

## How to get a French doctoral thesis, especially when you aren't French

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# How to get a French doctoral thesis, especially when you aren't French

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## Bionotes

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## Abstract

In 1985 the French government created a unique circuit for the dissemination of doctoral theses: References went to a national database "Téléthèses" whereas the documents were distributed to the university libraries in microform. In the era of the electronic document this French network of deposit of and access to doctoral theses is changing. How do you discover and locate a French thesis today, how do you get hold of a paper copy and how do you access the full electronic text? What are the catalogues and databases referencing theses since the disappearance of "Téléthèses"? Where are

the archives, and are they open? What is the legal environment that rules the emerging structures and tools?

This paper presents national plans on referencing and archiving doctoral theses coordinated by the government as well as some initiatives for creating full text archives. These initiatives come from universities as well as from research institutions and learned societies. "Téléthèses" records have been integrated in a union catalogue of French university libraries SUDOC. University of Lyon-2 and INSA Lyon developed procedures and tools covering the entire production chain from writing to the final access in an archive: "Cyberthèses" and "Cithér". The CNRS Centre for Direct Scientific Communication at Lyon (CCSD) maintains an archive ("TEL") with about 2000 theses in all disciplines. Another repository for theses in engineering, economics and management called "Pastel" is proposed by the Paris Institute of Technology (ParisTech), a consortium of 10 engineering and commercial schools of the Paris region.

(\* see glossary at the end of the communication)

## **What is a French doctoral thesis?**

Considered as scientific publications, French doctoral theses constitute an important part of scholarly communication. Following scientometrics, they represent 10-20% of indexed academic research in STM (OST\* 2002).

Theses are often the result of 3-4 years of research. At the same time they are an administrative document necessary to obtain the doctoral degree. In some disciplines they are regarded as a result of teamwork and appear in the list of publications of the research laboratory (Mermet et al. 1998).

French universities are autonomous; each one delivers its own degrees and preserves the theses in its library. In the past, before 1985, the graduate student had to deposit a certain number of copies that varied according to local rules (30-180). There are more than 100 universities in France, each one with one or more catalogues and with a specific logic of preservation and supply. Furthermore, academic communities – sciences, humanities, medicine, law etc. - hold different views and have different practices and traditions. And last not least, local autonomy and responsibility are "counterbalanced" by a national framework structure, the French interlibrary loan network.

So, how find a French thesis? And once found, how get it? The following communication tries to give some practical hints and perspectives, imbedded in a larger description of the development of the production, processing and preservation of French doctoral theses and an overview of the principal actors, catalogues and databases.

## **First steps to improve access to this type of grey literature (1985-2000)**

The French government published in 1985 a decree that regulated and improved the deposit and dissemination of doctoral theses. These rules have been applied until 2001. The main principles:

- Guarantee the deposit of the doctoral thesis.
- Harmonize the number of copies to submit.
- Facilitate the identification and availability of the documents.
- Move the format of preservation and dissemination from paper to microfiche (gain of shelf-space, easier access).

The result of the 1985 decree was the creation of a “four-level national network”. Each university had to create a special service for doctoral theses (“service de doctorat”). Two institutions (ANRT\*) in Lille and Grenoble transformed the print originals into microfiches. Three input centres (INIST\* for sciences and technology) centralized the creation of bibliographic records from the registration form. Finally, all records were loaded into a national online database called Téléthèses\*.

## **Deposit and dissemination 1985-2000**

Three weeks before the date of defense the candidate fills in two copies of a registration form and submits several print copies of his thesis at the "service de doctorat": one copy for each member of the jury, and three copies for the library.

The registration form contains personal, administrative and bibliographic data (including abstract and keywords with, in later years, English title and abstract) and is used for the examination process as well as for recording in the national database.

The jury may ask for modifications of the thesis to be finished within three months after the date of defense. Once the final official version submitted, the university president authorizes its reproduction and dissemination.

The print copies and registration forms are transmitted to the university library. The registration form is sent to one of the three input centres.

If authorized for reproduction, a print copy is sent to one of the national theses reproduction services (ANRT) that produces a microform version. All university libraries and some other academic institutions receive a copy on microfiche. The students' guide mentions an average dissemination of 200 microform copies per dissertation (Ministère 1994).

