OCLC CJK Plus: A Comparison with the CJK350 System

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INTRODUCTION

The first generation of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) cataloging system called CJK350 was introduced to the East Asian libraries in 1986. The breakthrough of the OCLC CJK Cataloging and Card Production Package enabled East Asian libraries to process their collections not only quickly but also efficiently. The number of OCLC CJK users has increased dramatically as a result of the successful implementation of the CJK350 system. Most East Asian libraries have treasured the value of this advanced technology. However, this state-of-the-art technology is not an end in terms of library automation in handling East Asian language materials; instead, it is a new beginning of sophisticated technological wonders. Six years after the implementation of the OCLC CJK350 system, the second generation of the OCLC online cataloging system, called CJK Plus, has also been successfully tested, this time in ten East Asian libraries. The University of California, Irvine, was one of the field test sites for the exciting new system. This paper is intended to discuss the similarities and differences between CJK Plus and CJK350. New features, advantages, and disadvantages of CJK Plus will also be discussed.

I. CATALOGING SYSTEM OVERVIEW

CJK Plus has a new look and new provisions: 1) It operates in a Microsoft (MS) Windows-based graphical environment with a color screen. 2) Advanced hardware and an enhanced PC keyboard are used to interact with the host. 3) A mouse is employed to click on the icons (graphical representations of various elements in Windows), main menus, pull-down menus, and dialog-boxes, etc. 4) A provision allows the user to transfer text from one bibliographic record to another or from a name authority to a bibliographic record. 5) The user may export a bibliographic or authority record to a local online system after cataloging. 6) A new user interface and an electronic HELP (user manual) are provided.

With CJK Plus, the user is encouraged to use the mouse to open menus, to click on icons, and to block a string of text for copying. The enhanced PC keyboard is convenient for the user to execute automatic logon/logoff, to toggle between active and inactive windows, to select the input method, to perform shortcut keys, to define function keys, and to activate function keys. Because Windows does not have a predefined number of lines and columns, if a bibliographic record fills more than one screen, <PgUp> and <PgDn> keys are used to view different parts of the displayed bibliographic record. <NS> and <PS> keys used in CJK350 will perform a <PgUp> or <PgDn> in CJK Plus as necessary. However, when performing a search in CJK Plus, if the truncated records fill up more than one screen, only <NS> or <PS> keys can be used because the <PgUp> and <PgDn> keys are not
activated. The electronic HELP in CJK Plus provides detailed descriptions and step by step instructions for these procedures. It also gives the user valuable hints and provides a glossary. Once the user clicks on the "Contents," "Search," or "Browse" key in HELP, all the important and useful information on that subject is readily accessible at the user's fingertips.

II. EDITING

CJK Plus is a menu-oriented system. From the pull-down Edit menu, the user can perform many tasks: 1) Toggle to CJK mode to create vernacular characters. 2) Perform cut, copy, delete, and paste functions on selected text. 3) Define function keys. 4) Edit access script to make login procedures automatic.

1. Input Method

CJK Plus provides five input methods and four language scripts to create CJK characters. The graphic Tsang-chieh (TC) input method is used for Chinese and Chinese-derived (CC) characters. Kanji and Hancha are considered Chinese-derived characters. The phonetic input method is used for all CJK characters, including kana and Hangul. The Chinese Full (CF) and Chinese Simplified (CS) are merged into one convenient script set under the Wade-Giles (WG) or Pinyin (PY) input method. The Japanese Kanji (JJ), Japanese Hiragana (JH), and Japanese Katakana (JK) are also grouped together into one character set under the Modified Hepburn (HP) input method. The Korean Hancha (KC) and Korean Hangul (KH), in the same way, are reorganized into one McCune-Reischauer (MR) input method. These changes eliminate the steps of toggling back and forth among CF, CS, JJ, JH, JK, KC, and KH.

With CJK Plus, the displayed characters in the matching window are arranged in East Asian Character Code (EACC) order with kana or Hangul first as appropriate. CJK Plus always highlights the first vernacular character displayed in the matching characters window. The user can select the character by either pressing the highlighted numeric key or just pressing <Enter> or clicking the <OK> button in the CJK Data Entry dialog box. To return to the first matching characters window from the last one, the <PgUp> key must be pressed repeatedly. CJK350, which scrolls the matching window from the last directly to the first, seems more efficient.

2. Cut, Copy, Delete, and Paste Function

Cut, copy, and paste are MS Windows-based applications. These features are not provided in CJK350. With these features provided by CJK Plus, the user can transfer selected text from one bibliographic record to another. The selected text can be either roman, diacritic, or vernacular characters. These provisions are extremely helpful and efficient in transferring name authority entries to the bibliographic record being edited.

3. Recorder
Recorder is another MS Windows-based application. It is used to record keystrokes assigned to a single function key or the combination of a few keys. CJK Plus uses this feature to set up user-defined function keys. The advantage of this feature is that the user may define as many function keys as desired without clearing the screen. The disadvantage is that all sequences of keystrokes entered either correctly or incorrectly will be recorded. Moreover, the defined CJK vernacular scripts are unable to be listed on the screen for browsing. Obviously, this type of problem is related to the MS Windows program; it is not a problem of CJK Plus. Although the number of user-defined function keys is limited to eight in CJK350, it is easier to manipulate in many ways.

