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CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING IN LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

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ABSTRACT:

Libraries are using variety of Library Management Softwares (LMS) and almost each LMS has Library membership module. Most of the libraries having problems in obtaining high quality images of the library members in lowest file size and appropriate image format quickly as input data for the library membership. All the issues of digital image processing are discussed in this scholarly communication. It helps libraries to define appropriate configurations for digital image processing for the library members.

KEYWORDS : *Library Membership, Digital Image processing, Aspects of Image processing.*

INTRODUCTION

The libraries within the higher education system vary as much as the institutions they are associated with in geography, size, culture, and language, and have implemented automation at varying times and degrees based on the availability of funds, manpower, and infrastructure. Library automation in India became a major topic of discussion during the 1990s. At that time, CDS/ISIS (UNESCO developed bibliographic database management software), dBase, and FoxPro database management software were the main products in use for retrospective conversion of library catalogs in the initial stage of automation. (Chandarkar & Arora, 2009) It was really need of the libraries to automate because of their growing collection, limitations on operations as well as services, changing needs of library members, information storage and retrieval and record keeping. There were very few library management softwares, but today varieties of library management softwares are available. Almost all the softwares having 5 to 6 modules named as Acquisition, Cataloguing, Circulation, Serial Control, Administration. Each module has different purpose and functions. Library membership comes under circulation module and has a lot importance because library members are the borrowers of the library materials. Library membership sub-module includes creation member record, holding member's personal data, photo and members reading interest and membership details etc. Recording member's personal details is comparatively easy task than the capturing and processing members photograph. Members photograph is necessary component of members record because it requires to identify the members when he/ she visit to the library for getting transacted with library reading material.

NEED AND IMPORTANCE-

Members photograph in library members record is significant. Library members record is incomplete if the members photograph is not with the members record. Records without members photograph may causes to misconducts with the library membership like borrowing library reading material on library memberships owned by other person, such kind of transactions may create difficulties to library as well as concern member also. Misuse of membership without photo is possible to have unauthorized access in Library reading room or any of the sections of the library. Quality of members database may be poor and

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members database will not be authenticate hence, members photograph should be explicit and of best quality in minimum file size.

BORN DIGITAL PHOTO VS DIGITIZED PHOTO –

Members photographs can be obtained by two methods ie. Born digital or digitized photo. Photographs captured by digtal photography camera or web camera are the born digital photographs and photographs created by scanning of print copy submitted by member is digitized photo. (Thorat, 2017) Capturing digital photo of the library member for members record is a most convenient way for obtaining best quality photograph in minimum time but one need to consider on some important and essential aspects of digital image processing for getting desired photograph of the member.

CONSIDERATIONS OF DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING-

Library needs high quality photographs of library members in lowest file size. To process captured images of members and while processing digital images of the library members, one has to consider on the following aspects;

a. **Cropping the image:** It is indeed necessary process because captured image is used to identify the library member hence having close face in image is important. Cropping unnecessary part of image reduce the size of image as well as database and the same same image can be submitted and retrieved with high speed. Thinking by this point of view unnecessary part of the image must be removed.

b. **Resizing the image:** Resizing the image in the terms of 'height', 'width' is also significant because the same image is used at reports and output side where available space is always limited ie. Membership card, membership register etc. By configuring height and width of image at appropriate level, size of image can be reduced. Lowest image size boost the speed of the functions where the image relevant ie. Library transaction, card printing, members report etc.

c. **Dots per Inch (DPI):** DPI mean 'Dots per Inch', is a quality measure of image, it must be at appropriate DPI value to obtain expected quality of processed image at output.

d. **Changing / Enhancing the image color:** Color of the members image is important as the image be printed on the cards etc. Color of processed image shall be satisfactory though the color of original image may not good.

e. **Rotating / straightening the image:** Many images need to straighten before uploading with membership record. Issues may occur in the identification of the member, if the image is not straight.

f.   **Renaming Images:** Images may rename to keep their relevance with members record or setting up the alpha-numeric or specified filenames for the record keeping purpose and convenience. Having relationship in members record and its image is important, otherwise the members database will be useless and meaningless.

g. **Output File Format:** Output file format of image should be as per guidelines provided by library management software used for library automation because all available image file formats may not compatible with the library management software and size of the image on disk also based on the file format chosen, hence choosing appropriate file format is necessary otherwise images may be useless.

CONCLUSION:

Library membership process is essential and vital in each library. Accuracy of members record is also expected to maintain transaction data. Members photograph plays vital role in authenticating the member during the transactions hence obtaining appropriate photographs of members in minimum time with best quality becomes important to library staff. Many technical issues create barriers to library staff while thinking to process members photographs. Aspects mentioned in this communication helps and provides direction to LIS professionals regarding processing of members images quickly.

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