If the dissertation is published, the graduate student must deposit 10 sample issues at the university library (30 if the student received funding for the publication). In this case, the thesis is not converted into a microform.

French dissertations are not deposited at the National library (BNF\*), and they are not included in its national bibliography. An ISBN is only attributed if the dissertation is published.

## Referencing 1985-2000 – from print bibliography to online catalogue

The French ministry for education not only organized the submission of dissertations but improved its referencing as well. The registration forms were sent to three national input centres following the scientific subject (social sciences and humanities, including economics and law; medicine; and sciences).

In addition to an annual print bibliography “Inventaire des thèses” divided into three sections, a national online database was created in 1986. This new database “Téléthèses” was hosted on a university server and accessible through “Minitel”, a very popular Videotex online service launched in France in 1982 but inaccessible from foreign countries.

Records in the online database referred to dissertations going back to 1972 for sciences, social sciences and humanities, to 1983 for medicine and pharmacology and 1990 for veterinary sciences.

Each record contained minimal bibliographic data, abstract and keywords in French and for a part in English. Authority lists were used for the university, type of degree and scientific domain. From 1986 on the “service de doctorat” attributed a national identification number that was included in the database record.

Between 1995 and 2003 the Téléthèses database was also published in a CD-Rom version called Docthèses\*, making the database available to foreign countries. The following table contains the number of French doctoral theses referenced by Docthèses between 1993 and 2002:

Year	Number	Humanities and social sciences	Sciences	Medicine and veterinary sciences
2002 (*)	10720	3209	?	?
2001 (*)	8922	2612	6310	?
2000 (*)	10663	3572	4977	2113
1999	17826	3530	6011	8285
1998	18444	3398	6655	8391
1997	19886	3637	7083	9166
1996	19542	3460	7181	8901
1995	18449	3019	6422	9008

1994	19344	3307	6613	9424
1993	18813	2844	6335	9634

**Table 1: Theses referenced in the “Docthèses” CD-Rom database (1993-2002)**

*(\*) 2000-2002 are transition years and the number of theses is not complete*

In 2000 the Téléthèses database moved from Videotex to a web server hosted by ABES\*. At the same time, all records were loaded into the new national academic union catalogue SUDOC\*.

From 2001, the university libraries started to create “their” records directly in the SUDOC, and the online and CD-Rom databases disappeared. The SUDOC catalogue contains today more than 500 000 theses.

The INIST online database Article@INIST\* contains nearly 100 000 theses, most of them from science and technology.

### **Critics of the 1985-2000 system**

The 1985 decision facilitated recording and availability of French theses. Nevertheless, some critics arose especially from library professionals:

- Workload: University libraries couldn't download the records from the database, but had to key them again for their own catalogue.
- Incomplete information: Especially in humanities and social sciences, librarians wanted to increase reference quality by adding national subject headings (RAMEAU\*).
- Delays: The interval between the date of defence and the moment the records were integrated into the union catalogue was sometimes rather long.
- Supply price: The price of dissemination of theses through print copies from microforms was generally considered as too high.

In 1996 the centralized input of records for theses in social sciences and humanities was replaced by direct input from each library.

Finally these critics, together with the development of electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) in France and other countries (see for instance Friend 1998 for the UK, Jin 2004 for China, Suleman & Fox 2003 for the international Networked Digital Library of Electronic Theses and Dissertations, Rutledge 1994), lead from 1998 on to a radical change in national politics in favour of a national solution for electronic theses (see Okret-Manville 2002).

## **From print to electronic format (1998-2004)**

The French ministry of education developed since 1998 the project of a national server for electronic theses and dissertations (Okret 1998). This project was meant to substitute the 1985 network. Its fundamental assumptions:

- The centralized structure is preserved.
- In the heart of the system, the national academic union catalogue, SUDOC.
- Each ETD record in the SUDOC is linked to the full-text (URL link from the 856 field).
- Each ETD is archived on a local server (university).
- A national backup server contains part or all of French ETDs in PDF.

The 1998 project already referred to three problems: format for preservation and transmission, protection of intellectual property, need of investment for the national server and local archives.

