EXPERBIB

1. General introduction

EXPERBIB is a bibliographic managing program that must be executed with 4 Dimension® (4D) from Acius (version 2.1 or later). This application allows you to consult, quickly and easily, a large database. For each reference, you can add keywords and personal codes (which allow easy classification). You can also import and export in EndNote® format

What are the differences between EXPERBIB and other commercial products ?

a. A multi-user database in which every user is allowed to have personal keywords (just a click to add it to a reference) and a personal search profile ;

b. A list of indexed keywords ;

c. Every reference can have a personal code which is automatically numbered ;

d. The facility to paste a picture from other packages, Chemdraw® for example ;

e. The ability to manage a large database. For example, one personal database uses more than 80,000 references and 200,000 keywords (it uses *ca*. 160 Mb).

1.1. Quick start

If you are familiar with 4D all you need to know to use EXPERBIB is the first password. When the computer asks for the username, enter "ROOT". When it asks for the password, hit "return". That's all, why not try it ? To take advantage of all the applications of the package, it would be advisable to read the following information.

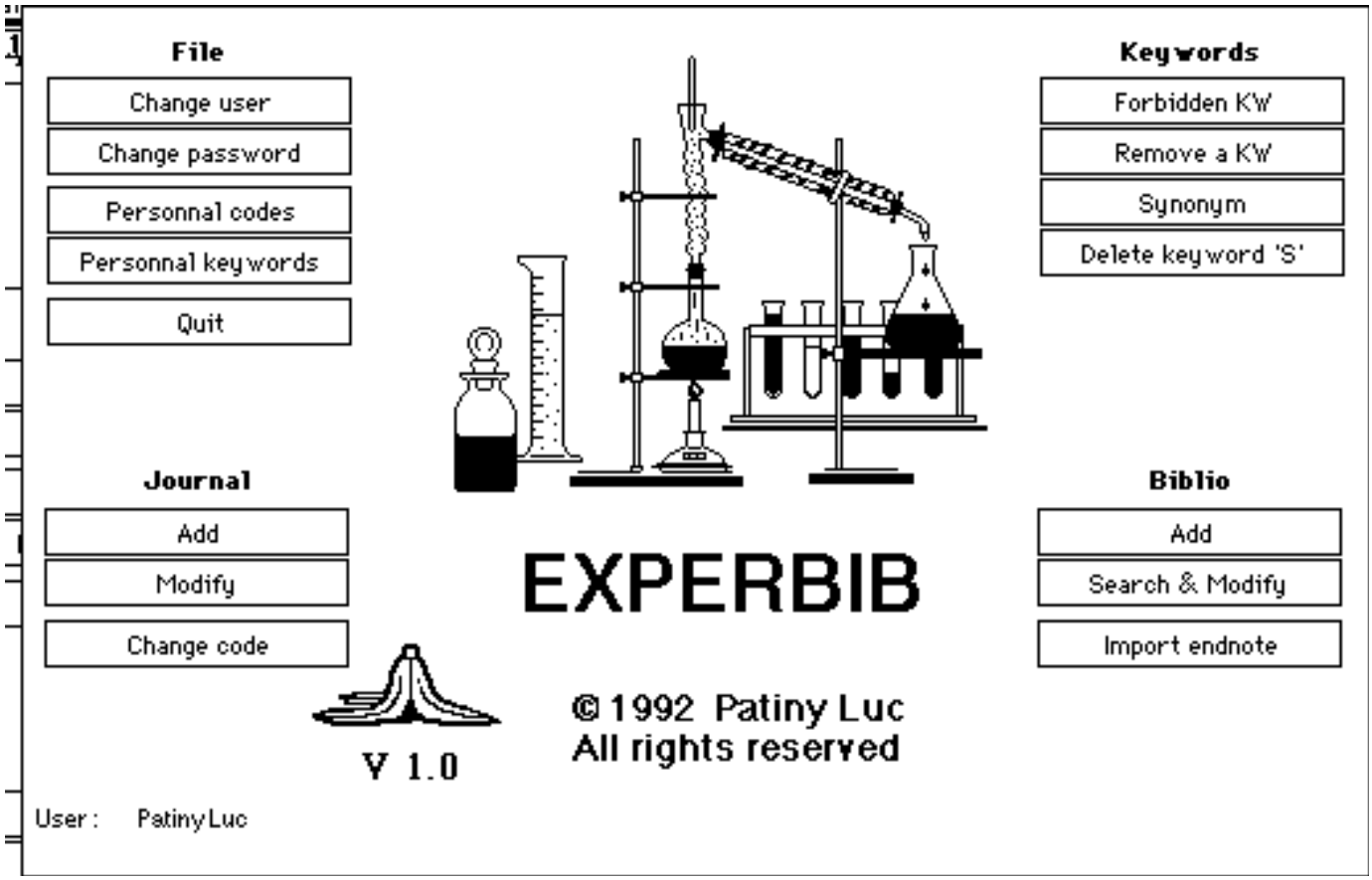
1.2. How to use the icon panel

Located at the bottom of the input screen is an icon panel. The function of each icon will be explained below :

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

1. Sends you back to the first record
2. Back one record
3. Forward one record
4. Sends you to the last record
5. Erase current record
6. First record page
7. Second record page
8. Third record page
9. Save changes to disk
10. Do not save changes to disk
11. Save changes and print record

2. Functions description



2.1. « FILE »

2.1.1. Change user

This gives the user access to the system by a personal code. When the database is created there is only one name : "root" without any password. This name will permit use of all the functions.

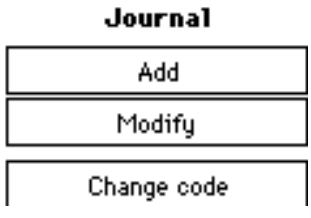
A normal user is not allowed use of all the functions. For example changing a journal name, .deleting a keyword is forbidden because it is time consuming and it can be detrimental.

You can also add an "anonymous" user who will only be allowed to read, and not modify, the contents of the database.

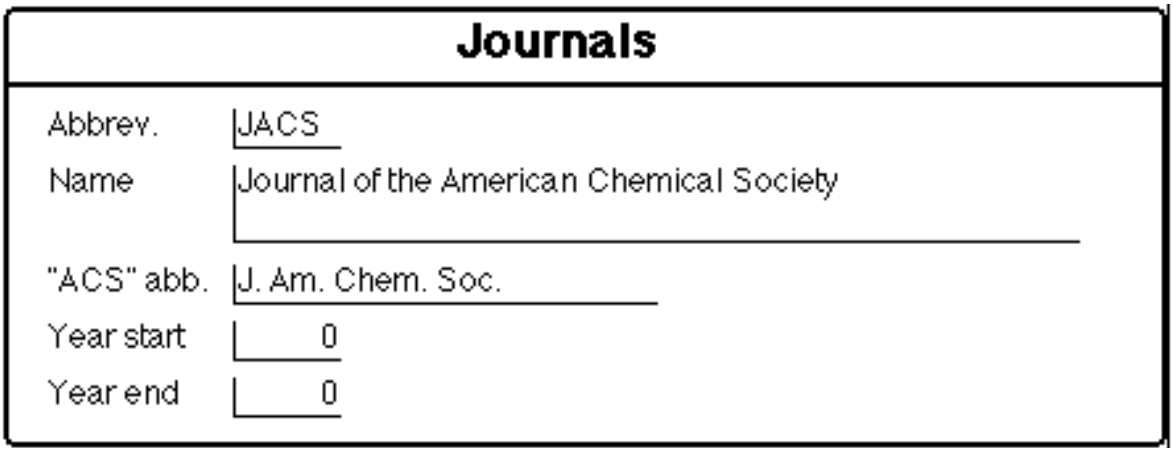
2.1.2. Change Password

This function permits you to change your password or add a new user. Other functions also exist for the “Administrator” (accessible via the username "root").

