CC-Interop

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Presented at the Hellenic Academic Libraries Union Catalog – Services and Tools at users’ and librarians’ disposal
7-8 May 2007, Athens, Greece
Introduction: some logos
Project (1)

• COPAC/Clumps Continuing Technical Cooperation Project
  – COPAC = Consortium of University and Research Libraries (CURL) Opac
  – Clump = set of Z39.50 catalogues with a geographic or subject focus
• May 2002 - April 2004
  – Final Report July 2004
• Funded by UK’s Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)
Project (2)

• Lead site: London School of Economics and Political Science
  – InforM25 clump (focus: London area)

• MIMAS
  – COPAC

• Centre for Digital Library Research (CDLR)
  – Co-operative Academic Information Retrieval Network for Scotland (CAIRNS) clump (focus: Scotland)
    • Bonus: Scottish Collections Network (SCONE)
Work package A

- M25 Systems Team & MIMAS
- Technical interoperability between physical and distributed union catalogue architectures
  - Connecting COPAC to M25 clump
  - Connecting clump to clump
    - Z39.50 client as server proxy
- Technical comparison of architectures
  - Implementation of searchable indexes
  - Search results and de-duplication
  - Performance testing
Work package B

• CDLR in collaboration with RIDING clump (focus: Yorkshire area)

• Overall aim to enhance the role of clumps in the JISC Information Environment
  – Collection description standards requirements
  – Application of collection description to “landscaping” distributed architectures
  – Enhancing the coverage of clumps
  – Cataloguing and indexing standards requirements
Work package C

• Centre for Research in Library and Information Management (CERLIM) & project partners

• Study of user behaviour relating to union catalogues
  – Study of use of COPAC, InforM25, and CAIRNS in situ (at a local partner institution)
  – Focus groups of library professionals
Outcomes WPA (1)

- COPAC Z39.50 server added to M25 (and then CAIRNS)
  - Feasibility of adding M25 Z server to COPAC also tested
- JAFER (Java Access to Electronic Resources)
  - open-source software for Z39.50 developed for clump-clump interoperability
  - Proof-of-concept and limited test only
  - Logging, XSLT, target sub-sets within proxy server
Outcomes WPA (2)

• Identification of common technical interoperability issues and resolutions
  – Independent of union catalogue architecture
  – De-duplication, sorting, ranking, etc.
Outcomes WPB (1)

- Identification of collection description standards and recommendation for further development
- Application of recommendations to the SCONE database and service
- Mappings and operational interface to output SCONE collection description metadata in various interoperability formats
- Extension of the SCONE infrastructure to RIDING clump
  - Offline test implementation
Outcomes WPB (2)

• Report on the co-ordination of cataloguing and indexing practices to improve interoperability in union catalogues
  – Independent of architecture

• Implementation of mini- and hyper-clump landscaping in SCONE
  – Mini-clump: User-defined sub-set of Z39.50 catalogues
  – Hyper-clump: Multiple union catalogues with overlapping and duplicate metadata sets
Outcomes WPC

• Not good for the clumps
  – Awareness, reliability, consistency, contextual support, de-duplication, use of jargon, etc.

• And not good for COPAC!
  – Awareness, contextual support, de-duplication, etc.

• And not good for the users
  – Tend to rely on local collections with instant access, and lack motivation to exploit wider information environments
  – Then there is the fascination of the clickable map …
Follow-up (1)

- No CC-interop 2
  - But we still have some hope
- CC-interop represented at UK’s Research Information Network seminar on union catalogues (January 2007)
- COPAC technical infrastructure and user interface improved
  - No significant increase in coverage
Follow-up (2)

• InforM25 user interface improved
  – No significant increase in coverage
• RIDING clump discontinued
• No improvement in co-ordination of cataloguing and indexing standards
  – At COPAC and clump level
  – At UK national level
• Co-ordination of standards for institutional repositories at early stage
Follow-up (3)

- SCONE and CAIRNS user interfaces improved
- CAIRNS coverage extended to public libraries
  - 50 catalogues now in the clump
- Serials Union Catalogue (SUNCAT) added to CAIRNS
- SCONE coverage extended to institutional repositories and OAI-PMH aggregations
  - Harvesting Institutional Repositories in Scotland Testbed (HaIRST) and Institutional Repository Infrastructure for Scotland (IRI-Scotland) projects
Welcome to the Scottish Collections Network

SCONE, the Scottish Collections Network, provides descriptions of collections held in Scottish libraries, museums and archives, and collections about Scottish topics held elsewhere. The records provide links to digital collections and online finding aids such as catalogues where available.

Simple search

Search term

Enter a search term, then Go

All collection titles, descriptions, notes, and subject topics containing your search term at the beginning or end or in the middle of a word will be found.