In the following year, the ministry created a commission to prepare the technical aspects of this project. The conclusions – a unique model with the same software and procedures for all universities - were published in a report (Jolly 2000). In 2001, the ministries of education and research published guidelines for students and universities with detailed recommendations for digital editing, archiving and supply that were based on the program “Cyberthèses” developed by the University Press of Montreal and the university of Lyon-2:

- Edition: native format compatible with RTF or TeX, with a common style sheet in order to structure the whole document.
- Preservation: conversion into XML.
- Format of dissemination: PDF, HTML or XML.
- Each university records its theses in its own catalogue and in the national union catalogue (Unimarc format).
- Metadata: the 2000 report included a data model derived from the Dublin Core. In the future, metadata harvesting by the ABES from local academic servers was supposed to substitute the traditional recording. The metadata then would be reformatted into Unimarc records for the SUDOC catalogue.
- The full text is archived on a local university server; a backup copy is preserved on a national server run by the CINES\*. The university library has to preserve a print copy.
- Supply: by the university, online access and/or through interlibrary loan (print copy).

A number of articles and communications were published to inform about the project and encourage local progress (see Boyer et al. 2001, Okret-Manville 2002).

## **The 2004 reality: diversity, problems, and perspectives**

Three years later, the French ETD landscape is all but homogeneous. The results of the government initiative seem disappointing. The development and implementation of national software and services progress slower than planned. A study ordered by the ministry (spring-summer 2004) totals only 360 ETDs in conformity with the governmental guidelines, less than 5% of the annual number of theses (Six&Dix 2004).

In the same time, a growing number of alternative, more or less successful local initiatives, academic networks and open archives give access to more than 4000 ETDs.

The reasons for this paradoxical situation are various.

Up to now, neither the government nor any other institution had enough coercive or persuasive force to impose a unique model for ETDs. Perhaps this “unique model” is simply unrealistic and non-adapted to the heterogeneous needs, behaviours and traditions of scientific and academic communities.

Another reason is financial: government funding was centred rather on the development of the national union catalogue and access to online resources (“big deals” by the academic consortium) than on ETDs. Without specific financial support by the government, the local investment by universities was often limited. The Ministry’s initial evaluation of human and budget resources (one librarian and 10 000 euros for the processing of 100 ETD/year) was too optimistic.

Underestimated was also the need for new technical knowledge and procedures, training of graduate students and investment for new soft- and hardware (see Laloë 2003). Generally, the technical requirements were considered as too complicated, both from academics and librarians and from students.

Together with partly lacking motivation of universities and students, these problems significantly slowed down the development of the national networked digital library.

But just as in other countries, some universities and academic communities started to develop their own and often less complicated ETD solutions, comparable for instance to Virginia Tech or ETH Zürich (see Jutzi & Keller 2001). Probably the initial project based on a unique model will shift to a modular network based on mixed deposit (print/native format), PDF/XML archiving and PDF/HTML supply (see Six&Dix 2004) and take into account alternative solutions comparable for instance to the ProQuest/UMI online submission system (see Cox & Barbosa-Jerez 2004).



## French ETD archives in 2004

The following chapter offers an overview of the seven most representative digital archives<sup>1</sup> that give free access to French ETDs. These archives were developed since 1997 and 1998 by French universities, engineering schools, national institutes and the CNRS\*. Figures and data are from November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The appendix contains more detailed information for each of these ETD archives.

### (a) Physics, mathematics, chemistry and engineering sciences

- **Cithér**: produced by INSA\* Lyon with 174 theses in the engineering field.
- **Pastel**: produced by the Paris Institute of Technology (ParisTech with 10 independent engineering schools). Pastel contains 341 dissertations with online access to the full text.
- **MathDoc\***: developed by the university of Grenoble-1 and the CNRS. MathDoc is one of the oldest French archives with more than 1000 theses in mathematics.
- **INRIA\***: the INRIA archive gives access to more than 1000 theses in computer science and control.

