the "@." A BITNET address will usually have one section (e.g., **listserv*@uottawa***) whereas an Internet address will always have two or more sections separated by periods (e.g., **listserv*@acadvm1.uottawa.ca***).

Navigating the Internet: A Review of Two New Guides

RICHARD P. HAYES

***The Whole Internet: User's Guide and Catalog*. By Ed Krol. Sebastapol, CA: O'Reilly & Associates, 1992. ISBN 1-56592-025-2. Pp. xxiv+386.**

***Zen and the Art of the Internet: A Beginner's Guide*. By Brendan P. Kehoe. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: P T R Prentice-Hall, 1993. ISBN 0-13-010778-6. Pp. xv+112.**

Those who have used study cubicles in a well-stocked university library can recall the pleasurable diversion of ambling randomly between long rows of bookshelves and chancing upon a volume that might not have been discovered in any other way. It is not surprising, therefore, that when aficionados of the Internet try to make a network of computers sound exciting to an academic audience, they liken the experience of logging on to the delights of browsing in a library of almost unlimited wealth. While this analogy is rather misleading, it nevertheless helps the uninitiated develop a computer-user's mentality. Indeed, when one becomes fluent in the nomenclature of this gnomic culture, one may even be willing to trade in one's mentality for a "mindset"—if, that is, one has no objections to housing in one's skull something called by a name that cannot be found in dictionaries of standard English.

Another word that will not be found in standard dictionaries just yet is "Internet" itself. The Internet, as Brendan Kehoe explains, is a "concatenation of many individual . . . campus, state, regional and national [computer] networks . . . into one single logical network all sharing a common addressing scheme" (102). Or, as Ed Krol puts it, the Internet is "the worldwide 'network of networks' that are connected to each other . . . The Internet provides file transfer, remote login, electronic mail, news and other service" (358).

The common addressing scheme that Krol refers to makes it possible for computers all over the world to send information to one another very rapidly. For the individual user with a desktop computer, a modem, and an

account on one of the nodes in this giant network, the single logical network makes it possible to transfer information from any number of other computers located around the world. Making full (or even limited) use of this potential, however, requires learning some new skills—it may also require cultivating the virtues necessary to cope with the frustrations of what Kehoe calls a "savage user interface." The Internet, in other words, may be of considerably more interest to those who regard their computers not merely as a research tool but also as a hobby (and perhaps even as a substitute for meaningful relationships with human beings) than it will be to those who would rather be writing with a monogrammed fountain pen than with thousands of dollars worth of capricious electronic circuitry.

It is for the benefit of those who have the courage and the spare time to explore the workings of the Internet that Ed Krol and Brendan P. Kehoe have written their guides. Kehoe's guide is much more modest in what it sets out to do, which is to provide the basic information necessary to help a novice understand and use the services available on the Internet. Krol's book offers a more detailed look at these same services, and it gives substantial information on several services not mentioned by Kehoe. Moreover, he includes information on the history of the Internet, how it is financed and regulated, and even some speculation concerning its possible future as a deregulated commercial enterprise. Both books offer clear instructions that should enable a new user to use the Internet without knowing much about the peculiarities of the many different types of computers and operating systems.

The services covered in both guides include electronic mail (e-mail), finding e-mail addresses in directories akin to telephone directories, connecting to a remote computer node, transferring data files and software from remote computers to one's local node, finding information on what files are available around the world for transfer to one's own site, and participating in electronically transmitted discussions with people around the world. Both also offer useful discussions of "netiquette" (descriptions of how everyone on the network wishes everyone else would behave) and computer ethics. In addition, Krol's guide includes information on several advanced tools that are evolving that make it easier for people to find their way around the Internet. His book also includes an alphabetically arranged section describing some of the topics on which one can find information and discussions on the Internet (from Aeronautics to Religion to Zymurgy).

No book, however, can cover all the details of the services available on the Internet, both because there are so many local peculiarities from one computer site to the next, and because these services are constantly evolving. Both books succeed in doing what they set out to do. Which of these books one buys depends largely on whether one intends simply to taste the sweet nectar brewed by the silicon wizards or to become a serious addict. Buying either, of course, presupposes that one has become convinced that the Internet itself is worth the effort it takes to master it.

