From MlBibTeX 1.3 to 1.4

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MlBɪBTₑX 1.1 ⟸ some additional functions written using C, in order to put *multilingual features* into action.

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MlBɪBTₑX 1.2 ⟸ based on XML-like syntax for bibliographies, specified by a DTD.

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Intermezzo

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$+$ SXML format $+$ same format for programs and data $\implies$ Scheme.

MlBibTeX 1.3

Provide *actual programming tools* for operations clearly related to programming (e.g., lexicographic orders).

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Some .bib files may be rejected because of type errors: e.g., the `YEAR` field *must* be a year.

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Applying additional checking is (quite) easy.

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- Producing institutions' activity report.

- Populating an open-archive site.

- Some Sci-Fi bibliographies.

MlBibTeX 1.3 for a long time

Release numbers identified by *geographical names*.

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Presently: Verona's version.

Dealing with formats

.bib $\implies$ (S)XML.

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Parser XML $\Longleftrightarrow$ SXML unparser.

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Also: LaTeX $\implies$ actions.

Additions

Multilingual annotations.

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New syntax for person names by means of *keywords*.

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Namespaces in order to solve name conflicts among .bib files ⟸ BachoTeX 2014.

Inexact years (option)

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'?' for an unknown digit: 154?, 15??.

An unknown digit cannot be followed by an exact one.

Surmised or unknown authors

?? Arthur Reutenauer $\Longleftarrow$ surmised

?? and Arthur Reutenauer $\Longleftarrow$ unknown

Ordering years

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Inexact years are sorted according to the number of occurrences of the '?' sign:

$$1599 < \text{ca}1599 < 159? < 15??$$

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An unknown author is ranked *before* any known one:

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An author with uncertain identity is ranked *after* the same 'sure' author:

`Bogus{\l}aw Jackowski` $<$ `?? Bogus{\l}aw Jackowski`

From MlBibTeX 1.3 to 1.4

Scheme's standard has changed:

$$R^5RS \implies (R^6RS) \implies R^7RS$$

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Dealing with encodings.

New features

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Saving a bibliography as an XML file.

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Saving a bibliography as an XML file.

XML format specified by means of XML Schema.

Towards other projects

Programs `mlbiblatex` and `mlbibcontext`.

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`COLLABORATOR`, `TRADUCTOR` $\Longrightarrow$ next version.

A point of view

Several projects of improving expressive power of bibliography database files exist, but they follow incompatible directions.

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Maybe should a common project put a new standard into action?

A programmer's point of view

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Since this time, we have been able to add many features 'original' MlBIBTEX.

So we can be confident with the new version in preparation and we can think that we will go on!