2.2. « JOURNAL »



2.2.1. Add



There are at least 3 fields to complete :

The field "Abbrev." which will contain the abbreviation used to enter new bibliographic references and to index the references. For example, this abbreviation will be "JACS" for "J. Am. Chem. Soc.". Only 5 characters may be used.

The field "Name" will contain the name of the journal. Finally, you should enter the "ACS" abbreviation, like "J. Am. Chem. Soc." for "Journal of American Chemical Society".

Optionally, you may enter the year of origin (first edition) and the final year (last edition of publication) of a journal under a given name.

2.2.2. Modify

This function allows you to modify the name and ACS abbreviation of a journal. The code (Abbrev.) may only be changed with the "Change code" procedure.

2.2.3. Change code

Allows the user to change the code of a journal but the procedure can be long and tedious. It is therefore advisable to ask the "administrator" for help when using this option.

2.2.4. Personal codes

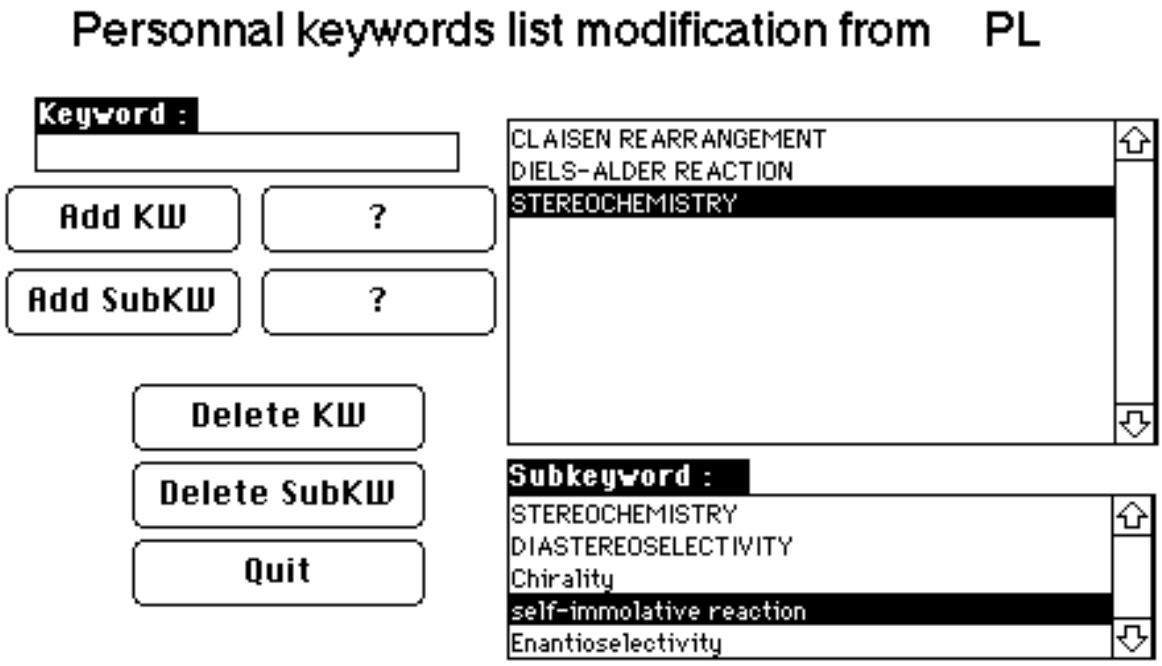
These codes are used to classify the references. For example, you may have different topics in one subject. For each topic you can create a new code, beginning with your initials and followed by a code (1 to 3 letters). Then the computer will number automatically your references by topic.

With the function "Personal codes", you are able to name the topics.

2.2.5. Personal keywords

For a quick indexing of references, a useful trick is to use keywords that are frequently of interest. This can minimise mistakes and can allow use of the same keywords. The only thing you will then have to do is to click on the topic of interest.

The function "Personal keywords" allows you to choose the most often used keywords.



You always have the opportunity to add a keyword by typing the keyword and hitting "return" or "Add KW". The question mark allows you to find keywords beginning with at least two defined letters. You may then select the useful ones and add them.