A review of this genre of book would not be complete without offering a more jaded view of the much acclaimed information age ushered in by the computer revolution than is given by its most enthusiastic devotees. I will, therefore, pursue further the analogy of the Internet as a library rich beyond one's wildest imagination in valuable resources. Perhaps there is a potential for the Internet to live up to such fulsome praise in years to come, but as the matter stands now, a more apt analogy might be a medium-sized neighbourhood bookstore with several tempting popular items displayed in the window but with many unstocked shelves inside.

Before reading Krol's guide, I had never used the Internet utility known as gopher, which Krol describes as a "look-up tool that lets you prowl through the Internet by selecting resources from menus" (189). He compares this tool to a service that browses through a number of library card catalogs and then brings the desired books right to one's own desk—a bit like a good reference librarian and an interlibrary loan service ready to serve one's every research need. By following Krol's instructions, learning to use the Internet gopher was easy. But what I was able to find in the "card catalog" was not enough to make my university library card superfluous just yet.

I decided to browse in the area of my academic specialization. After a certain amount of prowling, I discovered a site that was advertised as having a large amount of textual data on Asian religions. One promising set of signs indicated a trail to a cache of Hindu scriptures, but at the end of that search all I managed to find was an Indian sex manual in Sanskrit that some kind soul had deposited for the benefit of Sanskrit-speaking gamogeneticists (describing it as a Hindu holy text was probably the gaffe of a well-meaning systems operator somewhere). The search for Buddhist texts was not much more successful. A promise of a large deposit of texts on Buddhism led only to a modest collection of meditation schedules for

several Zen retreat centres in Australia and the transcriptions of talks in English by modern Australian meditation teachers. I admit that without gopher's aid, it probably would have taken me much more time to discover the daily schedule for an Australian Zen retreat centre in August 1992; however, it is unlikely that this information will find its way into my academic writings on Buddhism. Internet and I apparently live in a different kind of information age.

One of the services available through gopher did demonstrate a certain amount of promise. I discovered an on-line dictionary of the English language, and by poking my way through the menu, I was finally invited to enter a word. I typed in the word "holism," a word I wasted nearly ten seconds to find in the paper dictionary on my desk. In less than a second the on-line dictionary explained that the word was not in its data banks. It suggested the word might be misspelled and obligingly offered several alternatives, the first of which was "hallucination." Perhaps, I thought, it was unfair to search for such a philosophically technical term; let me see if the dictionary knows something about earthworms. I tried to find "lumbricoid" without success but was offered "lunkhead" as a consolation prize. Perhaps this dictionary could help me discover what exactly a mindset is. Somewhat to my relief, this neologism was also absent from the dictionary, which offered me the word "madness" as a possible alternative. A dictionary with a vocabulary smaller than my own seems a research tool of limited utility.

For those interested in exploring the Internet, either of these books would make for a good beginning. The average novice could make do with Kehoe's *Zen and the Art of the Internet*, while Krol's *The Whole Internet* is an ideal reference book for a person in charge of maintaining a local node on a network and explaining it to others. As for ordinary academic users, until the information that is easily accessible on the Internet is more in keeping with my actual research needs, it is likely that for both serious work and for recreation I shall continue ambling randomly through university library stacks. Besides, I do not make light of Brendan Kehoe's warning that the Internet "can become a fantastic time-sink" (xiii). This neologism is not in my trusty desktop dictionary, but a "time-sink" must be what those of us who have not yet traded our mentalities for mindsets might call a waste of time.

Bibliographic Programs: Focus on *Papyrus 7.0*

TODD J.B. BLAYONE

This installment offers a complete review of the newly-released *Papyrus 7.0*. It also presents a detailed chart comparing *Papyrus 7.0* with three other highly-rated bibliographic packages. Full reviews of all packages featured in this chart have appeared in the previously-mentioned *Computer-Assisted Research Forum*. More up-to-date information regarding product upgrades, along with Macintosh and *Microsoft Windows* versions, is also presented there.