### (b) Multidisciplinary archives

- **Cyberthèses**: a common project between Canadian and French universities (Montreal, Lyon), gives for example access to 366 multidisciplinary ETDs for Lyon 2 University.
- **Grisemine**: is produced by the university of Lille-1. Its 396 theses cover sciences, technology and social sciences.
- **TEL**: created by the CCSD\* and MathDoc\*. It is today the most comprehensive French archive with 2292 ETDs in full text, covering all domains but mostly physics, mathematics and engineering sciences.

### (c) Typology of archives

Four different types of archives can be distinguished, even if these types are not exclusive:

- The **institutional archive** contains all theses of one (INRIA) or more than one structure (Pastel).
- The **domain-specific archive** gives access to ETDs from different establishments but of the same scientific domain (MathDoc).
- The **collaborative or multi-side archive** offers facilities to different structures (International program Cyberthèses).

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<sup>1</sup> Digital archives does not necessarily mean open archive. By digital archive we understand platforms, institutional servers, repositories who give access to ETD full text in a permanent way.

- The **multi-type archive** contains ETDs but also other academic literature - preprints, conference papers, courseware and so on (Grisemine).

These criteria are not exclusive; a given archive can belong to more than one category as for instance Grisemine that is also the institutional archive of the university of Lille-1.

The most frequent type seems to be the collaborative or multi-side archive. The cooperation can be realized on different levels:

- Management and administration: Cyberthèses is co-managed mainly by the universities of Montreal and Lyon-2 and a French foundation for information highways (Fonds Francophone des Inforoutes).
- Coverage: Multilingual research interfaces are more and more frequent. TEL offers French, English and German versions. ETDs are in different languages and come from different European, African and American countries.

This willingness to cooperate is reinforced by the use of metadata harvesting through the OAI PMH protocol and the use of open source software. Pastel, TEL and Cyberthèses are declared OAI. Grisemine as an institutional archive for French grey literature is moving from a proprietary system to the Dspace software from the MIT.

#### **(d) Other services and functionalities**

Some archives offer more than full text access and include special and complementary services, for instance:

- Complete editorial chain: Cyberthèses proposes a complete editorial chain called “Cyberdocs” from a document model to the conversion into a fully structured XML document using TEI lite DTD. Discussion lists and downloadable tools complete the offer.
- Links to online services: MathDoc offers links to different special portals and online services such as the Zentralblatt-MATH (FIZ Karlsruhe), the MathSciNet (American mathematical society), or Springer Link.
- Online submission: TEL and Pastel permit online submission by the author (self-archiving). Even so, in most cases the institution before making them available controls metadata and documents.

Up to now, we found no study on usage patterns of the different French archives and systems comparable to Zhang, Lee & You 2001 for the Korean KISTI system.

Detailed aspects can be found in the individual presentations of each archive (see appendix).

## **(e) Perspectives**

More and more universities and organizations encourage the submission of “their” ETDs to the CCSD archive TEL. Others “paste” them directly to this archive, sometimes by automatic procedures, for instance the IMAG (Institute of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science at Grenoble), IN2P3 (Institute of Nuclear Physics and Particle Physics), and ParisTech with its Pastel archive.

Presently, TEL has become the most important ETD archive in France, with the highest number of participating organizations and ETDs. CCSD tries to increase its coverage for humanities and social sciences and life sciences, prepares the retro-digitisation of print theses and intends to place the archive under international control in order to ensure permanent access.

It is possible that in the next future the French government will confirm this reality and that the TEL archive will officially become the central national ETD archive.

## **ETD metadata: towards a national metadata scheme**

Following the results of the Jolly report, AFNOR\*, the French standardization organization charged an expert group to define the metadata required with the national deposit of ETDs.

Based on the Dublin Core, the national metadata scheme is written in XML. It offers a match to Unimarc fields of the SUDOC records. It will also be compatible with the OAI protocol for metadata harvesting.

Compared to the traditional paper registration form, the new scheme is richer. In addition to the “traditional” bibliographic metadata, the scheme includes several administrative data as well as information related to the life cycle of ETDs and to the rights management. Other data are optional, for instance the name of the research laboratory.

## **Legal aspects**

In the 1980's a thesis was considered as a *university* document that should be disseminated as widely as possible. According to their examination regulations, the universities considered the jury's authorization sufficient for dissemination.

