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Evaluation of Link System between Repository and Researcher Database*

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Abstract

This paper evaluates the effect of a Web system which activates institutional repositories. Institutional repository is an important service of libraries in academic institutions. The authors developed a link system between the institutional repository and the researcher database of their university. The system reduces the efforts of researchers by reusing the metadata in the researcher database for registrations of their papers to the repository. The authors observed the access log of the repository before and after the start up of the link system. The result shows that the system increased the number of access, however there was no significant change on the number of registration of papers.
Keywords: Institutional repository, Web database, access log, library.

1 Introduction

"Open access" to scholarly information provides free availability of research outputs. One of the methods to realize the idea of open access is "self archiving" [2]. An *institutional repository* (*IR*) is a system to archive and open research outputs in an institution. By improving the IR in each institution, open access to scholarly information will be realized.

A problem of IR is the fact that the number of the archived papers is extremely small compared to the papers practically produced by researchers. We considered that one of the obstacles should be the efforts of researchers to register their papers to IR. To reduce the efforts of researchers, we developed a link system between the IR (QIR)[1] and the researcher database (DHJS)[2] in Kyushu University. The system is working from April 2009 and was improved in April 2010 [1].

In this paper, we analyze the number of access and the number of paper registration to QIR. As the result, the system increased the number of access, however there was no significant change on the number of paper registration. The result suggests that the number of paper registration to IR cannot be improved by only reducing the efforts of researchers.

2 The Developed System

Fig. 1 is the outline of the developed system. The concept was implemented by two kinds of icons in the lists of published papers of each researcher in DHJS, one icon means that there exists the full-text of the paper in QIR and the other that there is no full-text. By the first one, a user of DHJS can obtain the full-text corresponds to the metadata. By the second one, the link system returns the result of a search by the author name in QIR. Additionally, if the user is an author of the paper, the link leads the user to the registration form of a paper to QIR. At the time, the metadata is automatically used to fill the registration form, therefore this function reduces the efforts for paper registration to QIR.

3 Evaluation

We analyzed the access log to QIR for each month from June 2008 to October 2010. For the number of access from DHJS, there existed two points of increases, one is at March 2009 (the link system started) and the other is at April 2010 (the system was improved). By the result, we can conclude that the system is effective to the number of access. As for the number of paper registration, we could not find any effect by the system.

We consider that, in addition to reducing the efforts of paper registration to IR, some returns for researchers are necessary to increase the number of paper registration. For example, showing researchers the results of access log analyses of their papers in IR can be an incentive for paper registration.

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[1]https://qir.kyushu-u.ac.jp/dspace/

[2]http://hyoka.ofc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/search/index_e.html

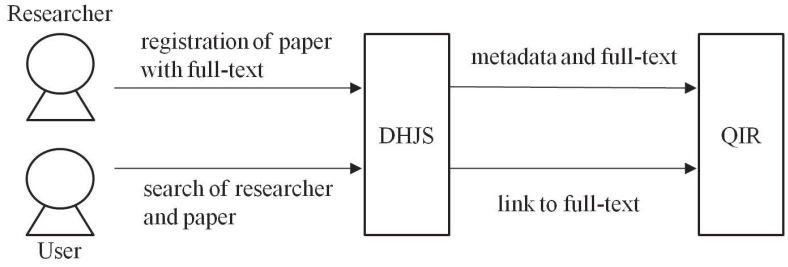

Figure 1: The outline of the link system between QIR and DHJS.

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