

junii2 and AIRway - an Application Profile for Scholarly Works and Its Application for Link Resolvers

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A large number of scholarly works is self-archived at the university's Open Access repositories.

Researchers can search these materials using general web search engines such as Google, as well as with OAI-PMH-based search engines such as OAIster (<http://www.oaister.org/>). The archives can also be accessed using federated search services such as MetaLib by setting the repositories as a search target. However, it remains difficult for researchers to access materials in these repositories using standard academic databases such as Thomson Reuters' Web of Science.

The National Institute of Informatics (NII) in Japan has developed a DC application profile called junii2 (<http://ju.nii.ac.jp/oai/junii2.xsd>) for scholarly works. The AIRway Project (Access path to Institutional Resources via link resolvers) has used this profile to develop a new way of connecting university repositories with academic databases via link resolvers.

junii2 is designed as an OpenURL-compliant schema (`info:ofi/fmt:xml:xsd:journal`), and has now been widely adopted by more than 70 university repositories in Japan. A particular feature is its ability to describe variant self-archived materials with a version description function (specifying whether it is an author's draft or the final published version) and information on the availability of the full text in the repository.

AIRway is an internet server that harvests metadata from university repositories. After harvesting metadata, AIRway separates the metadata of materials whose full texts are available in the repositories from others. A link resolver sends an OpenURL request to the AIRway server before creating its navigation window. If metadata of the requested material are found in the AIRway server and the material's full text is available in a repository, the AIRway server provides the xml for the metadata of the material to the link resolver. Rather than being a new service system for end users, it is a back-end knowledgebase for existing link resolvers. ICATE (OCLC's link resolver) and some installations of SFX (Ex Libris' link resolver) now use AIRway as one of their knowledgebases.

In this way, junii2 and AIRway make Open Access scholarly works in university repositories accessible through general academic databases. This will be particularly effective if, for example, someone without a license to access an electronic journal finds a research paper on the journal in the search results of an academic database.

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