



IRUS-UK

Institutional Repository Usage Statistics

IRUS-UK: An introduction

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irus.mimas.ac.uk

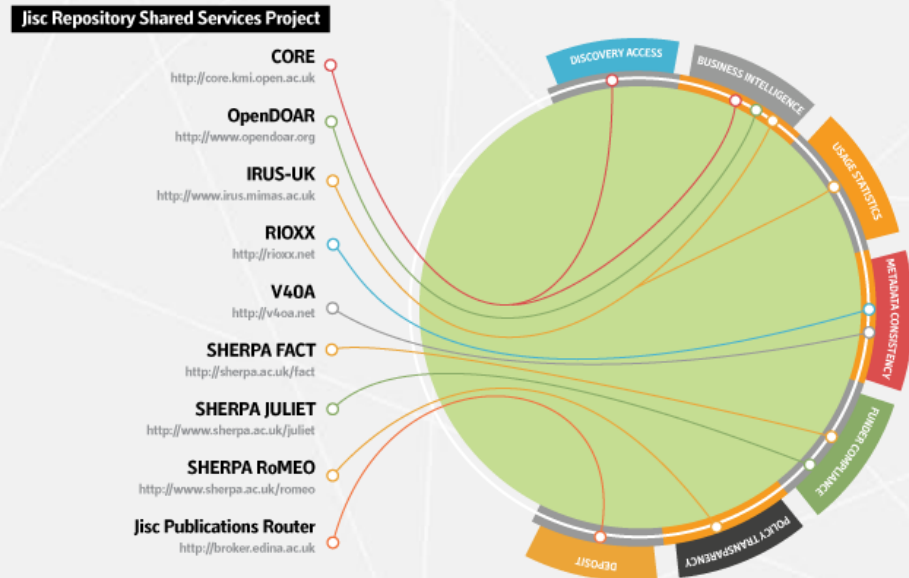
IRUS-UK: Overview

Ross MacIntyre (Jisc:Mimas)

IRUS-UK

- IRUS-UK: Institutional Repository Usage Statistics – UK
- Project Team Members:
 - Jisc:Mimas – Project & Service Management & Host
 - Cranfield University - Development
 - Evidence Base, Birmingham City University – User Engagement & Evaluation
- Funded by Jisc

Bringing together key repository services to deliver a connected national infrastructure to support OA

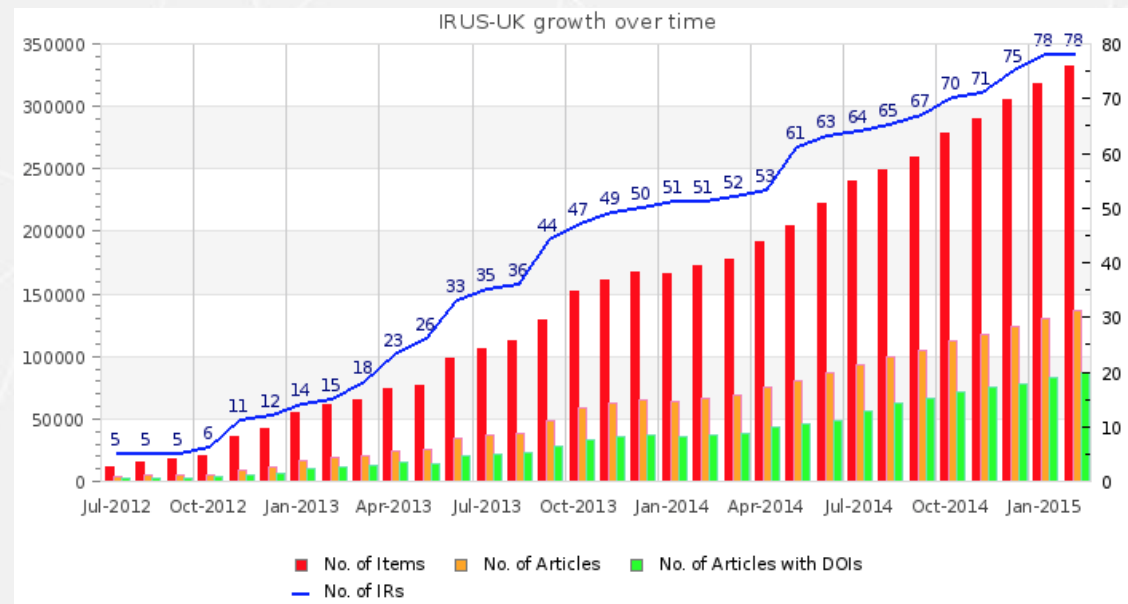


IRUS-UK: background

- PIRUS2 (Publisher and Institutional Repository Usage Statistics)
 - Aim: “develop a global standard to enable the recording, reporting and consolidation of online usage statistics for individual journal articles hosted by IRs, Publishers and others”
 - Proved it was *technically feasible*, but (initially) easier without ‘P’
 - <http://www.cranfieldlibrary.cranfield.ac.uk/pirus2/>
- Main outcomes:
 - IRUS-UK
 - <http://www.irus.mimas.ac.uk/>
 - Release 1 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for Articles
 - <http://www.projectcounter.org/counterarticles.html>

IRUS-UK: aims and objectives

- A national aggregation service, enabling UK IRs to share/expose usage statistics at the individual item level, based on a global standard – COUNTER
 - Collect raw download data from UK IRs for *all item types* within repositories
 - Process those raw data into COUNTER-compliant statistics
- Facilitate comparable, standards-based measurements
- Provide an evidence base for repositories to develop policies and initiatives to help support their objectives
- Provide consistent and comprehensive statistics, presenting opportunities for benchmarking at a national level



