Open Access Statistics

An Added-Value Service for Repositories

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Open-Access-Statistik

Overview

Open Access Statistics (OAS) has built an infrastructure for the standardised accumulation of heterogenous web log data with an emphasis on institutional repositories. In close cooperation with the Network of Open Access Repositories (OAN), various added-value services will be made available to users.

OAS is funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and was initiated by the Electronic Publishing Working Group of the Deutsche Initiative für Netzwerkinformation (DINI). OAS is a joint project of the Göttingen State and University Library, the Computer and Media Service of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Saarland University and State Library, and the Stuttgart University Library.

Aims

The two main aims of OAS were:

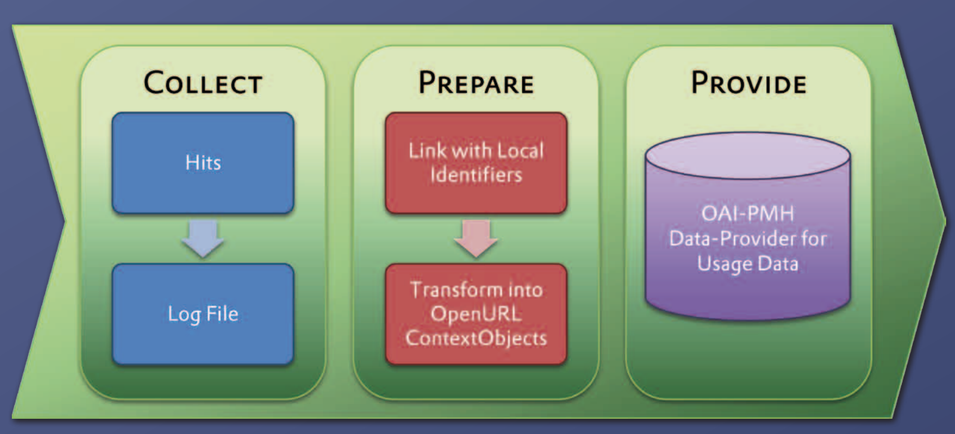
- The development of a sustainable infrastructure for the collection and processing of usage data. The diverse repository software solutions of the project partners are taken into account.
- The establishment of a reliable standard for the exchange of usage data in order to measure traffic and gather statistics from open access repositories. This development is based on existing standards and rule sets such as COUNTER.

Recommendations will be added to the DINI certificate for repositories to promote the standardised collection and provision of usage data and statistics. Guidelines and software packages have been made available on the project website.

The OAS Infrastructure

Data Provider

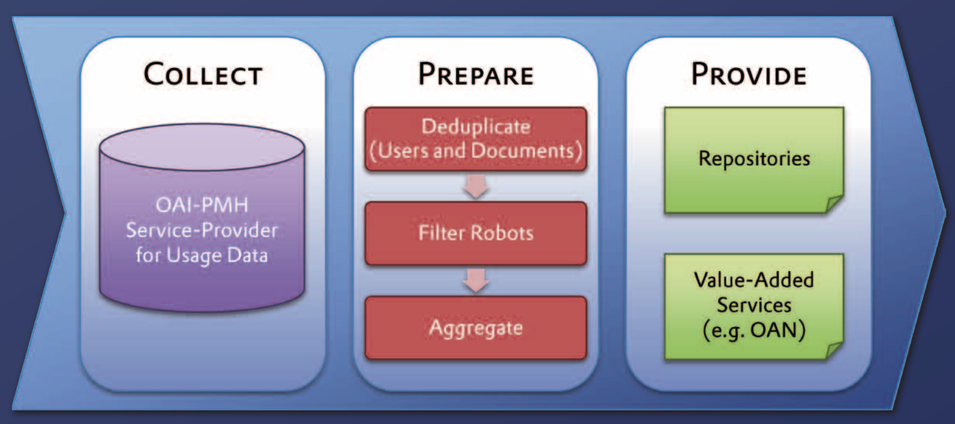
The usage data is collected by the participating project partners and is subsequently processed. To prepare the usage data for central harvesting, it is transformed into OpenURL Context Objects, a standardised and uniform format. This data is provided via an OAI-PMH interface.



Service Provider

The central service provider queries the data providers via the OAI-PMH interface and collects the usage data from the participants. As the usage data is available in a uniform format, the service provider is able to generate a variety of statistics and metrics. In addition, a deduplication of usage data is carried out using the services of OAN.

The usage statistics are then made available through web interfaces, including the search interface of OAN. Moreover, all participating repositories receive the aggregated usage statistics to integrate them into their local services.



Outcome

OAS has created an infrastructure to collect and exchange usage information between different agents, such as repositories, licence servers and linkresolvers, with a strong focus on open access publications.

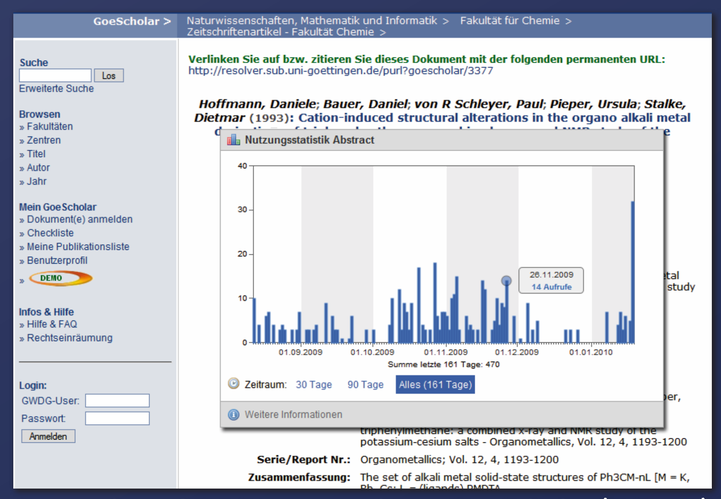
For repositories based on DSpace, OPUS and others, OAS provides ready-to-use software modules, which simplify the integration of those repositories. The integration of other systems into OAS takes little effort.

Perspective

By now OAS strives for a second funding phase to solve challenges and pursue new goals. Some of the main issues for OAS-2 will be:

- Extending the OAS infrastructure by integrating further repositories and other services
- Increasing acceptance for scholary open access publications among authors and readers by providing more reliable metrics and added-value services
- Close international cooperation with similar projects for interoperable usage statistics
- Providing a sustainable infrastructure

Especially internationalisation and standardisation require an intense exchange of information with other projects tackling related issues such as SURE (Netherlands), COUNTER and PIRUS (United Kingdom), NEEO, PEER and OAPEN (EU-wide) and Knowledge Exchange (Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom).



Screenshot of OAS integrated into GoeScholar (DSpace)

Further Information

OAS project website
http://www.dini.de/projekte/oa-statistik/english/

DINI certificate
http://www.dini.de/dini-zertifikat/

OAN project website
http://www.dini.de/projekte/oa-netzwerk/

Knowledge Exchange Usage Statistics Group
http://www.knowledge-exchange.info/Default.spx?ID=365

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