

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

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- Definition
- 1985-2000 : First steps
- Paper workflow
- The ETD project (2000)
- ETD workflow 2004
- French ETD archives
- Metadata
- Practical tips



What is a French Doctoral thesis ?

- A scientific publication: the result of 3-4 years of research
- An administrative document: mandatory to obtain a diploma/title
- A reviewed grey document: reviewed by a jury, dissemination authorized by the University president

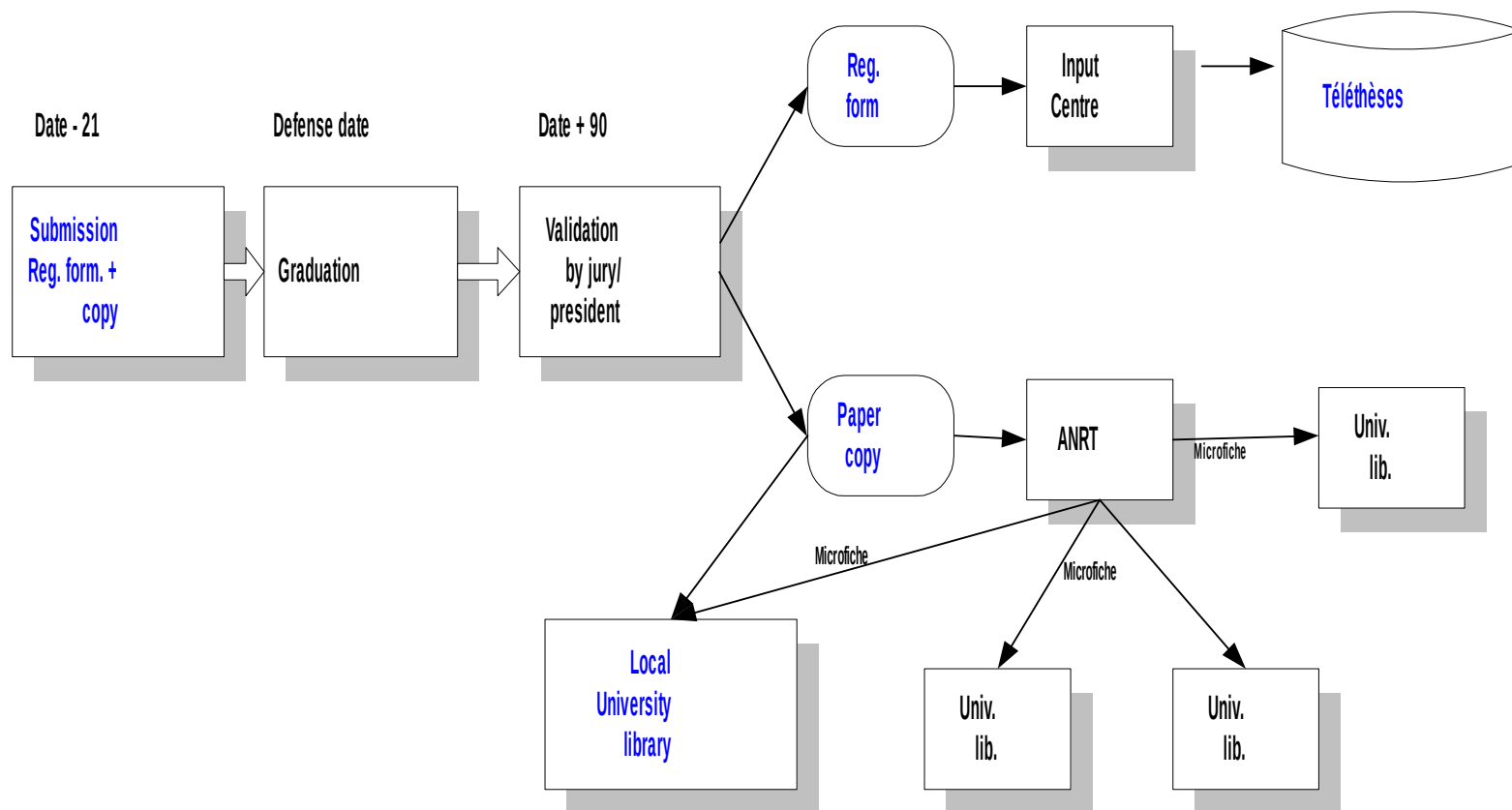


First steps to improve access (1985 – 2000)