In some instances, for any keyword, you may have some related topics. For example in "stereochemistry", I want to add "chirality", ... I first click on "stereochemistry", then enter the keyword and finally hit "Add SubKW".

2.3. « KEYWORDS »

There are 3 types of keywords :

- normal keywords
- forbidden keywords : if these are present in a title, they will not be indexed
- synonyms : when found, another keyword will be used in place

2.3.1. Forbidden keyword

This function permits you to add a forbidden keyword that will never be indexed. This procedure can take awhile but may be stopped. Only the administrator can use it.

2.3.2. Remove a keyword

This function permits you to remove a keyword. This procedure can take awhile but may be stopped. Only the administrator can use it.

2.3.3. Synonym keyword

This function permits you to replace one keyword for another. After that, the program will always replace the keyword with its synonym. This procedure can take awhile but may be stopped. Only the administrator can use it.

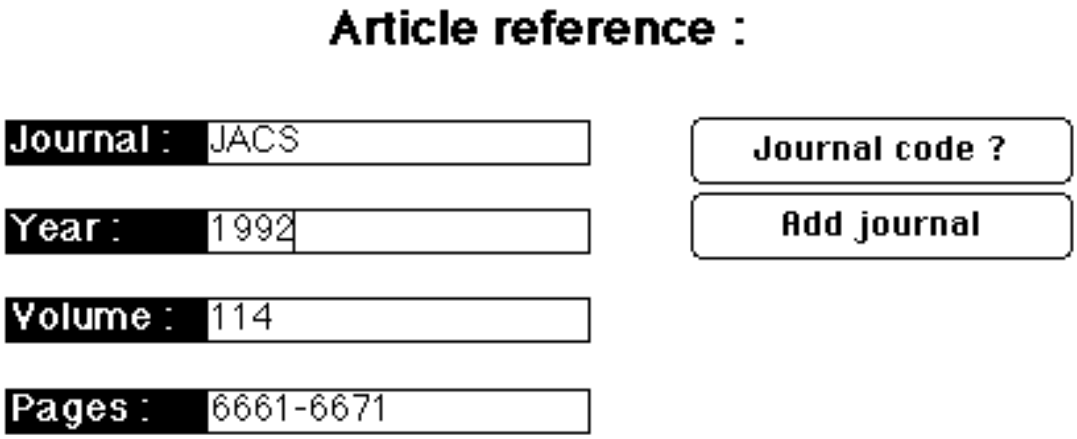
2.3.4. Delete keyword 'S'

This function permits removal of all the keywords which exist with and without 's'. This procedure can take awhile but may be stopped. Only the administrator can use it. For example, if both the keywords "coefficient" and "coefficients" exist, the program will change all the occurrence of "coefficients" by "coefficient".

2.4. « BIBLIO »