General Aspects

Papyrus is among the most powerful, versatile and user-friendly bibliographic programs available for the PC. Moreover, a progressive licensing policy, solid humanities styles support and a price-tag of only $99.00US make it an exceptional DOS-based package.

The printed documentation, which consists of a 170-page workbook and a 250-page concept/reference manual, is well-designed and contains a sufficiently detailed index. Not only is the text easy to read, but indented matter provides informative and sometimes quite witty elaboration. The high quality of this documentation makes up for the meagre level of on-line support.

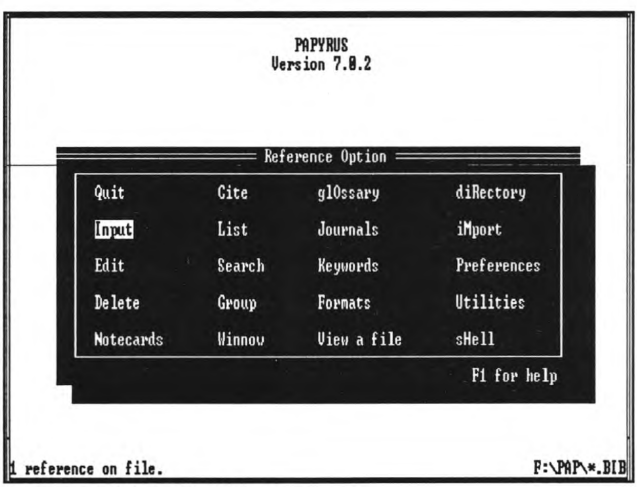
Recognizing that IBM/PC users have the freedom to choose between several operating environments, *Papyrus* comes equipped to run under the *MS-DOS 5.O* multitasking shell, *DESQview* and *Microsoft Windows 3.x*. Besides well-documented setup procedures for each environment, a PIF file and an elegant icon are included for *Windows* users.

The *Papyrus* user-interface, like many other DOS-based bibliographic programs, is inconsistent. The main menu is a stationary centre-screen box. Beyond this menu are other menu-boxes (e.g., search screen), plain-text screens (e.g., delete reference screen) and, in one case (the edit screen) a "modern," intuitive, pull-down menu interface. It is this latter

interface that should, in future versions, become the standard program interface. While *Papyrus* provides mouse-support, mouse-commands are poorly integrated. This is owing mainly to the inconsistency of the interface. A macro feature, which could be used to speed up program navigation, is not supported.

Data Entry/Editing

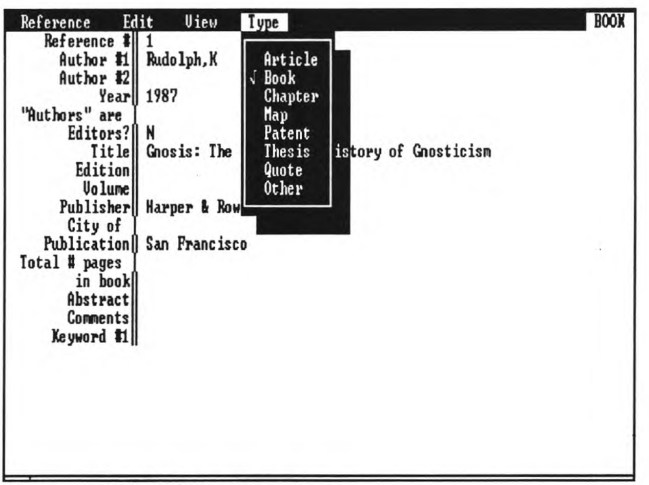
Papyrus supports many "standard" word processing features, e.g., word-wrap, flexible cursor movement, and field move, copy and delete. Accented (and other extended ASCII) characters can be entered using key combinations or a pop-up window. Unfortunately, absent are features like: 1) block move, copy and delete; 2) search and replace (within a reference); 3) restore field edit; 4) global edits; and 5) flexible record duplication. Since only information from the immediately preceding record can be automatically duplicated, users are advised to enter all similar entries (e.g., essays in a single volume) simultaneously.



