



International Journal on Digital Libraries

<http://www.springer.com/799>

Call for Papers

Special Issue on FAIR data and Cultural Heritage data-centric research

In the current trend for e-Science, i.e. collaborative, computationally- or data-intensive research, a number of initiatives are addressing how to manage and use data produced by cultural heritage research. E-Science relies on the well-known FAIR principles (<https://www.force11.org/fairprinciples>), stating that data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable. Now, if “F”, “A” and “I” mainly depend on the technical way in which data and metadata are generated, stored, managed and curated, the “R” includes also less technical (but not less important) implications. It involves theoretical, methodological and epistemological aspects that deserve attention in the current debate. It has been argued that e-science discovery could be modelled as a deterministic discovery process; nevertheless, even in this perspective, simply modelling the provenance of data is not sufficient, but the provenance of the hypotheses and results generated from analyzing the data need to be modelled and documented as well, to allow potential re-users to evaluate relevance and reliability.

Data reliability depends on a chain of trust that needs to be adequately supported by documentation, and on this regard the CIDOC CRM may play a key role. If in the past reference to previous discoveries published in journals and books was based on the academic practice of peer-review and on the authoritativeness of the author and of the publication, re-using data created by others is still lacking a similar good practice. Answering questions inspired by practice, such as “What would one need to rely on somebody else’s data?”, or related to documentation and semantics, such as “Which documentation is required to support reliability?” or “Do documentation models already provide a sufficiently rich toolbox, or additions are required? If so, which ones?” are key to create confidence in data use and re-use among heritage researchers.

The special issue will solicit high-quality papers on the above themes, proposing an effective and innovative approach to Cultural Heritage documentation in view of data re-use, and more in general their compliance to the FAIR principles. They will include, but not be limited to:

- Semantic perspective on the re-use of cultural heritage data
- Modeling of documentation addressing relevance, reliability and confidence in data for their re-use
- Methodological issues concerning the above
- Specific solutions to special cases of general interests concerning data reliability, e.g. proposals for the documentation of archaeological finds, monuments or sites which solve general problems

Examples of application of the proposed approach to real data will usefully complement theoretical considerations.

Important Dates

Paper Submission deadline:	January 31, 2019
First notification:	April 30, 2019
Revision submission:	June 30, 2019
Second notification:	July 31, 2019
Final version submission:	September 30, 2019

Guest Editors

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Submission Guidelines

Papers submitted to this special issue for possible publication must be original and must not be under consideration for publication in any other journal or conference. If the submission is an extended version of a previously published workshop or conference paper, this should also be explicitly mentioned in the cover letter, as well as the published paper must be cited in the submitted journal version.

All papers are to be submitted by referring to <http://www.springer.com/799>. At the beginning of the submission process, under “Article Type”, please select the appropriate special issue.

All manuscripts must be prepared according to the journal publication guidelines which can also be found on the website provided above. Papers will be reviewed following the journal standard review process.

Please address inquiries to franco.niccolucci@gmail.com.