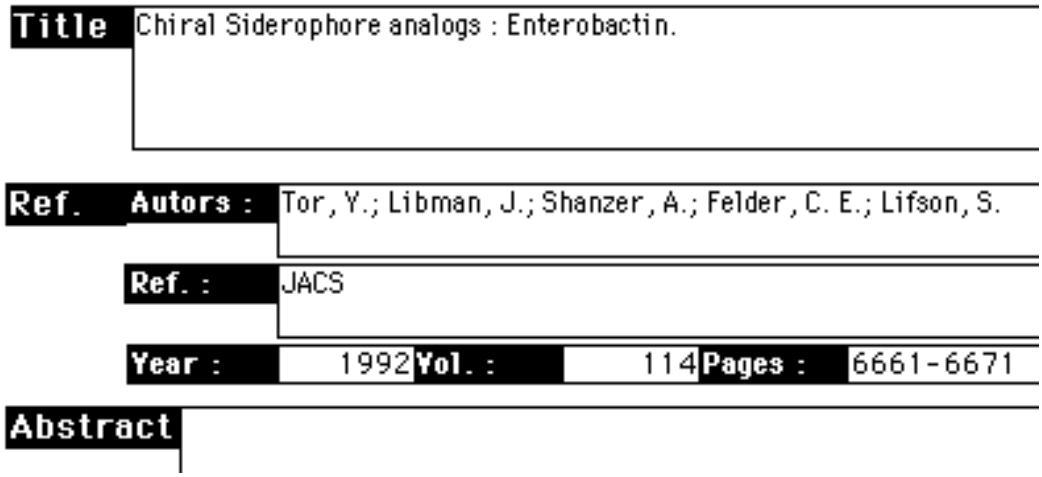
2.4.1. Add

When you want to add an article, you must first enter the reference. You should enter the journal code (1 to 5 letters), the year, volume and pages. The computer will then check if this reference already exists. If so, you will be directly able to edit it, otherwise the program creates a blank reference.



In some very special cases, this procedure can not be used. For example, if two articles coincidentally have the same reference (journal, page, year). In this instance, to add the article to the database, you will have to enter a unique false reference so that the program can create a new blank record. You will always be able to modify it later.

You will then be able to enter the title, authors (in "ACS" format) and abstract.

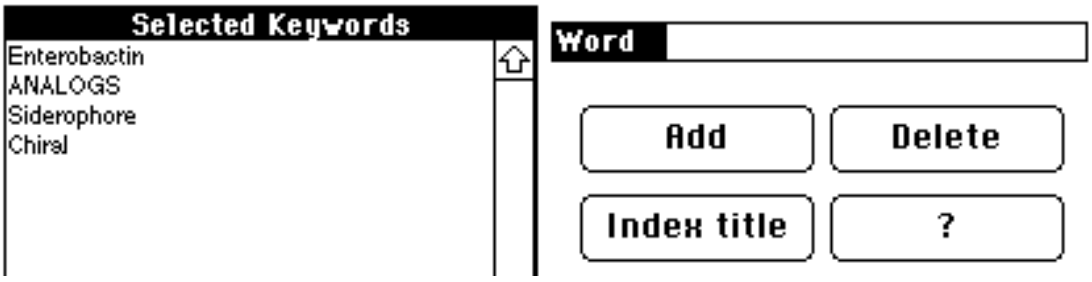


At the bottom of the page you will find the "ACS" formatted reference so that you can easily make a copy and subsequently paste.

Tor, Y.; Libman, J.; Shanzer, A.; Felder, C. E.; Lifson, S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 6661-6671.

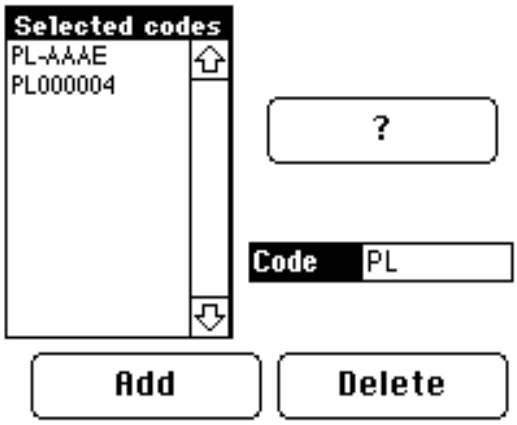
On the second page you will be able to add the keywords :

- from the title (by clicking on "Index title")
- manually, by typing the keyword
- from the index, by typing at least 2 letters and hitting the question mark button
- from the selected keywords by clicking on it



