Dissertation Brief: Standards-based Interfaces for Harvesting and Obtaining Assets from Digital Repositories

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Background

Problem :

- Digital repositories are growing in size, content
- Harvesting metadata well understood
- Harvesting content not so clear
- Frameworks for repositories exist and well understood

Solution :

- Repository framework : OAIS
- Standards exist to address harvesting : OAI-PMH
- Many metadata formats: MPEG-21
- Resource framework : OpenURL

Structure of Dissertation

- Part 1 : Background and setup
- Part 2 : Experiments and results
- Part 3 : Generalization and Broader Applicability
- Part 4 : Conclusions

Experiments

- LANL internal
- APS external
- Sufficient proof of applicability in well understood environment (LANL)
- Test of concepts applicable to more ambiguous environment (APS)
- Mapping of all results back to core framework

Generalizations

- Address generalization in context of existing repository systems
- Methodically addresses strengths and weaknesses
- Addresses pitfalls and potential areas of concern as guidance when considering implementation in broader contexts

Thoughts

- Nice contribution to the field
 - Using standards is a good idea
 - Moving beyond metadata harvesting a necessity
 - Formats could be area of contention (MPEG-21)
- Well written and structured
- Well scoped and results can be studied, replicated and expanded (explored further)