Papyrus 7.0's Main Menu

Many excellent features, however, set *Papyrus* side-by-side, and sometimes above, the competition. Automatic name standardization ensures that author/editor names will be properly formatted; date comple-

tion allows one to enter, for example, "90" for "1990"; a duplicate warning dialogue-box keeps one from typing the same entry twice; a fully automated journal abbreviation feature magically replaces a "shorthand" entry with the complete journal title; context (field) sensitive author, journal and keyword glossaries are always only a keystroke away; and a very unique "notecard" feature allows one to append a whole series of searchable notes/memos to single reference. An integrated title-capitalization feature is missing. (One must choose between title and sentence styles of capitalization from the outset.)



Papyrus 7.0's Editing Interface

In terms of the general implementation of the *Papyrus* data entry/editing screen, we have already noted that this is the only part of the program that utilizes a "modern" pull-down-menu environment. Within this environment, *Papyrus*'s presentation of "plain-English" field names, and its ability to hide and/or collapse fields offers welcome relief from the glut of (sometimes incoherent) nomenclature that some other programs present. Three *minor* weaknesses, however, should be noted. First, *Papyrus* supports only eight record/reference types. This can make entering some less common materials (e.g., conference papers) a little more awkward than in other programs. Second, *Papyrus* lacks a pop-up preview feature. This feature (common to *Library Master* and *Pro-Cite*) allows one to view a

formatted reference without leaving the input screen. In *Papyrus* one must initiate a separate "List" or "Edit" procedure. Such a feature would be especially convenient given the way the small number of reference types occasionally forces one to experiment with data-entry conventions. Finally, I disliked *Papyrus*'s insistence that I leave the editing environment every time I wanted to edit another reference. Unlike most other database programs, one cannot scroll through, or jump to, other references. One must exit the editing screen and initiate a search procedure to select the next entry.

Importing

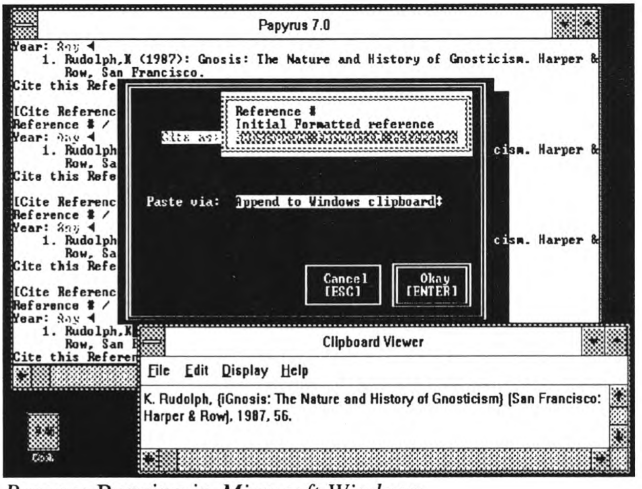
Papyrus includes full-featured support for importing data in its "base" package. A wide assortment of on-line databases, CD-ROMs and bibliographic programs are supported. I imported data from two bibliographic databases. One hundred references imported from *Endnote* (primarily articles) were well-received by *Papyrus*. Very little "tidying up" was needed. Two hundred references imported from *Pro-Cite* (a healthy mix of books, articles, edited books and conference papers) had to undergo a two-step conversion and were less successfully imported. Although the data were transferred, a lot of editing was required. All in all, the people at Research Software Design are committed to helping users get their data (whether it resides on a CD-ROM or a word-processing file) into *Papyrus*. While no bibliographic program performs magic, *Papyrus* does offer good *low-cost* support.

Searching/Subset Handling

Boolean and relational operands, and wildcard characters allow for the creation of complex queries. Since up to 11 fields are indexed (including, if one desires, the Comments and Abstract fields) performance is excellent. (Computers can search indexed fields much quicker than non-indexed fields.) Most impressive is the way that *Papyrus* makes it extremely easy to manipulate groups of selected references (subsets). Thus, generating course-related or essay-specific bibliographies is a breeze.