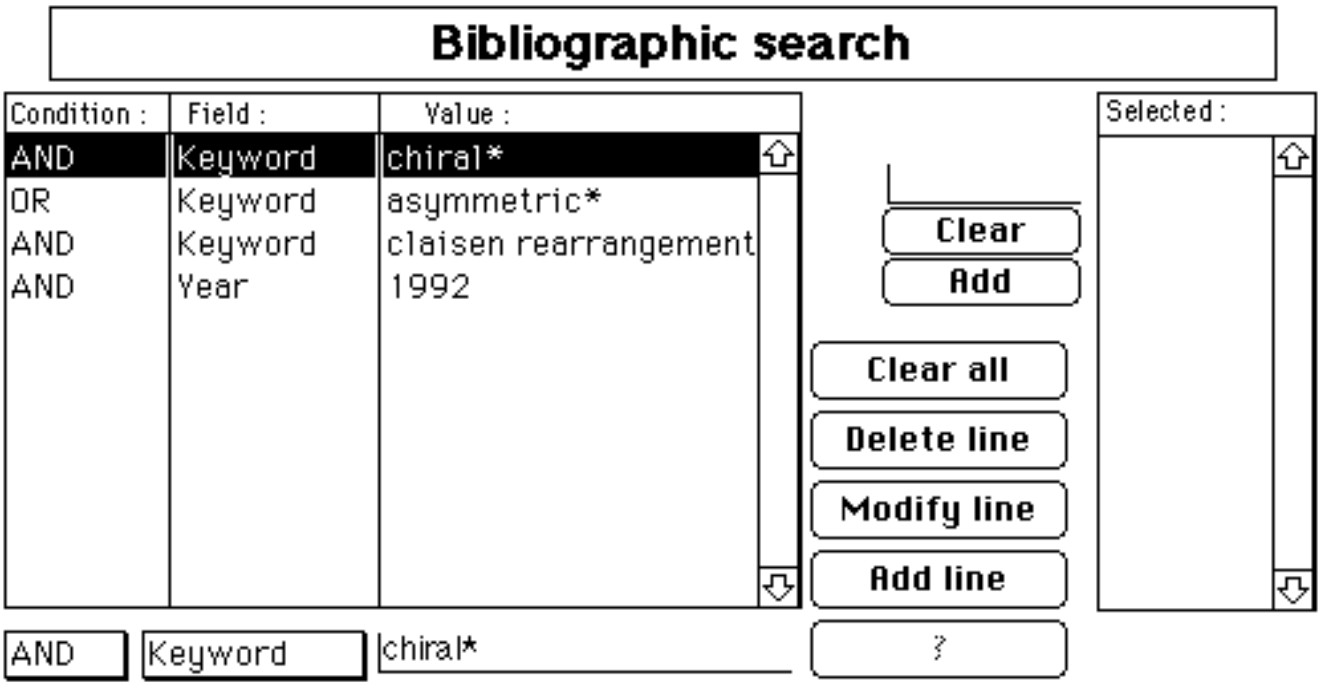
You will finally enter the code. This code will allow you to find all articles related in a topic, or all the articles collected by any given user. The code must contain from 2 to 5 letters and the program will number it automatically. You may have as many codes as you want.

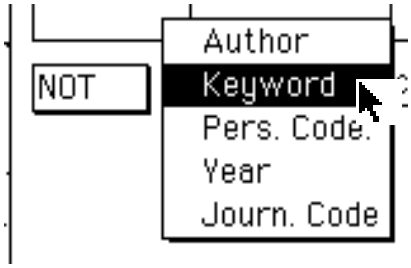
If the code ends with "-", the computer will number it with letters instead of numbers.



2.4.2. Search & Modify

This function allows you to quickly retrieve an article. You may search by author name, by keyword, by year, by personal code or by journal.





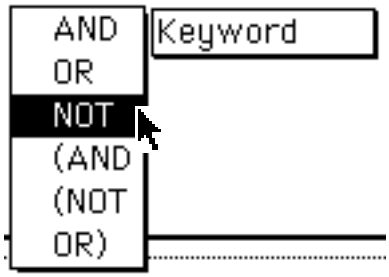
For an author, the computer will always search for names beginning with the input. For example if you enter "Corey", the computer will search for all names beginning with "Corey". This is the same with the personal code.

For a keyword, the computer looks for exact matching. You can search for keywords beginning with the input by putting "*" or "@" at the end of the input.