With the appearance of ETDs and the evolution of the author's rights, a dissertation is no longer seen as a "university document" but as a work subject to intellectual property rights.

Today the explicit authorization by the author of the thesis (= copyright holder) is necessary for the electronic dissemination, in addition to the jury's decision. This authorization should be requested when the thesis is submitted (Jolly 2000). Furthermore, some universities ask for a declaration of conformity between electronic and print version and/or between the native deposit format and the XML version (Six&Dix 2004).

Some universities (Metz, for instance) already started to search for their former graduate students in order to obtain an authorization for retro-digitisation and online access of older theses.

At present, the impact of the ETD policy on scholarly publication (see Seamans 2003) isn't addressed in France but may be a reason for the lack of motivation of some candidates to accept electronic submission and free availability of their thesis through Internet posting.

### **Conclusion: some practical tips to search and order a French thesis**

From a clearly structured network in the 80s and 90s with defined roles, actors and services, the French dissertation landscape has changed into a heterogeneous mixture of national structures and local initiatives. This may be characteristic for a transitional period from a traditional "print circuit" to a networked digital library of ETDs. In the meantime, searching for French theses has to adopt a double strategy, based on an interrogation of the academic union catalogue SUDOC and a web-based search in ETD archives and repositories.

#### **How to find a thesis in the SUDOC:**

Choose the "Extended Search" interface.

De-select all types of publication except for dissertations.

Choose or select a subject.

Limit the publication year or range.

Add keywords with the index "subject words".

For formal information select the index "dissertation note". This index contains formal information about the type of theses, the domain, the university and the date.

Each bibliographic record in SUDOC is linked to a holding record that lists the university libraries in possession of the document, with details on loan/copy conditions (PEB\*).

In some special cases it is difficult or impossible to obtain a thesis referenced in the SUDOC:

(1) Confidential theses are referenced in the databases or university catalogues, but are not available.

The principal reasons for confidentiality are:

- The research has been conducted on a subject where patents have been submitted.
- The author plans to publish his work commercially.

If the confidentiality is time-limited, the document becomes available after this period.

(2) The jury/commission may ask the candidate to revise parts of his dissertation. If this isn't done then the thesis may not be disseminated officially and be excluded from microform reproduction. Even if it could eventually be retrieved from a personal website, its scientific value should be considered with prudence.

(3) "Thèses d'exercice" in medicine normally are not reproduced in microform. They are available at the student's university and at the central library for medicine in Paris (BIUM\*) where they can be retrieved through the BIUM catalogue.

Print copies from French theses can also be ordered directly via the INIST document supply service.

The Lille ANRT offers a service called "Thèse à la carte" where theses can be searched by subject or domain and ordered in book format; presently, the ANRT catalogue contains roughly 4500 theses.

Even if the SUDOC catalogue remains the point of access to all French theses in print format, ETDs must be searched in the different local and networked archives and databases to obtain full text access, since the SUDOC still offers a rather small number of records with hyperlinks to documents.

The search for a French ETD can start in some digital libraries or portals that offer updated selections of web links to repositories and archives.

**Web links to ETD archive information:**

Agence bibliographique de l'enseignement supérieur, Thèses [Online]. –  
<<http://www.abes.fr/abes/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=223>>

Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Thèses francophones en ligne [Online]. -  
<[http://signets.bnf.fr/html/categories/c\\_011theses\\_fra\\_ligne.html](http://signets.bnf.fr/html/categories/c_011theses_fra_ligne.html)>

Ecole nationale supérieure des sciences de l'information et des bibliothèques (ENSSIB), Sibel. Thèses [Online]. -  
<<http://sibel.enssib.fr/index.php?m=c&c=479>>

Maison des Sciences de l'Homme –Alpes, Thèses [Online]. -  
<<http://www.msh-alpes.prd.fr/veille/actualitercherche.htm>>

Ministère de l'Education nationale, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche, Thèses en ligne [Online]. -  
<<http://www.educnet.education.fr/dossier/rechercher/these1.htm>>

Another way is to search directly in the ETD archives (see appendix) or on the universities' websites and catalogues. Nevertheless, in spite of these initiatives and services, searching French ETDs still remains a more or less difficult task.