4. To Enter a Diacritic

CJK Plus uses <Ctrl> <Shift> <1> keys to replace the <Esc> key employed in CJK350 to activate the diacritic and special characters. To press a combination of <Ctrl> <Shift> <1> keys together with an additional system default key simultaneously is somewhat difficult and inconvenient. However, this problem can be solved easily by defining one function key to perform the complicated keystrokes.

5. To Delete Linked Fields

CJK350 requires the user to delete the associated vernacular field first; the linked roman field will be deleted automatically. With CJK Plus, if the associated vernacular field is deleted first, the linked roman field will not be deleted automatically. On the other hand, if an attempt is made to delete the linked roman field, the system will ask whether the associated vernacular field is also to be deleted. If the user chooses "Yes," then both fields will be deleted. Once the field is deleted, CJK Plus removes that field and renumbers all remaining lines automatically. With CJK350, the remaining lines will not be renumbered until the <RF> key is pressed.

6. Send and Display Record Send Function Keys

CJK Plus uses an enhanced PC keyboard rather than the OCLC keyboard as used in CJK350. With this change, several keys that are used to interact with the host have been modified. The <F10> key is used to send the Lock command, the <F11> key is used for <Display Record Send>, and the <F12> key is used to send field. One remarkable improvement is that, after the user finishes editing one field, regardless of the position of the cursor, whether it is inside or beyond the field terminator, pressing the <F12> key will transmit the edited field to the host. The <Advance Line> key used in CJK350 is no longer required.

7. Adding a New Field

The procedures used to add a new field to a bibliographic record are very similar in CJK Plus and CJK350. Both systems verify field indicators and give a "WARNING" message
before the transaction is sent to the host. However, CJK Plus allows the user to enter the Start-of-Message (SOM) symbol at any location on the screen. The location can be at home, at bottom, or between two existing fields as it is in CJK350. With CJK Plus, the SOM symbol can also be entered at the right-hand side beyond the field terminator. The "Cursor Out" warning message displayed in CJK350 does not appear in CJK Plus. In addition, the unfinished field with missing field terminator will not be deleted when the <PgUp> or <PgDn> key is pressed for browsing. Another newly enhanced feature of CJK Plus is that the missing field terminator will be supplied automatically by the system.

III. SEARCHING

Basically, the search keys used in CJK Plus and CJK350 are the same. In bibliographic searching, roman search keys retrieve records in roman and in CJK vernacular characters. CJK search keys can only retrieve records with CJK vernacular scripts. With CJK Plus, the user has to bring the cursor back to the home position before entering the search keys. In CJK350, search keys can be entered not only at the home position but also at the left top of the next screen. However, both systems allow the user to insert an SOM symbol at the beginning of the search key to perform searching. As mentioned in subsection 6 above, the <F11> key is used in CJK Plus as the <Display Record Send> key used in CJK350. In name authority searching, CJK Plus has made provision for searching by ARN number, something which is not provided in CJK350.

IV. PRINTING

CJK Plus has provisions not only to print screens and cards, but also to print a displayed label in the edit window. The card production package has also been integrated with the online cataloging program. This improvement allows the user to perform other tasks, such as searching, editing, and inputting while the cards are being processed for printing and are in the process of printing. The user can also change his/her mind and select "Cancel" or "Pause" while the cards are being printed. The cards can also be reprinted or deleted by marking the selected records. In addition, CJK Plus allows the user to store non-CJK records in the card production file for printing roman-only cards. Other significant improvements in CJK Plus are: 1) The user may store as many records as desired for printing. 2) Field 099 is not mandatory for printing call numbers. With CJK350, the card printing process can only be performed offline at the DOS prompt. Because of this, all online activities are interrupted.

To perform multiscreen printing in CJK350 is tedious work because the user has to press the <ESC> <Print> keys repeatedly. Since the multiscreen function does not exit in CJK Plus, "Print Screen" is much easier. One <Print Screen> command prints the screen text from the first screen to the last regardless of the position of the cursor. Furthermore, the user can perform other activities while the screen is being printed. However, the actual printing does not start until the dialog box goes away.
CONCLUSION

As many of you know, the OCLC CJK cataloging system has a multiphase development plan. At the present time, CJK Plus still accesses the FIRST OCLC Online system. It is anticipated that it will migrate to the PRISM service sometime in 1993. At that point, keyword and subject searching, full screen editor, and boolean operators will be provided. We applaud OCLC’s vital effort in developing a conversion program for interchange from pinyin to Wade-Giles and vise versa for bibliographic searching. Hopefully, the success of this development will solve the long-standing issue of switching from one romanization system to another. We appreciate OCLC’s continuous support of East Asian libraries in terms of library automation. We are also delighted with OCLC’s vigorous effort for improving its world-class cataloging system. We look forward to the migration of CJK Plus to the PRISM service in the near future. Moreover, we would like OCLC to develop a provision to enhance the process of defining the function keys and to provide a mechanism to speed up the response time and process in searching, editing, updating, and printing. The success of the next development will make OCLC CJK Plus an even more exciting and successful state-of-the-art cataloging system.