- Guarantee deposit
- « Service des thèses »
- Improve identification and retrieval (standardized registration form)
- 1 registration form
3 input centres and
1 online database :
(Téléthèses)
- More documents per library, less shelfspace (paper -> microform)
- 2 national reproduction services (ANRT)



Paper workflow



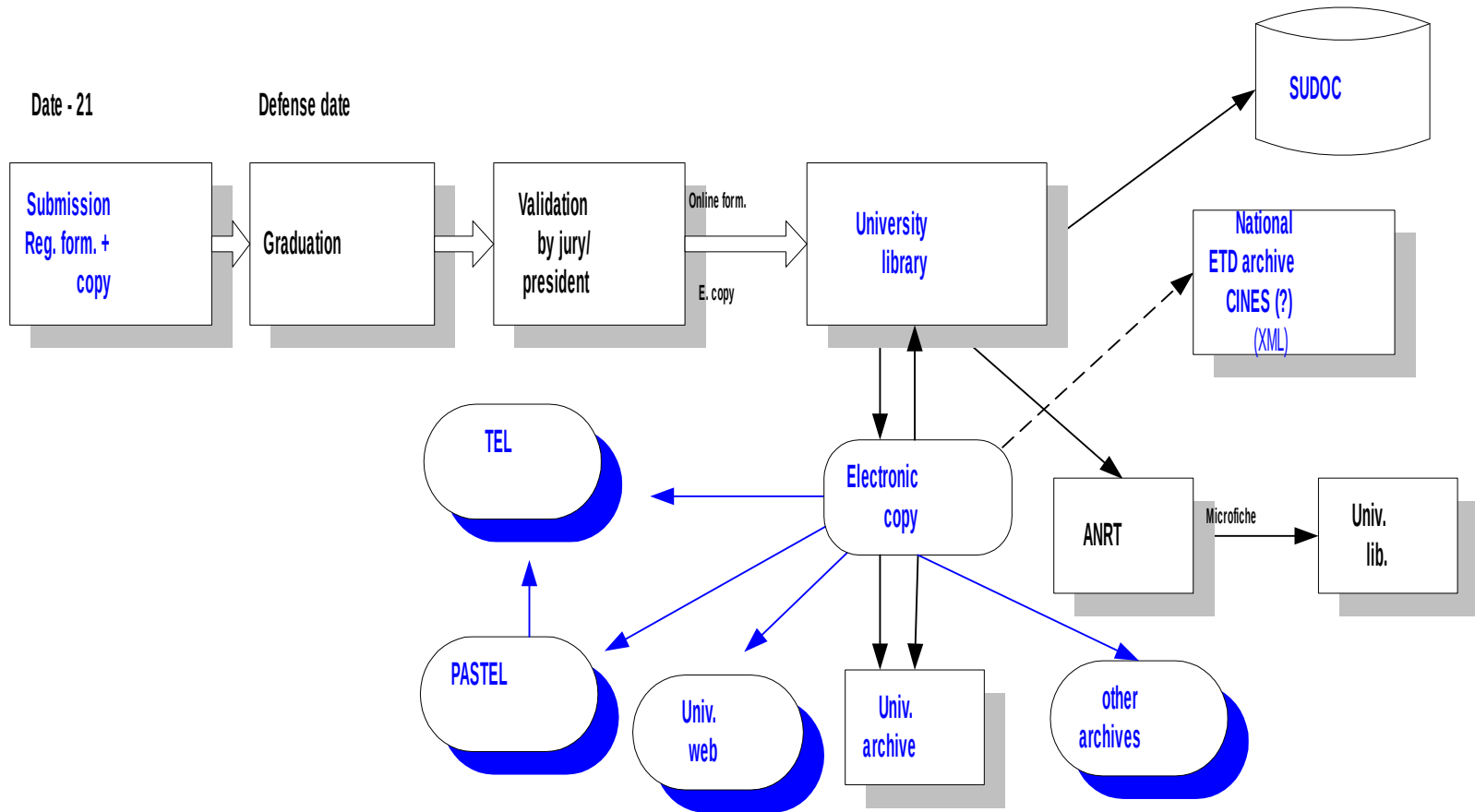
From print to electronic format

(The initial project - 2000)

