15th Italian Research Conference on Digital Libraries

Digital Libraries: on supporting Open Science

Pisa, January 31-February 1, 2019

Important Dates

- Submission Deadline: October 5, 2018
- Acceptance Notification: October 31, 2018
- Camera-Ready Deadline: November 19, 2018
- Conference: January 31 to February 1, 2019

Aims and Scope

Since 2005, the Italian Research Conference on Digital Libraries has served as an important national forum focused on digital libraries and related technical, practical, and social issues. During this years, IRCDL has touched upon many of the facets underlying the term “digital libraries”, adapting the solicited research topics to the evolution of the issues in this domain and to the evolution of the whole process of scholarly communication. Today the term Digital Library is associated with theory and practices that go well beyond its original meaning, de facto reflecting the evolution of the role of libraries in the scholarly communication domain, and lately embracing the latest questions and desiderata posed by Open Science.

The results of research are no longer just scientific publications, of which libraries have always been the custodians. Science is increasingly and rapidly becoming digital, in the sense that more and more research is performed using data services and tools available online or on desktop computers, and the products and outcome of science are increasingly encompassing also datasets, software, and experiments. Being digital, such products can be shared and re-used together with the article, thus enabling comprehensive research assessment and various degrees of reproducibility of science. Positive consequences of this shift towards Open Science are: accelerating science, optimizing cost of research, fraud detection, and fully-fledged scientific reward.

Digital libraries are therefore facing new challenges of supporting the digital scientific process and becoming an important element in the evolution of research outputs. Firstly, by targeting deposition, findability, preservation, interlinking and re-use of any kind of research product, ranging from publications, to research data, to software and others. Secondly, by becoming a pro-active and
integrated component of the scholarly communication process as a whole; for example, by providing support to researchers in the preparation of datasets suitable for subsequent deposition, or by enriching and linking the deposited content with data from other sources, such as other repositories, ORCID, organization IDs, recommender systems, distributed annotations, aggregated statistics, etc. Finally, by integrating with research infrastructures and e-infrastructures to serve specific research community publishing needs or to benefit from economy-of-scale provision of storage and computing capacities.

**Call for Papers**

Representatives from academia, government, industry, research communities, research infrastructures, and others are invited to participate in this annual conference. The conference draws from a broad and multidisciplinary array of research areas including computer science, information science, librarianship, archival science and practice, museum studies and practice, technology, social sciences, cultural heritage and humanities, and scientific communities. IRCDL welcomes submissions relative to theory, architectures, data models, tools, services, infrastructures about the following topics (but not limited to):

- Research impact: biblio-metrics and alt-metrics, indicators, impact factors, citation indexes, research dynamics, etc. relative to scientific literature, datasets, software, and other products
- Citation, provenance and curation of scientific datasets;
- Cross-discipline and cross-institution metadata and content integration
- Metadata definition, management, and curation: harmonization, de-duplication, etc.
- Interlinking of research products
- Educational practices: teaching, learning, reading (focused reading, strategic reading)
- Long-term preservation of research products, such as research data, software, multimedia, etc.
- Multi-media challenges (e.g. galleries, museums, libraries, archives, etc.)
- Novel Scientific Document Models, e.g. Enhanced Publications, Network-centric Publication Models
- Publishing workflows: novel peer review practices (e.g. research flow peer review, research data peer review, open peer review), research community-specific publishing workflows (datasets, software, semantic links)
- Open Science models, practices, mandates, policies: definition and validation
- Quality and evaluation of digital libraries
- Scholarly Communication services: recommendations, annotations, brokering, reproducibility of science, etc.
- Social networking and networked information
- Text/content analysis and mining for enhanced discovery, interpretation, and interlinking of research products
- User interfaces: access personalization, human computer interaction, advanced visualization, collaborative and adaptive environments, Virtual Research Environments
- Web solutions, e.g. semantic web, ontologies, Linked Data, Semantic Publishing

**Types of submissions**

**Full research papers** describing original ideas on the listed topics and on other fundamental aspects of digital libraries and technology. Works should not exceed 12-15 pages in the LNCS template.

**Short research papers** on early research results, new results on previous published works, demos, and projects are also welcome. Works should not exceed 6-9 pages in the LNCS template.
This year the conference welcomes also Data papers and Software papers, which can be both “full” and “short” as described above:

- **Data papers** presenting motivations and methodology behind the creation of datasets that are precious for the community; e.g. annotated corpora, benchmark collections, training sets. The articles should clearly highlight the value of the dataset, describe its provenance, the efforts and skills required to produce it, and provide the information required to properly reuse it. The article must include in the paper bibliography a citation to the dataset(s), which should in turn be deposited under an Open Access license in Zenodo.org or in Springer Nature’s Research Data Support service or other similar repositories (capable of minting a DOI and assigning attribution/citation metadata to the dataset). If Zenodo.org is used, the datasets must be associated to the Zenodo community for IRCDL.

- **Software papers** presenting the software functionality, its value for the community, and its application to a non-specialist reader. The article should encourage and facilitate re-use of the software by pointing to proper documentation, included in the bibliography as a citable document (possibly with DOI). The article must include in the paper bibliography a citation to the software, which should in turn be deposited under an Open Access license in Zenodo.org or in Springer Nature’s Research Data Support service or other similar repositories (capable of minting a DOI and assigning attribution/citation metadata to the software). If Zenodo.org is used, the software must be associated to the Zenodo community for IRCDL (if the software is already available on GitHub, Zenodo offers tools to collect it from GitHub).

*Recommended:* software and dataset metadata should include a pointer (DOI or an URL) to the documentation, schema, or other objects useful for their re-use. If the software or dataset is deposited in Zenodo, refer to the metadata section “related identifier”, add the pointer, and select the proper relation type (e.g. “documents this upload”).

**Peer review** Articles will go through a single-blind review process. For the article to be included in the proceedings, at least one author of accepted papers is required to attend the conference.

**Springer Proceedings CCIS**

Following the tradition of the IRCDL conferences the Proceedings will be published as a volume of Communications in Computer and Information Science (CCIS), Springer Verlag. Authors should follow Springer LNCS conference paper templates, which are available in Latex and Microsoft Word. Guidelines are available at [http://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs/conference-proceedings-guidelines](http://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs/conference-proceedings-guidelines). Note that Springer strongly recommends the usage of ORCID identifiers.

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