

## **Digital Repository at Nanyang Technological University: user-centred services from reusable subject metadata**

Lena C. F. Sam<sup>1\*</sup>, Padmaja Muralidharan<sup>2</sup>

1 Senior Librarian (Bibliographic Services) , Engineering Librarian (Environmental),

2 Senior Librarian (Bibliographic Services) & Engineering Librarian (Electrical and  
Electronic),

Nanyang Technological University Library

Lena.Sam@ntu.edu.sg \*

Library bibliographic services have typically been associated with the cataloguing of books, print and physical materials. With libraries now providing access to digital and online resources, bibliographic services extends to handle and organise electronic formats. Metadata management has also become an integral part of library cataloguing work.

DR-NTU, the digital repository of NTU, houses the faculty publications in the open access section of the repository and students' final year reports and Masters and PhD programmes theses in the restricted access section. Aside from using keywords and metadata elements such as title, author and date to search and browse the collections, the DR-NTU user interface is designed to also allow subject search and browse. The subject metadata is assigned from the subject taxonomy which is developed in-house. Enhancing user navigation was the key motivation for implementing a subject taxonomy scheme in the institutional digital repository.

Since the repository soft launch in mid-2008, user submissions have been accepted via an integrated collaborative workflow to the repository. NTU Library's bibliographic services include the maintenance of metadata as well as subject 'tagging' using the taxonomy for these new submissions.

The workflows established to handle the metadata processing allow the subsequent collection of data about the subject 'tags' assigned to the items in the repository. Further reuse of this data, also allows a yearly analysis of the subject 'tags' frequency in a way similar to citation analysis of research topics. In our poster we share the data captured and the visual representation graphics of the subject metadata category distribution which is useful for DR-NTU content analysis.

The taxonomy was not intended for detailed indexing so the subject granularity

is limited. However the data and reports are useful to better understand user behaviour and create innovative value-added products from operational library services.

*Keyword:* Digital repositories, Subject metadata, Metadata reuse, User services