But this difficulty isn't it just the main feature of grey literature? And as mentioned above, it reflects the transition from a well-organized "print network" to a new and open structure where centralized services such as the SUDOC or a national ETD archive probably hosted by the CINES or the CCSD (TEL), together with other French or European federate sites and portals (Cyberthèses, INIST, the future SIGLE gateway to grey literature) will facilitate search and access to French ETDs. The ideas and projects exist; their realization is a matter of public funding, resources and time.

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## Glossary

**ABES:** Agence Bibliographique de l'Enseignement Supérieur (operating agent of the French academic union catalogue and ILL system): <http://www.abes.fr>

**AFNOR:** Association Française de Normalisation (French standardisation organisation): <http://www.afnor.fr/>

**ANRT:** Atelier National de Reproduction des Thèses (national service for the reproduction of theses). The Lille ANRT is hosted at the Charles de Gaulle university at Lille-3: <http://www.anrtheses.com.fr>

**Article@INIST:** Online database with over 8 million references of articles and monographs for document supply: <http://services.inist.fr/public/eng/conslt.htm>

**BIUM:** Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de Médecine (largest medical library in France and most important supplier in the academic sector): <http://www.bium.univ-paris5.fr/>

**BNF:** Bibliothèque Nationale de France (French national library): <http://www.bnf.fr/>

**CCSD:** Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe (CNRS Centre for Direct Scientific Communication): <http://ccsd.cnrs.fr/>

**CINES:** Centre Informatique National de l'Enseignement Supérieur (national academic computer and data-processing centre, called CNUSC until 1999): <http://www.cines.fr/>

**CNRS:** Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (French National Research Organisation): <http://www.cnrs.fr/>

**INIST:** Institut de l'Information Scientifique et Technique (CNRS institute for scientific and technical information): <http://www.inist.fr>

**INRIA:** French national institute for research in computer science and control: <http://www.inria.fr>

**INSA:** Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon (one of the top French engineering universities): <http://www.insa-lyon.fr/>

**MathDoc:** French network for documentation in mathematics and server for the management of ETDs run by the university of Grenoble-1 and the CNRS: <http://math-doc.ujf-grenoble.fr/Theses>

**OST:** Observatoire des Sciences et des Techniques (Observatory for Science and Technology, production of quantitative indicators for S&T activity): <http://www.obs-ost.fr/fr/>

**PEB:** Prêt entre bibliothèques (French academic interlibrary loan)

**RAMEAU:** Répertoire d'autorité-matière encyclopédique et alphabétique unifié (academic subject headings authority list): <http://rameau.bnf.fr>

**SUDOC:** Système Universitaire de Documentation (academic union catalogue of serials and monographs): <http://www.sudoc.abes.fr/>

All websites visited in November 2004.



## Appendix

The following sheets contain for each ETD archive four sets of data:

- General information: content, domains, coverage (anteriority) and number of ETDs.
- Technical information: software and formats.
- Archiving: self-archiving and legal aspects.
- Institutional information: institution, website, contact, complementary information.

All data were collected between July and November 2004.

## CITHER

### General information

URL	<a href="http://csidoc.insa-lyon.fr/these/">http://csidoc.insa-lyon.fr/these/</a>
Content	Theses from INSA
Type	Institutional
Language	French
Domains	Engineering sciences
Input	INSA Lyon
First release	1997
Number of theses	174
First thesis	1996

### Technical information

Platform/software	CEN (DELPHI)
Deposit format	Word, Latex, PostScript
Viewing format	PDF
Storage format	Word, PDF

### Archiving

Self-archiving	No
Dissemination	Authorization by author and university
Removal of thesis	Allowed

### Institutional information

Institution	Centre de documentation scientifique Doc'INSA
Website	<a href="http://docinsa.insa-lyon.fr/">http://docinsa.insa-lyon.fr/</a>
Contact	<a href="mailto:cither@insa.insa-lyon.fr">cither@insa.insa-lyon.fr</a>

## CYBERTHESES

### General information

URL	<a href="http://cyberdocs.univ-lyon2.fr/">http://cyberdocs.univ-lyon2.fr/</a>
Content	ETDs from Cyberthèses members
Type	Collaborative
Language	Website in French and in English
Domains	Multidisciplinary
Input	Universities of Lyon-2, Montreal, Chili and several institutions from other countries
First release	1998
Number of theses	366 (Lyon 2)
First thesis	1996