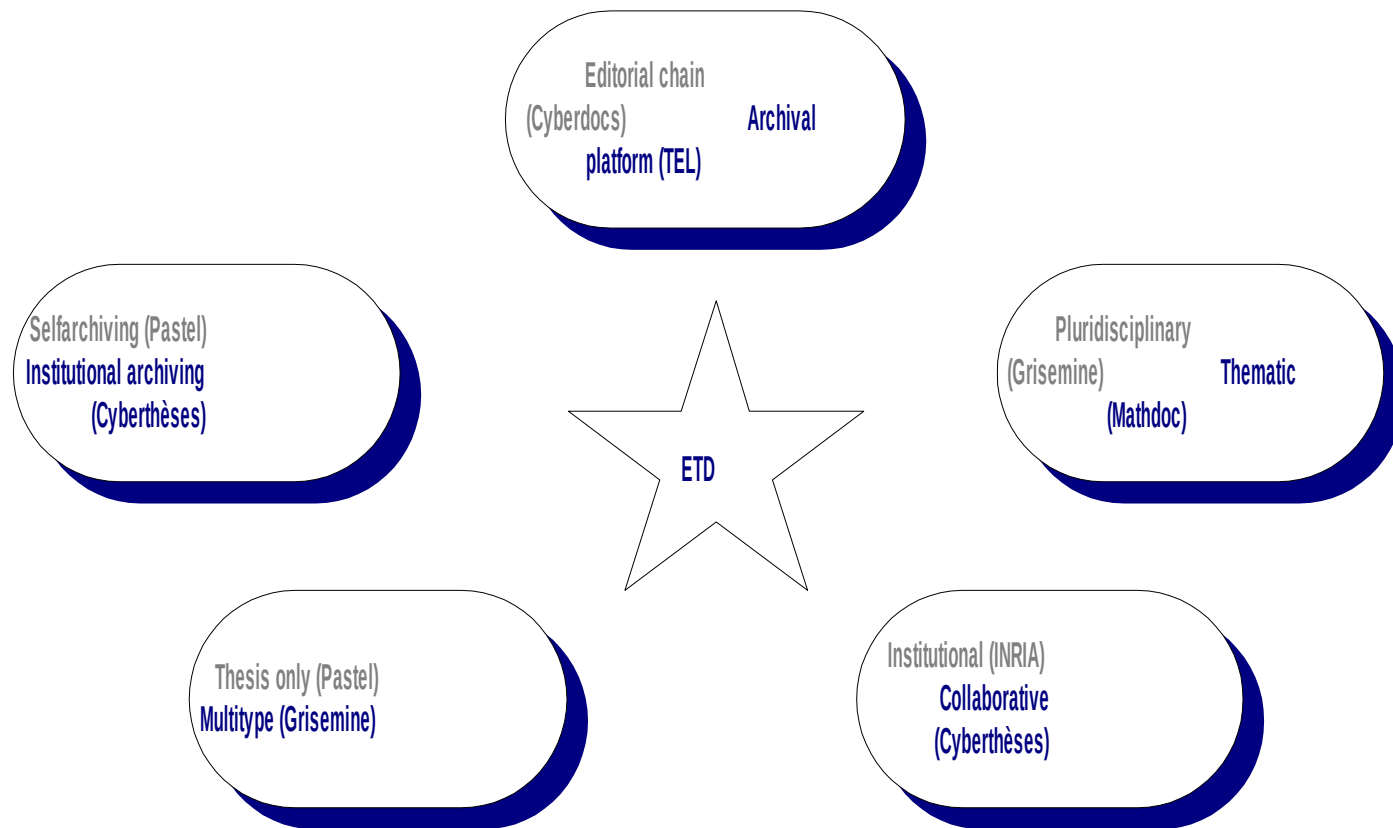
- The centralized structure is preserved.
- In the heart of the system, the national academic union catalogue, SUDOC.
- Each ETD record in the SUDOC is linked to the full-text (URL link from the 856 field).
- Each ETD is archived on a local server (university).
- A national backup server contains part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



