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RESEARCH IN CONTEXT (IN VIEW OF RECENT RESULTS FROM OPENAIRE PLUS AND FROM THE LIBRARY PERSPECTIVE)

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Abstract

Context of scholarly results improves discovery, sharing and re-use in library and research communities. OpenAIREplus facilitates access to European research. Its mission is to interlink research publications, data, contributors and grants. Introducing pilots for the Social & Life Sciences we show how disciplinary services can be used to enhance publications in cross-disciplinary environments. The approach followed originates from text-mining and interlinks innovative repository services and research data infrastructures.

Keyword

Open Access, Open Science, Enhanced Publication, Research Contextualization.

1. MOTIVATION

With the advent of a culture of Open Access and Open Science in conjunction with data-driven science new opportunities arise to publish research results with all available related information. It allows authors to better and more transparently present their findings ensuing from the research question, linked with the arising data, as well as the methodology used and conclusions described in their papers. For example, contributors of research data can be better credited. Scientists interested in verifying or re-using results of their colleagues gain a better insight and can ideally access the actual tools that are linked to the research results. Funding organizations could also be provided with more detailed assessment of the impact of their funded research.

In recent years concepts have been suggested and experimented with to realize such a scenario. From the DRIVER-II project findings, “Enhanced Publications” have been described with respect to modelling of their structural elements, and their support in repository platforms [Woutersen-Windhower, 2009]. Similarly the linked open data approach suggests the concept of “Linked Science” by semantic modelling of scientific resources [Kauppinen, 2013]. Elsevier’s “Article of the Future” project has shown how scholarly articles in electronic journals can be linked with underlying research data in data repositories [IJsbrand, 2013].

In this paper we describe and present recent results and developments on how to link and enrich scholarly publications and research data in two complementing environments. In section two, we present our institutional approach at Bielefeld University by using services for publication and research data management. In section three we describe the challenges and

opportunities to enhance and contextualize research output in the cross-disciplinary OpenAIRE infrastructure.

2. CONTEXTUALIZATION AT THE SOURCE – AN INSTITUTIONAL APPROACH

At Bielefeld University, significant parts of the research infrastructure are networked on a university-wide basis. Within this network, the central service for the collection and dissemination of publications is the institutional repository and academic bibliography PUB¹ - Publications at Bielefeld University. Highly integrated in the university-wide IT-infrastructure, PUB reuses Bielefeld University's authentication and authorization infrastructure, staff and department profiles as well as grant information to enrich registered publications. Based on this integration, researchers and departments can create dedicated publication profiles to be embedded in the personal or working group homepages.

One particular concern is to link PUB with external bibliographic resources. This shall allow easy imports and ex post enrichment of external information such as availability of Open Access copies or research database links.

Among those sources referenced are Web of Science, Europe PubMed Central, arXiv, INSPIRE and the Directory of Open Access Journals.

A future requirement is to provide a publishing and archiving service for long-tail research data, i.e. research data that is not in the scope of an already existing disciplinary data infrastructure. This service is embedded at a university-wide strategy towards interlinking research data with publications and research information management. It is accompanied by disciplinary pilots [Friedhoff, 2013].

2.1 EXAMPLES

The following examples serve for illustration on how research results in PUB can be enriched with related information and represented in a contextualized form.

Linking with the CITEC Open Research Platform and the Interactive Toolkit

The Center of Excellence Cognitive Interaction Technology (CITEC) is an interdisciplinary research institute at Bielefeld University. CITEC follows an Open Science policy and provides a service infrastructure addressing for instance Open Source software and Open Data databases. The Cognitive Interaction Toolkit [Lier, 2012] enables continuous integration of those research artefacts. Bibliographic metadata is registered in the university-wide service and imported into the Toolkit. Within the toolkit, researches link the metadata with other research artefacts aggregated by the Toolkit. In the end, these enhanced publications are exposed as Linked Data [Wiljes, C., 2013].

¹ PUB – Publications at Bielefeld University: <http://pub.uni-bielefeld.de>

Seminar on Providing Access to Grey Literature 2013: The 6th year of the seminar focused on storage and providing access to the grey literature, 23th October 2013 [online]. Praha: National Library of Technology, 2013. Available at WWW: <http://nusl.techlib.cz/Sborniky>. ISSN 1803-6015.

