BUNDESAMT FÜR SEESCHIFFFAHRT UND HYDROGRAPHIE

Terminology of Hydrography Relevant Terms and Concepts

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Introduction

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Articles

TERMINOLOGY OF HYDROGRAPHY RELEVANT TERMS AND CONCEPTS

By L. Schiller, Zindel AG

Abstract

Which terms do hydrographers use in their communication? Which ones do they use particularly often? And which terms do exclusively exist because hydrography exists? With the methods of terminology science it is possible to systematically derive the terminology of hydrography. In this paper, I describe how terms can be collected and how concepts can be identified starting from the German language, how English equivalents can be assigned and how the terms can be made available in a terminology database. This paper is focused on describing the methodological approach, illustrated by selected examples. The methods could be transferred to other languages, but could also be used to update the IHO Hydrographic Dictionary, for example. First results suggest that the terminology of hydrography is not too extensive. In addition to the purely hydrography-exclusive terms, hydrographers also use numerous terms from other disciplines. However, hydrographers should at least know a few hundred concepts to be able to communicate competently. This paper also contributes to the debate on the term hydrospatial.

Keywords: *terminology, term extraction, terminology database, synonyms, preferred terms, Hydrographic Dictionary S-32, DIN 18709-3, hydrospatial*

- Approach used to develop a terminology database for hydrographic terms in the German language
- Work performed by Lars Schiller (Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Applied Hydrography – Hydrographische Nachrichten*)
- Work published in the May 2022 edition of IHR

Some characteristics related to coverage

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- Develop a **concept-oriented** database rather than a **term-oriented** database

Provides all information on a concept at a glance:

- Definition;
- Terminology group
- Synonyms
- Equivalents
- Usage
- Frequency
- Up-to-dateness

- Terms sorted alphabetically
- Few internal references

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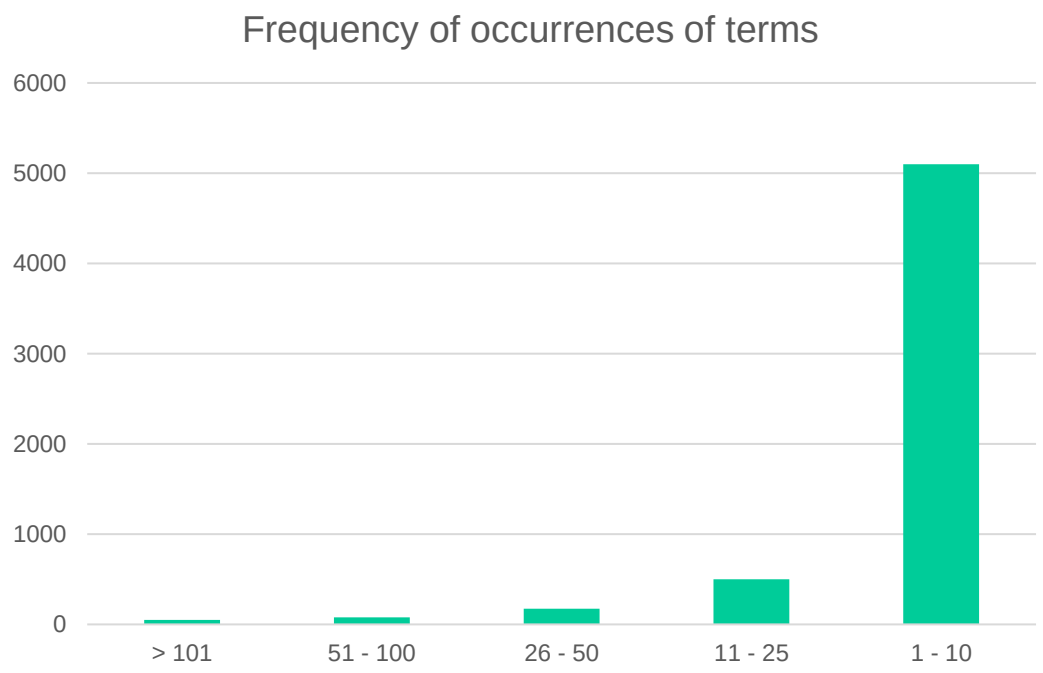
1. Compiling a text-corpus
2. Extracting candidate terms
3. Recognizing synonyms
4. Recognizing homonyms
5. Specifying usage
6. Determining frequency
7. Assigning terminology groups
8. Evaluating reference books
9. Creating conceptual systems
10. Writing definitions
11. Searching equivalents
12. Providing terminology in a terminology database


Frequency of occurrences of terms
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
> 101
51 - 100
26 - 50
11 - 25
1 - 10