Bibliography Generation

Stand-alone bibliographies can be sent to the screen, the printer or a text file. (Annotated or subject bibliographies present no special problems.) *Papyrus* can write directly to the following file formats: ASCII, the *Windows* and DOS versions of *Microsoft Word* and *Word Perfect*, and the DOS versions of *WordStar*, *WordStar 2000*, *XyWrite/Signature*, *PC-Write*, *ChiWriter* and *TEX*. Therefore, the resulting file can easily be retrieved by these word processors and fine-tuned (e.g., hanging indentation can be added, etc.).



Papyrus Running in *Microsoft Windows*

Papyrus can also be more closely integrated with these word processors. Like *EndNote* and *Pro-Cite, Papyrus* automates the insertion and formatting of in-text citations and the production of a works-cited list. It also provides a "Cite" function that pastes formatted references into a word processor's footnote window. Turabian format styles for initial *and* subsequent footnotes are included among *Papyrus's* impressive list of supported style sheets (see comparison chart.) This function operates somewhat differently in "single-tasking", task-switching and *Microsoft Windows* environments. (It works most elegantly in a *Windows* environ-

ment where it cooperates with the Clipboard.) In each case, however, one can gain access to *Papyrus* and transfer data without exiting one's word processor.

General Assessment

Papyrus, though lacking the versatility of *Library Master*, the power of *Pro-Cite* and the *consistent* pull-down-menu interface of *Endnote*, brings together a wealth of features that make it an attractive, and unique, package. Without a doubt, it presently offers the biggest bang for the buck. Moreover, it has more "personality" than all of the other packages combined. For example, it is the only program that, in the early hours of the morning, thanks a user for their persistence and suggests that it is time to go to bed. Moreover, the manual is (almost) fun to read. (I'm presently studying a subsection entitled "Data sources from Hell.") *Macintosh* users, who do not wish to miss out on the fun, can wait for the compatible version now under development. A true *Microsoft Windows* version is scheduled to follow.

Bibliographic Programs Compared

■ good □ fair ○ weak/not supported	**Library Master 1.24**	**EndNote Plus 1.0**	**ProCite 2.02/2.1**	**Papyrus 7.0**
General Information				
Platform(s)	PC	PC/Mac	PC/Mac	PC
Regular Price	$199US	$249US	$395US	$99US
Demo Program	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E-mail group[1]	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
General Ease of Use				
Manual and index	□	■	■	■
Tutorial	○	■	■	■
On-line help	□	□	□	○
Technical support	■	■	■	■
Automated backup/repair	■	○	■	■
User Interface	□	■	□,■[2]	□

Mouse support	○	■	○,■[2]	□
Macros	■	○	○	○
Customizability	■	□	□	■
Copy protected	No	No	No	No
Data Entry				
Word-wrap	■	■	■	■
Field copy/move	■	■	■	■
Block copy/move	■	■	■	○
Search and replace	■	○	■	○
Undo field edits	○	■	○	○
Accented characters	■	■	■	■
Flexible record types	■	■	■	□
Navigation features	■	□	■	□
Mix style of font in title	■	■	■	■
Auto title capitalization	○	○	○	○
Auto date completion	○	○	■	■
Journal standardization	□	■	■	■
Quick-access glossaries	■	○	■	■
Global operations	□	○	■	○
Reference duplication	□	■	■	□
Duplicate warning/weeding	□	□	□	■
Formatted record preview	■	□	■	□
Importing				
Database programs	■	□	□	■
On-line services	■	○[3]	○[3]	■
User-defined formats	■	□	□	■
Searching/Subset Handling				
Flexible field searching	■	■	■	■
Complex searches	■	■	■	■
Integrated look-up tables	■	□[4]	■	□
Rapid/indexed searching	■	■	■	■
Subset handling	■	■	■	■
Bibliography Generation				
Generate to screen	■	□	■	■
Generate to printer	■	○	■	■
Generate to text file	■	■	■	■
Page-layout options	■	○	■	■