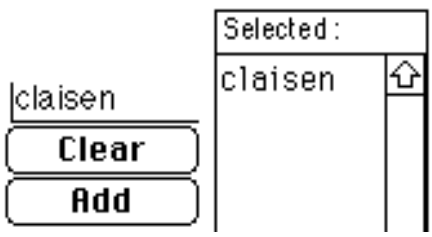
For example, "asymm*" will search for "asymmetry", "asymmetric", ...

The difference between * and @ is that with * the computer will not search for keywords with contain a space. This is not a problem when importing references because the program automatically indexes the entire "keyword", and the "composing" words independently. For example, the keyword "Claisen rearrangement" will be indexed as "Claisen rearrangement", "Claisen" and "rearrangement". This is only the case when importing.

For the conditions, you can use AND, OR, NOT, (AND, (NOT, OR). Be careful because you may only have one level of parenthesis and the search may not begin with a parenthesis.

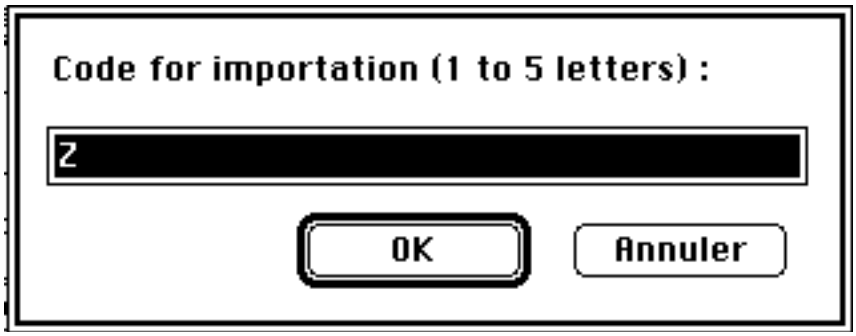


Finally you can store a search by giving a name and hitting "Add" :



2.4.3. Import endnote

The last described function permits you to import records into the database in the Endnote® format. When you select this option, the program will first ask you an importation code :



This code will appear in the "personal code" field. If the code is composed of one letter, the program will use the last 4 letters of the filename. For example, every week I collate some bibliography and I save my research in the Endnote® format with the name of the week (92 30). When I then import the records with the code "Z", the code used by EXPERBIB will be "Z9230".

This permits easy access to all records imported during a week.

3. Shareware

3.1. Distribution policy

Experbib is NOT a public domain program. It's just as proprietary as any commercially distributed program you may have bought from a dealer. The only difference is that it's distributed on a "try it before you buy it" basis, generally referred to as shareware. Not only is this program not copy-protected, but you get to try it on your own machine before parting with your hard-earned cash and are actually urged and welcome to give copies to your friends. The only restrictions are that you cannot modify it in any way, sell it, or include it on a disk which is sold, without my prior written consent.

I sincerely hope you'll find Experbib useful. If you don't, just throw it away and you'll owe me nothing. If you do and therefore decide to keep it in your software collection, I hold you on your honour to pay for it. The price is $30US and I'll acknowledge your payment by sending you a disk with the latest version. Sending your money will also ensure that I keep improving this program (I welcome your suggestions) and write other reasonably priced 4D applications.

3.2. How to register

Please fill the registration form bellow. Of course, if you'd rather just slip a cheque in an envelope with your return address and write Attn. Experbib, that's also good enough for me (I'm not fussy when it comes to receiving $$$, whichever way the money comes !).

3.3. Registration form

Air Mail this form to:

Patiny Luc,

1, pl. L. Pasteur

1348 Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium

Experbib Registration Form

I wish to become a registered user: apart from a clear conscience, I'll also get a disk with the latest version of EXPERBIB and written notification should you further upgrade the program.

_ I'm enclosing US$30 in cheque/cash

_ Charge US$30 to my VISA/MasterCard/AmericanExpress

Card #: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ Expires: _ _ / _ _

Card Holder Signature: _____

Card Holder Name in Block Letters as it appears on

card:_____

Send Package to:

Name:_____

Street:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

(Telephone:_____ Fax:_____)

(E-mail: _____)

(Comments:_____
_____
_____)