

Analysis of Topic Trends in the Research Field of Digital Preservation

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Abstract: This poster presents the preliminary results of topic trend analysis in digital preservation related research in the recent ten years (2008-2017). This study collected journal publications concerning digital preservation from the Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts database (LISTA). Research articles were retrieved from LISTA where the query “digital preservation” appeared in the search fields of title, subject terms, or author-supplied keywords. The search was limited to “scholarly journals,” “article,” and “English.” In total, 694 articles were retrieved from representative library and information science journals, such as “Preservation, Digital Technology & Culture,” “Library Hi Tech,” “Microform & Imaging Review,” and “International Journal on Digital Libraries.” Then, a text corpus consisting of article titles and abstracts was generated for text mining. Term frequency analysis and topic modeling based on Latent Dirichlet Allocation were employed to explore which topics were discussed in relation to digital preservation. In addition, this study analyzed topical trends over the recent decade to investigate the changes of popular topics. The findings revealed prevailing topics, ranging from archiving record management, cultural heritage preservation, digital preservation strategies, metadata development, web resource archiving, data curation, institutional repositories, legal issues, and to others. This study also identified the topics that recently received increased attention, such as research data management, data curation, and cloud digital storage. Moreover, topics were compared by selected major journals. The findings from this study will inform both researchers and practitioners about what have been the primary and recently popular issues in the area of digital preservation.

About the Author:

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