To erase the search term, Clear

Other searches

Use one of the many specific searches for better precision.
Use the advanced search to combine different types of search in one go.
Specific searches

Find collections ...

by collection title
- List titles A-Z
- Search for words in the title

by location
- Map of regions of Scotland
- List Scottish regions, then towns, A-Z
- List all countries, regions, then towns, A-Z
- List all towns A-Z

by people and organizations
- List names A-Z
- Search for words in the name

by education level
- List education levels

by subject
- List Library of Congress Subject Headings A-Z
- List names of people and organizations as subjects A-Z
- Search for words in subjects
- List Dewey Decimal Classification numbers

by subject strength
- List Conspectus subject thesaurus A-Z
- List Conspectus subject terms A-Z
- Search for words in Conspectus subjects

by language other than English
- List languages A-Z

Click on an option to carry out the specific search.
Collections located in Scotland

Region
- Aberdeen City
- Aberdeenshire
- Angus
- Argyll and Bute
- Clackmannanshire
- Dumfries and Galloway
- Dundee City
- East Ayrshire
- East Dunbartonshire
- East Lothian
- East Renfrewshire
- Edinburgh City
- Fife
- Glasgow City
- Highland
- Inverclyde
- Midlothian
- Moray
- North Ayrshire
- North Lanarkshire
- Orkney
- Porth and Kinross
Collection descriptions

Collection titles located in City of Aberdeen
- Aberdeen and North East Scotland Family History Society Research Centre collection
- Aberdeen Art Gallery collection
- Aberdeen City Archives Old Aberdeen House Branch collection
- Aberdeen City Archives Town House Branch collection
- Aberdeen City Council Central library collection
- Aberdeen City Council Curriculum Resources and Information Service collection
- Aberdeen College Albert Centre collection
- Aberdeen College Clinterty Centre Library collection
- Aberdeen College Gallagate Centre collection
- Aberdeen Grammar School Library collection

To display details of a specific collection, select it from the list, then Go

To search for items in the listed collections using the Cooperative Information Retrieval Network for Scotland, Search CAIRNS

To search for items in the listed collections using other online catalogues, Search OPACS

Collection types
- Archive
- Museum
- Library
- Internet
Advanced search

Catalogues
Scope: All catalogues

To select all the catalogues, Check all
To clear current selections, Check none
To display all available catalogues for selection, Select others

2 of the 49 catalogues available in CAIRNS.
- Robert Gordon University Library catalogue
- University of Aberdeen Library catalogue

A title keyword index usually contains significant words taken from the title and subtitle of an item. Insignificant words such as "the" and "of" are usually not included.

Click the type of search to carry out. Not all catalogues are available for some types of search, and they will be automatically removed from the list.

Search form
Select one or more catalogues, enter a search term, then Go

Click an [i] link to display information about collections described by the catalogue.
Thinking globally (1)

• Geographical interoperability
  – With other national and international metadata aggregations

• Curatorial interoperability
  – With other library sectors
    • School, public, special
  – To improve cost-benefit and social inclusion

• Environmental interoperability
  – With other curatorial domains
    • Archives, museums, digital libraries
  – Common information environments
Thinking globally (2)

- Architectural interoperability
  - With distributed and physical union catalogues
  - The ultimate architecture is distributed
    - Physical architectures have scaling problems
  - Hybrid architectures increase the number of duplicate metadata records and overlapping record sets
  - Rapid development of institutional repositories and OAI-PMH aggregations increases the complexity of duplicate records
    - Not exact copies; metadata is often processed, so the copy record does not match the local version
      - De-duplication becomes a significant problem for research output produced by staff from more than one institution or published in more than one place or version
    - The aggregated records are not editable
Complexity of a (hybrid) National Union Catalogue

Single item metadata can be aggregated repeatedly in physical and distributed union catalogues. Each aggregation may change the metadata format and/or content. Each aggregation has its own community, purpose and focus.
Acting locally?

- Number of university research repositories in Scotland = 5
  - Number planning for interoperability with the university library catalogue = 0
  - Repository usually contains digital resources (eprints, e-theses) while library holds older physical research publications (journals, theses)
  - Often no name or subject authority control in the repository
  - No coherency at the local level, let alone regional or national
Acting globally!

- IFLA supported standards
  - UNIMARC
  - International Standard Bibliographic Description
  - Functional Requirements of Bibliographic Records, Functional Requirements of Authority Records, Functional Requirements of Subject Authority Records
  - Universal Decimal Classification
- Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules > Resource Description and Access
- Dewey Decimal Classification > DDC translations; WebDewey
- Dublin Core Metadata Initiative
  - Co-ordinating application profiles for structure and content
Thinking globally, acting locally

• Be prepared to enlarge the scope of the local
  – Local and global are relative
  – Is Scotland a nation, a region, or the cold and wet area at the top of England?

• Recognise the true cost of maintaining local standards
  – Standards supported internationally are cheaper, even if local compromises are necessary
More thinking globally

• Recognise the true cost of applying any standards locally
  – Skills and training
  – Tools
  – Support
  – Conflict with local goals
    • E.g. to involve non-librarians in metadata creation

• Recognise the advantages of collaboration
  – Sharing the emotional load as well as resource requirements
Ultimately

• It’s not about the catalogue or the cataloguers; it’s about the users
• Who expect easy-to-use searching interfaces giving consistent and comprehensive results
• Across the widest possible range of information resources
• But only if they can obtain and use the resources in good time
• Think users, act professionally!
Links (1)

• CC-interop project website (all reports)
  – http://ccinterop.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/

• Scottish Common Information Environment (CAIRNS, SCONE, etc.)
  – http://scone.strath.ac.uk/scie/index.cfm

• Research Information Network seminar on union catalogues for the UK
  – http://www.rin.ac.uk/union-catalogues

• CDLR website
  – http://cdlr.strath.ac.uk/
Links (2)

- Harvesting Institutional Repositories in Scotland Testbed project website
  - http://hairst.cdlr.strath.ac.uk/
- Institutional Repository Infrastructure for Scotland project website
  - http://www.iriscotland.lib.ed.ac.uk/
  - Wiki (WP5 documents are public) at:
  - http://iriscotland.nls.uk/wiki/index.php/Main_Page
- Me
  - g.dunsire@strath.ac.uk