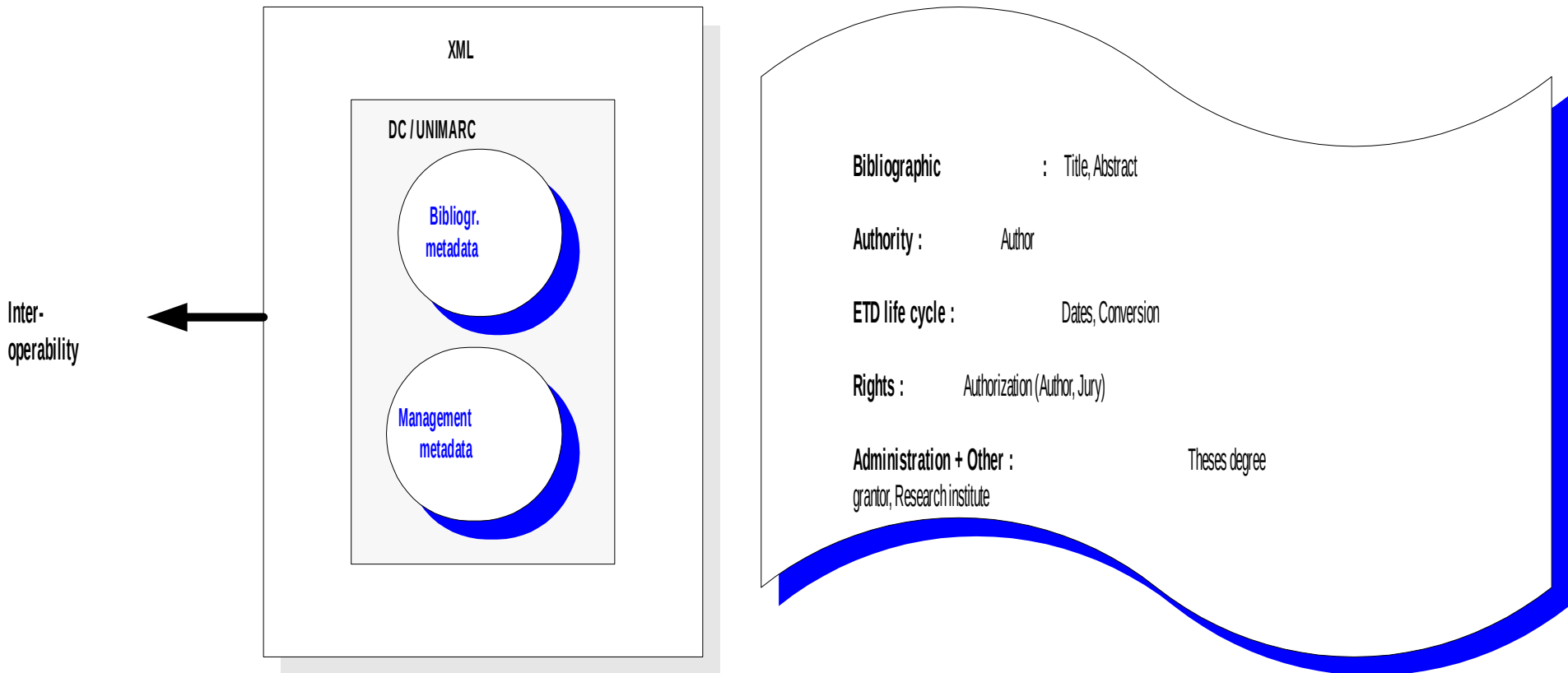
Electronic workflow 2004



Archives: typology



Thesis metadata



Some practical tips to search and order a French doctoral thesis

Print copies

- SUDOC: <http://www.sudoc.abes.fr>
- OPACs: BIUM : <http://www.bium.univ-paris5.fr>
- INIST: <http://services.inist.fr/public/eng/consult.htm>
- ANRT Lille: <http://www.anrtheses.com.fr>



Some practical tips to search and order a French ETD

- Weblinks to ETDs: e.g. BNF http://signets.bnf.fr/html/categories/c_011theses_fra_ligne.html
- Archives/platforms: eg. TEL <http://tel.ccsd.cnrs.fr>
- OPACs: e.g. Lyon <http://scd.univ-lyon2.fr>
- Portals: Cyberthèses <http://cyberdocs.univ-lyon2.fr/en/> ,
future SIGLE

Thank you !

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