Complex sorting	■	□	■	■
Annotated bibliography	■	■	■	■
Subject bibliography	■	□	■	■
Academic style formats				
APA bibliography	■	■	■	■
Chicago A bibliography	■	○	■	■
Chicago B bibliography	■	■	■	■
MLA bibliography	■	■	■	■
MLA note	○	■	○	○
Turabian bibliography	■	○	■	■
Turabian initial note	○	○	○	■
Turabian subseq. note	○	○	○	■
Turabian reference list	○	○	○	■
Non-humanities styles	■	■	■	■
File Formats Supported				
WordPerfect				
5.x DOS/Windows	■	■	■	■
1.0-2.x Macintosh	--	■	○	--
Microsoft Word				
DOS/Windows/RTF	■	■	■	■
3.0-5.0 Macintosh	--	■	■	--
Other				
DOS/Windows	■	○	○	■
Macintosh	--	■	□	--
ASCII/Text only	■	■	■	■
Manuscript Processing				
Access database within word processor	□	■	□	■
In-text citation support	○	■	□	■
Generate reference list from in-text citations	○	■	■	■
Format citations in word processor's footnotes	○	□[5]	○	○
Support for footnote/ annotation cut and paste	□	■	○,■[2]	■

Endnotes

1. The electronic addresses are as follows: *LM* (libmastr@uottawa); *PrC* (pro-cite@-iubvm); *EP* (endnote@ucsbvm).
2. Evaluation of Mac version follows that of PC version.
3. Add-on modules are available.
4. The default view in *EP* is a list of authors, years and titles.
5. Mac version, using *Microsoft Word* only.

Bible Concordance Packages for the Macintosh

ROBERT MACKENZIE

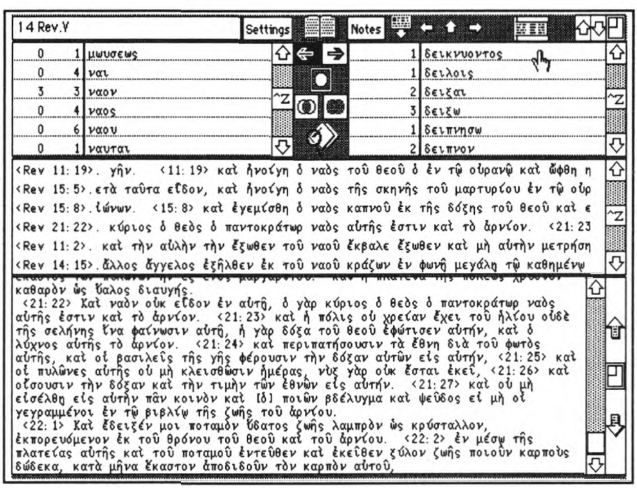
The print-based word index and concordance are traditional tools of textual scholars. A word index is an alphabetical list of words in a text or corpus with information about where, and how many times it occurs. A word index becomes a concordance when each word is presented with the words that immediately surround it. Therefore, unlike the word index, concordances provide information about how a word functions within a given context.

AnyText and *macBible 2.0* are essentially electronic concordances for Macintosh computers. *AnyText*, a HyperCard-based package, is designed especially to work with pre-formatted biblical texts. I received the Greek New Testament, Hebrew Scriptures, Septuagint and RSV English Bible (in grammatically-tagged and text-only formats) as part of the *Scholars' Package*. However, *AnyText* will index ordinary text files in a variety of languages, e.g., I also used it with a short Coptic text. (Font packages, in almost every known language, are sold separately by Linguist's Software.) *macBible* is a "standard" Macintosh package that will work only with the English, Greek and Hebrew biblical texts that are sold as separate modules.

I approached these packages with the interests of the "average" biblical/textual scholar in mind. I wanted to see how these packages could help one study the grammar and style of the Bible. I already knew they would be useful for quickly tracking down the source of scriptural quotations, often fragmentary or incomplete, that are found in other texts.

