1.

Record Nr.	UNINA9910816165003321
Titolo	Information handling in astronomy : historical vistas / / edited by Andre Heck
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Dordrecht, : Kluwer Academic Publishers, c2003
ISBN	0-306-48080-8
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XII, 298 p.)
Collana	Astrophysics and space science library ; ; v. 285
Altri autori (Persone)	HeckA (Andre)
Disciplina	520/.1/4
Soggetti	Astronomy - Data processing Communication in astronomy Information storage and retrieval systems - Astronomy
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Half a Century of Intense Maturation -- Evolution of Time Measurement in Astronomy -- Evolution of Data Processing in Optical Astronomy — A Personal Account -- IHAP: Image Handling and Processing System -- FITS: A Remarkable Achievement in Information Exchange -- The Munich Image Data Analysis System -- AIPS, the VLA, and the VLBA -- Changes in Astronomical Publications During the 20th Century -- The Evolution and Role of the Astronomical Library and Librarian -- The Development of the Astronomy Digital Library -- From Early Directories to Current Yellow-Page Services -- Pre-College Astronomy Education in the United States in the Twentieth Century -- The Birth and Evolution of the Planetarium -- The Changing Role of the IAU in Providing and Organizing Information -- Was the Carte du Ciel an Obstruction to the Development of Astrophysics in Europe? -- Amateur Data and Astronomical Discoveries in the 20th Century.
Sommario/riassunto	This book is dedicated to the memory of Gisèle Mersch whose life ended prematurely in June 2002. Back in the 1970's, when few people were using them, Gisèle introduced me to the arcane secrets of then advanced multivariate statistical methodologies. I was already involved in more classical statistical studies undertaken at Paris Observatory with Jean Jung: developing and applying maxim- likelihood algorithms to stellar photometric and kinematic data in order to derive absolute

luminosities, distances and velocities in the solar neighborhood. But what could be envisaged with those methodologies was something of another dimension: for the first time, I could really see how to extract information from massive amounts of data without calling for elaborated physical or mechanical theories. Several pioneering applications were developed under Gisèle's guidance and with her collaboration to study the delicate interface between spectroscopic and photometric data. Thus errors in spectral classifications were investigated as well as predictions of spectral classifications from pho-metric indices (see Heck 1976, Heck et al. 1977, Heck & Mersch 1980 and Mersch & Heck 1980), with very interesting results for the time. Gisèle also took part in studies of period determination algorithms (see Mersch & Heck 1981, Manfroid et al. 1983 and Heck et al. 1985).