IRUS-UK: Data gathering

Paul Needham (Cranfield University)

IRUS-UK: gathering data

- Simple method to gather raw download data:
 - On download, message sent to IRUS-UK server with some basic details
- Accomplished by adding a small piece of code to repository software, which employs the 'Tracker Protocol'
 - <http://bit.ly/irustrackerprotocol>
 - Pushes minimal raw download metadata to a third-party server as OpenURL
 - Patches for DSpace (1.8.x, 3.x, 4.x) and Plug-ins for Eprints (3.2-3.3.x)
 - Implementation guidelines for Fedora
- Not in IRUS-UK scope, but also successfully deployed by:
 - OAPEN Library - freely accessible academic books, ARNO software
 - CORE - millions of scholarly articles aggregated from many Open Access repositories

IRUS-UK: processing data

- Adhere to the processing rules specified in:
 - Release 4 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for e-Resources
 - Release 1 of the COUNTER Code of Practice for Articles
 - i.e. we filter out robot accesses and double clicks on the same basis as scholarly publishers
- The COUNTER Robot Exclusion list is specified only as a *minimum requirement*
 - Supplemented COUNTER CoPs, adding filters to
 - Remove more user agents
 - Apply a simple threshold for 'overactive' IP addresses
- Commissioned *Information Power* to:
 - Analyse raw data collected BY IRUS-UK
 - Test the feasibility of algorithms to 'dynamically' identify and filter out unusual usage/robot activity
 - Report available from <http://www.irus.mimas.ac.uk/news/>
- COUNTER Working Group on Robots formed

IRUS-UK: Exposing statistics

- Web User Interface - The IRUS-UK Portal
 - Access currently behind Shibboleth authentication/authorisation
 - Wide range of views, – slicing and dicing stats from the IRUS-UK database
 - Reports available for download as CSV/Excel spreadsheet files
 - Altmetric donuts for individual items 😊
- SUSHI service
 - Standard client/server web service, utilizing a SOAP request/response to retrieve the XML version of COUNTER or COUNTER-like reports
- SUSHI Lite API
 - Under development by the NISO SUSHI Lite Technical Report Working Group (http://www.niso.org/workrooms/sushi/sushi_lite/)
 - RESTful: uses standard HTTP GET returning JSON
 - Allows retrieval of stats snippets to be embedded into Repository (and other) web pages

IRUS-UK: Demo

Paul Needham (Cranfield University)

IRUS-UK: Community engagement and evaluation

Jo Alcock, Evidence Base (Birmingham City University)

IRUS-UK: Community engagement

- Growing number of repositories participating in IRUS-UK – currently 79 repositories
- Communication about progress and new developments via number of different channels:
 - IRUS-UK mailing list
 - @IRUSNEWS Twitter account
 - IRUS-UK newsletter
 - IRUS-UK webinars
 - IRUS-UK presentations at other events
- Gather feedback from participating repositories via surveys and conversations
- Community Advisory Group to provide feedback to the IRUS-UK project team and to inform future developments

IRUS-UK: user surveys

- New repositories receive an invite to a new joiner's survey within a few weeks of joining to get their initial feedback, see if they need any support, and to gather any suggestions for improvement
- Annual survey collects data from users on the following:
 - Use of repository statistics
 - Value of IRUS-UK
 - Challenges and barriers
 - Benchmarking
 - Usability
 - Guidance/support
- 40 responses to 2015 survey so far (open until end of March)

IRUS-UK: Added value

- 92% reported that IRUS-UK has improved statistical reporting
- 63% reported that IRUS-UK saves time collecting statistics
- 83% reported that IRUS-UK enables reporting previously unable to do
- 84% hope to use IRUS-UK for benchmarking

IRUS-UK: Best feature

- Reliable, authoritative statistics
 - COUNTER compliant statistics
 - Filtering of robots
- Ability to benchmark against others
 - Comparison of download statistics across participating IRs
 - Number (and range across the sector) of participating institutions
- Easy to use
 - Easy to setup and use
 - Easy access to statistics
 - Clear display of statistics
 - 83% find the current user interface clear
 - 88% find the current functionality clear to understand

IRUS-UK: Most useful reports

1. Item Report 1 (IR1)
2. Item Report 2 (IR2)
3. Repository statistics
4. Consolidated Article Report 1 (CAR1)*
5. ETD Report 1 (ETD1)
6. Repository Report 1 (RR1)

*NB: CAR1 and AR1j reports have been superseded by more flexible AR4 report

IRUS-UK: General comments

“IRUS has provided a range of useful reports not available to us before, and the potential to benchmark our statistics against other repositories.”

“IRUS-UK statistics have been used to inform internal reporting and decision making”

IRUS-UK: How to join

- If you are a UK repository:
 - Contact us at irus@mimas.ac.uk to register your interest
 - Answer a few questions on the type of repository you have and the version you are running
 - Get advice from us on what work will be involved depending on your repository type and version
 - Implement any changes advised and then see your usage data instantly in IRUS-UK with no more work from you

“The set up was quick and painless, which is always a delight!”

“Consistent collection of statistics without me having to do it!”

IRUS-UK: User support

- Help section on IRUS-UK website includes:
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Glossary
 - IRUS-UK Statistics and Reports
 - Toolbox
 - Use cases
 - Webinar recordings
- Upcoming webinar, IRUS-UK in practice, 7th May:
<http://bit.ly/irusukinpractice>