### Technical information

Platform/software	Cyberdocs (platformGPL), open source software
Editorial chain	Conversion of structured word documents in XML with the TEI Lite DTD
Metadata format	Dublin Core and specific elements
OAI-PMH	Yes
Deposit format	Latex, Word, WP, Lotus...
Viewing format	HTML, XHTML, PDF
Storage format	XML

### Archiving

Self-archiving	No
Dissemination	University agreement requested

### Institutional information

Institutions	University of Montreal University of Lyon-2
Websites	<a href="http://www.umontreal.ca/">http://www.umontreal.ca/</a> <a href="http://www.univ-lyon2.fr/">http://www.univ-lyon2.fr/</a>
More information	CyberThèses, Agence Intergouvernementale de la Francophonie, FFI, Cyberdocs: structure and publish electronic documents [Online]. - <a href="http://sourcesup.cru.fr/cybertheses/">http://sourcesup.cru.fr/cybertheses/</a> University of Lyon 2, Cyberthèses [Online]. - <a href="http://mirror-fr.cybertheses.org/en/cybertheses.php">http://mirror-fr.cybertheses.org/en/cybertheses.php</a>
Contact	Jean-Paul DUCASSE : <a href="mailto:Jean-Paul.Ducasse@univ-lyon2.fr">Jean-Paul.Ducasse@univ-lyon2.fr</a> Guylaine BEAUDRY : <a href="mailto:guylaine.beaudry@umontreal.ca">guylaine.beaudry@umontreal.ca</a>

## GRISEMINE

### General information

Content	French grey literature
URL	<a href="http://cridoc.univ-lille1.fr/default.asp?bustl/grisemine">http://cridoc.univ-lille1.fr/default.asp?bustl/grisemine</a>
Type	Institutional, collaborative, multi-type
Language	French
Domains	Sciences, technology and social sciences
Input	University of Lille-1
First release	2001
Number of theses	396 (full text or abstracts)
First thesis	End of 19th century
Others documents	Preprints, conference papers, etc
Total documents	1039

### Technical information

Platform/software	Is moving from a proprietary software to Dspace
Metadata format	Dublin Core and specific elements
Deposit format	ASCII, Word, RTF, PDF, PostScript, HTML
Viewing format	PDF
Storage format	PDF

### Archiving

Self-archiving	No
Dissemination	Authorization by author and university
Removal of thesis	Allowed

### Institutional information

Institution	University of Lille-1
Website	<a href="http://ustl1.univ-lille1.fr/projetUstl/">http://ustl1.univ-lille1.fr/projetUstl/</a>
More information	Claerebout, M.-F., Marino, J.-B., Grisemine, une bibliothèque numérique de littérature grise universitaire [Online]. Amsterdam : GL5, 4-5 December 2003. - < <a href="http://archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/sic_00000892.en.html">http://archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/sic_00000892.en.html</a> >
Contact	Marie-France CLAEREBOU : <a href="mailto:marie-france.claerebout@univ-lille1.fr">marie-france.claerebout@univ-lille1.fr</a>

## INRIA

### General information

Content	Research reports, technical reports, thesis edited by INRIA
URL	<a href="http://www.inria.fr/rrrt/index.fr.html">http://www.inria.fr/rrrt/index.fr.html</a>
Type	Institutional, multi-type
Language	English, French
Domains	Communication and information science, computer science, automation
Input	INRIA
Number of theses	About 1000
First thesis	1985

### Technical information

Platform/software	Alta Vista Search Intranet (will change soon)
OAI-PMH	In project- in cooperation with CCSD
Deposit format	LaTeX...
Viewing format	PDF, PostScript

### Institutional information

Institution	INRIA
Website	<a href="http://www.inria.fr/index.fr.html">http://www.inria.fr/index.fr.html</a>
More information	INRIA, Annual report 2003 [Online]. - < <a href="http://www.inria.fr/inria/rapportannuel/ran.fr.html">http://www.inria.fr/inria/rapportannuel/ran.fr.html</a> >
Contact	<a href="mailto:webmaster@inria.fr">webmaster@inria.fr</a>

