

indexes and annotations. It is a careful effort that will allow the cataloguer to increase the accessibility of digitized Arabic manuscripts.

Our work proposes an interoperable catalog solution, making a collective virtual catalog of available digitized Arabic manuscripts using Dublin Core as a base. The virtual collective catalog will allow access to all digitized Arabic manuscripts that satisfy a specific user request, regardless of their physical or storage locations.

The contextual indexing of the catalogs will be based on the building of a domain ontology, used to connect the user to the manuscript. All the requests will be initially be submitted through the ontology, bridging all the catalogs in the different formats. The catalogs will return the result, using the ontology as a basis to translate the results into a form the user can comprehend.

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