AnyText caused some immediate anxiety because, as a HyperCard-based package, it lacked the familiar Macintosh menus and scroll bars. Moreover, the icons and "buttons" were tiny and obscure. This could be forgiven if the package was well-documented and the documentation was well-indexed. Unfortunately, this is not the case. The stapled, letter-size pages lack a command-summary sheet and an index. They do contain screen snapshots and explain some of the features. However, when things happened unexpectedly, I did not know where to turn for help. At first, I

did not even know how to exit the program. That command, and many others, are buried somewhere in the printed instructions and were eventually located after a tedious search. Better documentation and a more intuitive interface would be most welcome.



AnyText's HyperCard Interface

Language resources must be installed separately to see Greek and Hebrew texts on screen and to print them. The bitmap fonts supplied for review were good. (PostScript laser fonts are also available.) A convertible phonetics font that allows transliterated Hebrew text searches is included. Since these texts can be used with most word-processors, this package represents good value even if the search-engine is seldom used. Grammatically-tagged biblical texts, included within the bundle, permits one to perform searches based upon morphology and syntax. (This capability is not offered by *macBible*; nor can *macBible's* texts be accessed by other packages.)

AnyText works by building an index of selected texts, or portions thereof. It displays every word—individually with the number of times it occurs, and in sentence format with the words immediately surrounding it. Searches can be performed in two windows. *AnyText* searches for single words, fragments of words, or combinations of different words. Proximity,

Boolean and wildcard searches are also supported. Unfortunately, its crowded screen makes viewing the results difficult.

AnyText is a resource hog. The texts it searches must be indexed separately and this requires large chunks of disk storage. The Greek and Hebrew texts must be indexed again for searching with accents and vowel points. If one wanted to index the entire *Scholars' Package* (grammatically-tagged texts included) it would be wise to dedicate an 80MB hard drive for the purpose. I also discovered that a Macintosh Classic II was not up to the task of speedily processing the results of *AnyText*'s searches. My short Coptic text took several minutes to be completed. A Macintosh with a more powerful processor would be in order for serious users.

I also experienced many technical problems. The installation of the Hebrew resources was particularly troublesome, and invoking the phonetics font to avoid using Hebrew was beyond me. At the end of the day, I decided it would be easier to pull my print-based concordance off the shelf. Linguist's Software does have a technical support line; be prepared to use it *and* pay the long-distance charges.

macBible, though outmatched by *AnyText*'s searching capabilities, is a pleasure to install and use. The regular manual of 220 pages is excellent, and includes a thorough description of all commands, annotated illustrations, and a full index. Its tutorials are cleverly written, featuring four hypothetical users: a student, a pastor, a scholar, and a rabbi. An introductory chapter entitled "I don't like to read manuals!" covers the program essentials. On-line help is concise and informative.

It is unfortunate that this otherwise exemplary manual is marred by so many typos and incorrect or misleading statements. On page 58, for example, a key Boolean operator (a hyphen indicating NOT) is missing in the text, although it is correctly included in the running marginal headings. Later, a comma (Boolean AND) is incorrectly given for a semi-colon (OR) in the description of how to do multiple-window searches (208). The description of "Window Searches" (175) implies that Greek and Hebrew vowels and accents are taken into account in regular searches, whereas they are only significant for the less-powerful "Find" searches. The claim that the "Count Mode" will display the full range of accents and vowel points (199) applies only to Greek texts and not Hebrew. My attempts in Hebrew only yielded forms with different final consonants.

macBible employs the familiar Macintosh Interface. The basic search engine does *not* recognize Greek accents or Hebrew vowel points (as *AnyText* does for appropriately indexed text files). However, a secondary "Find" search done on windows alone will make exact matches. The Hebrew text features partial morphological tagging (following A. Evan-Shoshan's *A New Concordance of the Bible*), which is both a help and a hindrance, depending on what one is searching for. Certain Boolean searches such as "wildcard NOT" do not seem to function correctly when morphological separation is specified.