The screenshot displays two side-by-side web pages. On the left is a page from PUB (University International | Information for University from A-Z) titled "A Detailed Analysis of a New 3D Spatial Feature Vector for Indoor Scene Classification". It lists the author Swadzba A. Wachsmuth S. (In Press), the journal "Robotics and Autonomous Systems", and provides download links for "ras-spme-11-rvs.pdf". It also includes DOI, URL, and URN information. On the right is the "Cognitive Interaction Toolkit [beta]" website, which features a "3D Indoor Scenes Database". This database page includes a description of the data collection, its structure (an archive per room), and a list of download links for various rooms like "17bedr01", "18bedr02", etc. The PUB page has tabs for "Details", "File Details", "Cognitive Interaction Toolkit", and "Letter of Confirmation". The CITEC page has a navigation menu and a "Live Search" box.

Figure 1 Cross-References between publications (PUB, left) and research datasets (CITEC Interactive Toolkit)

Linking with Europe PubMed Central and EBI databases

Europe PubMed Central (EuropePMC) is one of the leading thematic portals in the Life Sciences. Publications in this domain are typically assigned with PMIDs and PMC IDs. As a form of enrichment PUB can link publications with those identifiers to EuropePMC as shown in figure 2.

The screenshot shows a PUB page for the article "Auto-regulation of the circadian slave oscillator component ATRP7 and regulation of its targets is impaired by a single RNA recognition motif point mutation". The article is by Schöning JC, Sreiter C, Page DR, Hennig S, Uchida K, Wolf E, Furoya M, Staiger D (2007) from The Plant Journal 52(8): 1119-1130. The PUB page includes a "Mark" button and tabs for "Details", "File Details", and "EBI BioEntities". Below the article title, there are links to "Export" (Marked Publication, Open Data PUB, Web of Science) and "Sources" (PMID: 17924945, PubMed | Europe PMC). A "Search this title in" section lists Google Scholar, BASE, and Google. On the right, the Europe PubMed Central interface is visible, showing the article title and a search box. Below the EuropePMC search results, there are tabs for "Abstract", "Citations", "BioEntities", "Related Articles", and "External Links". A "Open Access at Bielefeld University" section provides a link to the full text: <http://pub.uni-bielefeld.de/publication/1631076>.

Figure 2 Publication linkage in PUB with EuropePMC

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Recently EuropePMC has developed a value added service the “External Links Service”² [Kinsey, 2013]. It is a vehicle to provide further information to publications in Europe PMC. These can be fulltext links, links to databases and datasets or even educational coursework. During the summer of 2013 PUB provided links to more than 250 Open Access publications³ otherwise not yet available in Europe PMC. Conversely PUB links from its publications to research data at EBI automatically. Up to now more than 100.000 links to bio entities have been determined and are visible at Bielefeld University website on article level.

3. LINKING DATA, PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER SCHOLARLY INFORMATION IN OPENAIRE

The linking and contextualisation of research results at the infrastructure level is far more challenging than it is at the local level.

OpenAIRE⁴ – the Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe – is building its 2nd generation participatory infrastructure. Proceeded by the European Commission Open Access pilot which collects FP7 and ERC funded research publications, it now provides access to the research results of European funded projects, extends to other national funders and includes Open Access publications aggregated from the DRIVER network of institutional and thematic repositories. Moreover, by collecting information on research datasets the revised infrastructure includes methods to interlink related entities of scholarly communication. This provides the user with a rich information graph which can navigate between publications, and if available research data, research information and statistics.

However OpenAIRE is faced with major challenges. These issues are usually because of the sheer diversity of scientific data, and the subject-specific infrastructure interfaces. Cultural practices for managing data and publications in subject communities also differ greatly. Therefore OpenAIRE closely works with scientific partners from different scientific fields: DANS⁵ for the Social Sciences & Humanities, EMBL-EBI⁶ for the Life Sciences and BADC⁷ for earth observation data.

OpenAIRE’s network of 33-pan European advocacy offices liaise with initiatives (COAR⁸, LIBER⁹, RDA¹⁰) to promote the benefits of Open Access to data and publications, to provide

² External Links Service: <http://europepmc.org/LabsLink>

³ http://europepmc.org/search?page=1&query=LABS_PUBS:1056&sortby=Relevance

⁴ OpenAIRE is available at <http://www.openaire.eu> and with its new infrastructure located at <http://beta.openaire.eu>

⁵ Data Archiving and Networked Services: <http://www.dans.knaw.nl>

⁶ European Bioinformatics Institute: <http://www.ebi.ac.uk>

⁷ British Atmospheric Data Centre: <http://badc.nerc.ac.uk>

⁸ Confederation of Open Access Repositories: <http://www.coar-repositories.org/>

⁹ Association of European Research Libraries: <http://www.libereurope.eu/>

guidance for researchers and managers of participating data providers. This is furthered by the OpenAIRE guidelines¹¹ which assist repository managers of the following typologies to encode links from publications to projects and research data in the metadata:

- Scholarly publications in institutional and thematic repositories using OAI-PMH and usage guidelines of OAI-DC metadata
- Research data in data repositories adapting the DataCite metadata kernel [Starr, 2011]
- Research information about funded projects in CRIS applications

3.1. SUBJECT SPECIFIC PILOTS FOR ENHANCED PUBLICATIONS

OpenAIRE aims to build a cross-disciplinary infrastructure that represents publications linked with underlying research data. From the start, subject-specific practices of researchers and the management of publication and research data linkage in their communities needs to be fully understood. For this reason two demonstrators have been constructed to showcase the interlinking of data and publications within the Life Sciences and Social Sciences & Humanities. They address different aspects and serve for the identification of issues and current practices, and to stimulate the development of a cross-disciplinary model in the OpenAIRE infrastructure [Hoogerwerf, 2013].

Life Sciences demonstrator

The Life Sciences demonstrator¹² is based on publications originating in Europe PMC which actively links to biological research data. These publications shall be “re-used” in a generic aggregative infrastructure that can provide further information related to these publications (e.g. project information, similar publications, citation information). However it was identified that the lack of a standardized exchange format that encode such enriched bibliographic metadata and the use of domain specific API’s for data access impedes its transfer among infrastructures.

The demonstrator shows publications that were identified by PMIDs in the Bielefeld PUB service as described above. The demonstrator relates the publications with other entities, namely authors, bio-entities and FP7 project information in a graphical user interface of a web application, see figure 3.

The enrichments are captured automatically. For a given PMID the EuropePMC RESTful service¹³ can be queried for linked information on:

¹⁰ Long Tail of Research Data IG: <https://rd-alliance.org/internal-groups/long-tail-research-data-ig.html>

¹¹ OpenAIRE Guidelines: <https://guidelines.openaire.eu>

¹² Life Sciences demonstrator: <http://ub.unibi.de/oademo>

¹³ EuropePMC RESTful web service: <http://europepmc.org/RestfulWebService>

- Citations in other publications
- References to biological databases either manually attributed by data curators or automatically analysed by text-mining
- Medical Subject Headings that are tagged with the publication

The screenshot shows a web interface for a Life Sciences demonstrator. At the top, there is a title "No Need for a Cognitive Map: Decentralized Memory for Insect Navigation" by Holk Cruse and Rüdiger Wehner. Below the title are several tabs: MeSH, Text-mined terms, FP7, References, 3 Citations, and Full text available. An "Identifiers" section lists PMID:21445233, University of Bielefeld (1886087), DOI: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002009, and PMID:PMC3060166. A search bar contains the query "organism:299895". Below the search bar, it says "10 results for organism: 'Cataglyphis bicolor (desert ant) [299895]' in UniProtKB sorted by score descending". A table of results is displayed with columns for Entry, Entry name, Status, Protein names, Gene names, Organism, and Length. The table lists several cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1 and 2 entries for Cataglyphis bicolor. On the left, a section titled "The following biological entities have been automatically c" lists Gene Ontology Terms (Memory, lateral inhibition, behaviour, learning, localization, long term memories, short term memory, habituation, development, vision, locomotion, Cognition, visual learning) and Organisms (animals, desert ants).

Figure 3 Navigating the information graph in the Life Sciences demonstrator

Social Sciences & Humanities (SSH) demonstrator

The research practices in the SSH domain divides into

- the quantitative social sciences with rather structured methodologies and mainly numerical types of data (surveys),
- the qualitative social sciences and humanities with various methodologies and types of data created, among them interviews, transcripts, digitized material.

The Social Sciences and Humanities demonstrator is derived from the Dutch portal NARCIS¹⁴ that provides research information from CRIS applications and acts as the national aggregator of Dutch institutional repositories. Furthermore, the demonstrator utilizes results from a series of enhanced publication experiments in DRIVER-II (such as

¹⁴ NARCIS: <http://www.narcis.nl>

using OAI-ORE¹⁵ to describe aggregations of publications with related resources) and continued in tender projects¹⁶ in the Netherlands.

Publications are chosen from two of the tender projects: DataPlus from the social sciences (figure 4) and Veteran Tapes from the humanities. They are enriched with common references to entities:

- with related publications (like citations) in NARCIS,
- with related datasets that are registered in NARCIS,
- with identified authors, editors of the publication and their affiliated organisations,
- with information to the funded projects

and specific references to data entities that depends on the scientific area the publication belongs:

- survey data for DataPlus,
- interview fragments for Veteran Tapes.