## MATHDOC

### General information

Content	Online access to resources in mathematics
URL	<a href="http://math-doc.ujf-grenoble.fr/Theses">http://math-doc.ujf-grenoble.fr/Theses</a>
Type	Collaborative, domain-specific
Language	Website in English and French, documents in different languages
Domain	Mathematics
Input	Universities (institutes of mathematics), CCSD
First release	1998
Number of theses	1000 (full text and abstracts)
First thesis	1990
Others documents	Preprints, journals, books, digital library of old documents

### Technical information

Platform/software	Harvest, OpenResolver (Open URL), open source software
Formats	See TEL

### Archiving

Self-archiving	Self-archiving via TEL
Dissemination	See TEL
Removal of thesis	Allowed

### Institutional information

Institution	Cellule MathDoc CNRS University of Grenoble-1
Website	<a href="http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/">http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/</a> <a href="http://www.ujf-grenoble.fr/ujf/fr/welcome.phtml">http://www.ujf-grenoble.fr/ujf/fr/welcome.phtml</a>
More information	Cellule MathDoc, Comité de pilotage: 29 septembre 2003 [Online]. - < <a href="http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/Activites/Rapports/CP-CMD_2003_web.pdf">http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/Activites/Rapports/CP-CMD_2003_web.pdf</a> > INIST-CNRS, La Cellule MathDoc [Online]. - < <a href="http://www.inist.fr/openaccess/article.php3?id_article=30&amp;var_recherche=mathdoc">http://www.inist.fr/openaccess/article.php3?id_article=30&amp;var_recherche=mathdoc</a> >
Contact	<a href="mailto:accueil@mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr">accueil@mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr</a>

## PASTEL

### General information

Content	Theses from ParisTech
URL	<a href="http://pastel.paristech.org/">http://pastel.paristech.org/</a>
Type	Institutional, collaborative
Language	French
Domains	Engineering sciences
Input	Paris Institute of Technology includes 10 engineering schools
First release	2002
Number of theses	341
First thesis	1994

### Technical information

Platform/software	Eprint 2.2.1
OAI-PMH	Yes
Metadata format	Dublin Core and specific elements
Deposit format	PDF, PostScript, HTML, MS Word...
Viewing format	HTML, PDF, PostScript
Storage format	PDF, HTML, Text (ASCII)...

### Archiving

Self-archiving	Yes
Dissemination	Authorization by author and university
Removal of thesis	Allowed

### Institutional information

Institution	ParisTech
Website	<a href="http://www.paristech.org/anglais/index.html">http://www.paristech.org/anglais/index.html</a>
Contact	<a href="mailto:admin@rilk.com">admin@rilk.com</a>

## TEL

### General information

Content	Multidisciplinary theses server
URL	<a href="http://tel.ccsd.cnrs.fr">http://tel.ccsd.cnrs.fr</a>
Type	Collaborative
Language	Website in English, German and French, theses in different languages
Domains	Multidisciplinary but mostly physics, mathematics and engineering sciences
Institutions	French universities, universities from other countries
First release	2001
Number of theses	2292
First thesis	1990

### Technical information

Platform/software	Eprint 1.1
Editorial chain	No
OAI-PMH	Yes
Deposit format	(La)TEX, RTF, Word, PostScript, EPS, JPEG, HTML, PDF
Viewing format	(La)TEX, Word, HTML, PostScript, PDF, XML
Storage format	(La)TEX, Word, XML

### Archiving

Self-archiving	Yes
Dissemination	Authorization by author, often also by university
Removal of thesis	Allowed

### Institutional information

Institution	CCSD Cellule MathDoc
Website	<a href="http://www.ccsd.cnrs.fr">http://www.ccsd.cnrs.fr</a> <a href="http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/">http://www-mathdoc.ujf-grenoble.fr/</a>
More information	Laloë, F.: <a href="mailto:franck.laloe@lkb.ens.fr">franck.laloe@lkb.ens.fr</a>
Contact	<a href="mailto:adminTEL@ccsd.cnrs.fr">adminTEL@ccsd.cnrs.fr</a>