macBible's Hebrew Scriptures Module

I posed a problem to *macBible* that arose in my study of Semitizing Greek in the Septuagint and the New Testament. I wanted to know how the Hebrew combination of *asher ... sham* ("which [is] there") was rendered in the Greek translation of the Hebrew scriptures. A Boolean "AND" search of the Hebrew Bible for these two words took about 10 seconds, and returned 451 verses. When the "Sequence-specific" option was employed (since I only wanted them in this order) this total was reduced to 366. After specifying 100 verses per page, I transferred the results to a "Verse File" window where I could conduct "Find" searches and delete unwanted citations. This secondary search was needed because *macBible* did not recognize vowel points in its main search and so returned *shem* ("name")

as well as *sham*. Morphologically divided forms such as *misham* could also not be eliminated in the main search by a "NOT" command without running the risk of missing occurrences of *sham* contained in the excluded verses.

An on-screen "Find" search for unwanted forms is not ideal, but it gets the job done. The 366 verses could also easily and quickly be printed out and then culled, or exported to a word-processor (in my case *Microsoft Word 5.0*) in proper right-to-left format. Be careful when exporting. Windows must be sized correctly and right justification turned on or your word-processor's screen will be jumbled. English verse numbers will also appear in Hebrew when the exported text is changed to the "Jerusalem" font. Screen and PostScript fonts are included for each *macBible* module. Lists of chapter and verse references can be generated readily (a feature not found in *AnyText*).

macBible, unfortunately, was not equipped to complete the processing of the problem that I had set it, since it has no Septuagint text which to compare the results of my search of the Hebrew Bible. (A spokesperson for Zondervan informed *CARRF* that a Septuagint module will be ready by July of 1993.)

The printing function of *macBible* is very convenient. It can display and print text by chapter and verse, which makes it very useful as a Macintosh "desk accessory" for biblical scholars. For example, a list of verses chosen from 10 different books of the New Testament can be compiled in just a few seconds, and quickly sent to the printer.

In conclusion, *AnyText* and *macBible* are well equipped to conduct searches for combinations of words, but they do not yet replace the printed concordance. Printed concordances assist their users by providing cross references and by grouping related terms together under a general heading. These packages utilize less complex alphabetizing and sorting procedures. One will have to wait and see if future upgrades can combine *macBible*'s ease of use with the greater selection of texts and fuller search capabilities of *AnyText*. Indeed, with regard to *macBible*, one may not have to wait long. Zondervan has announced that a major upgrade (*macBible 3.0*) will be released in the first half of 1993.

Concordance Programs Compared

■ good □ fair
○ weak/not supported

	AnyText	macBible 2.0
Program environment	HyperCard	Standard Macintosh
Documentation	○	■
Texts included	None	One
Works with any text file	Yes	No
Texts available:		
Hebrew Scriptures (BHS)	Yes	Yes
Septuagint (Rahlfs')	Yes	July,93
Greek NT (GNT 3)	Yes	Yes
Vulgate	Yes	No
RSV English Bible	Yes	No
NRSV English Bible	No	Yes
RSV/NRSV Apocrypha	Yes	Yes
NIV English Bible	Yes	Yes
Other	Yes	Yes
All biblical foreign fonts (screen/printer) included	No	Yes
Generates full index	■	○
"Book-chapter-verse" search	□	■
Complex word searches	■	■
Grammatical searches	■	○
Display references only	○	■
Displays words in context	■	■

Product Information

Endnote Plus 1.0

Address: Niles and Associates, Inc., 2000 Hearst Street, Berkeley, CA 94709 USA.
Phone: (415) 655-6666 **Fax**: (415) 649-8179
Price: $249.00US. Quantity discounts are available. Demo disk is $5.
System Requirements: IBM PC, compatibles or Macintosh 512KE, Plus, SE, SE/30 or any Mac from the Mac II family. Only *WordPerfect 4.x* or *5.x* supports DOS/TSR mode. The Macintosh version provides a "Plug-in Module" for *Microsoft Word 5.x* only.
Other: *Endnote* ($149.00US) and *EndLink* ($99.00US) are available for Macs and PCs. An e-mail user group has the following address: endnote@ucsbvm.