The resources and the semantic relations that interlink the resources are encoded as Resource Maps and manually added to the demonstrator. The resource maps are then transformed using XSLT into a human readable web interface.

It was identified that NARCIS contains descriptions of all the entities of the research results. Though the relations between the entities are missing and it is up to data curators or authors to add them manually or to apply sophisticated data mining algorithms.

¹⁵ OAI-ORE: Object Reuse and Exchange - standard to model and describe aggregations of web resources: <http://www.openarchives.org/ore/>

¹⁶ Enhanced Publication overview at SURF: <http://www.surf.nl/en/themas/openonderzoek/verrijktepublicaties/Pages/Default.aspx>

Seminar on Providing Access to Grey Literature 2013: The 6th year of the seminar focused on storage and providing access to the grey literature, 23th October 2013 [online]. Praha: National Library of Technology, 2013. Available at WWW: <http://nysl.techlib.cz/Sborniky>. ISSN 1803-6015.

Figure 4 Web presentation of the enriched Social Science example

Both demonstrators show the problem of limiting the references to datasets to a certain number and to select and present only relevant ones. It is often the case that discipline-specific metadata frameworks are bound to discipline and project specific tools and infrastructures and cannot be processed and managed in a straightforward manner by generic cross-disciplinary infrastructures. In this case, a user in OpenAIRE should be guided to the subject-specific infrastructure to explore more in-depth findings (such as study concepts and variables, methodologies and research workflows).

3.2 SUPPORT OF ENHANCED PUBLICATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF OPENAIREPLUS

The technical infrastructure builds and extends on the multi-layer scalable software framework D-NET¹⁷. It provides a rich set of services for aggregation and managing scientific information. Value added functionalities enable users to interact with the OpenAIRE portal as the central gateway to the infrastructure, see figure 5.

OpenAIRE supports various workflows to enter metadata into the information space:

- By collecting (and normalizing) content from data sources (literature and data repositories, CRIS, funder databases, authoritative registries for author and repository identifiers)

¹⁷ D-NET software toolkit: <http://d-net.research-infrastructures.eu>

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- By inferring links from one object (e.g. publication) to other resources and make associations; the approach is based on mining algorithms applied on metadata and fulltext documents
- By claims and feedback about information provided by end users to OpenAIRE about assigning publications to their respective funded project
- Finally by providing links among research results by end users, that can be modelled as aggregations

The OpenAIRE data model was designed to support these various mechanisms, to keep provenance information and assign a level of trust (in descending order from registered data sources to end users). Furthermore it supports the interlinking of all the entities.

A dedicated value-added service – the Enhanced Publication Service – will be implemented that will support Enhanced Publications in either two ways:

1. To present publications in its scientific context by utilizing links in the collected metadata from dataproviders, analysed by inferring algorithms or claimed and entered by end-users.
2. To enable users to interact for constructing and building up Enhanced Publications from Information Space or external resources.

The screenshot displays a web interface for the article "Profiling Attitudes for Personalized Information Provision". The main content area is titled "Acropolis Questionnaires for the CHESS project" and lists several related publications, including "Report analyzing the results", "Questionnaire Dec 2011", "Questionnaire Jan 2012", "Analysis of interviews Nov-Dec 2011", and "Profiling Attitudes for Personalized Information". The interface includes tabs for "Related Data", "Related Publications", and "Metrics". On the right side, there are sections for "Download from repositories" (listing Zenodo), "Funded by projects" (listing CHESS, DRIVER II, and OPENAIRE), "Related to Community" (listing EGI CERN), and "Cite this article" (with a Chicago citation style). A callout box highlights a citation from "Repository NARCIS" dated 20 Dec 2011, and another callout box indicates a citation from "Via algorithm X" dated 10 Dec 2011 with a confidence of 89%.

Figure 5 Preview of an enhanced publication in OpenAIRE

CONCLUSIONS

Modern scientific information infrastructures allow scientists to make relations between publications and datasets. PUB at Bielefeld University supports this kind of publication enrichments with links to disciplinary research data services and to other resources in subject-specific information portals.

Conversely scholarly communication infrastructures like OpenAIRE benefit from rich information data sources. Demonstrators have been created and analysed to conceive publication and data management in subject-specific infrastructures. The results can inform the development of OpenAIRE services to manage and link publications and research and to put them in their scientific context.

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