University of San Diego

Digital USD

Digital Initiatives Symposium

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Benefits of the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) Featuring Medieval Palimpsest Manuscripts

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Benefits of the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) Featuring Medieval Palimpsest Manuscripts

Presenter 1 Title
Interim Head, Digital Library Program

Session Type
Poster

Abstract

The International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) is a community that develops shared application programming interfaces (APIs), or technical standards, for interoperability between digital image repositories. The IIIF specifications aim to give scholars an unprecedented level of uniform and rich access to image-based resources hosted around the world, with partners from national and state libraries, research institutions, museums, archives, software firms, and other groups working with digital image repositories and resources. The IIIF has grown from the community and relies on active participation and discussion to develop, cultivate and document shared technologies, such as image servers and web clients, that provide an exceptional user experience in viewing, comparing, manipulating and annotating images.

Cultural heritage institutions are increasingly adopting the IIIF standards to both improve the ease of maintenance for their repositories and meet the needs of end users. With IIIF-compliant resources, researchers can compare images from different repositories in the same viewer, create annotations, search within annotations, easily cite, share, embed, manipulate, and interact with digital surrogates in new ways. The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) has been working with IIIF for over a year to meet the needs of the Sinai Palimpsests Project, an initiative to digitize 74 manuscripts using spectral imaging, with the goal of providing manuscript scholars with enriched access to these enhanced images for primary research.
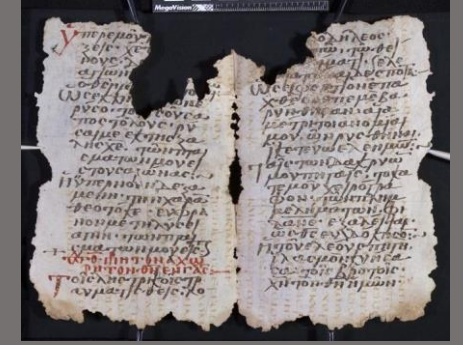
Location
Rotunda / Garden of the Sea

Keywords
IIIF, Interoperability, Manuscripts, Research, Functionality, Community, APIs, Software, Images, Annotation

International Image Interoperability Framework at Work: Medieval Palimpsest Manuscripts
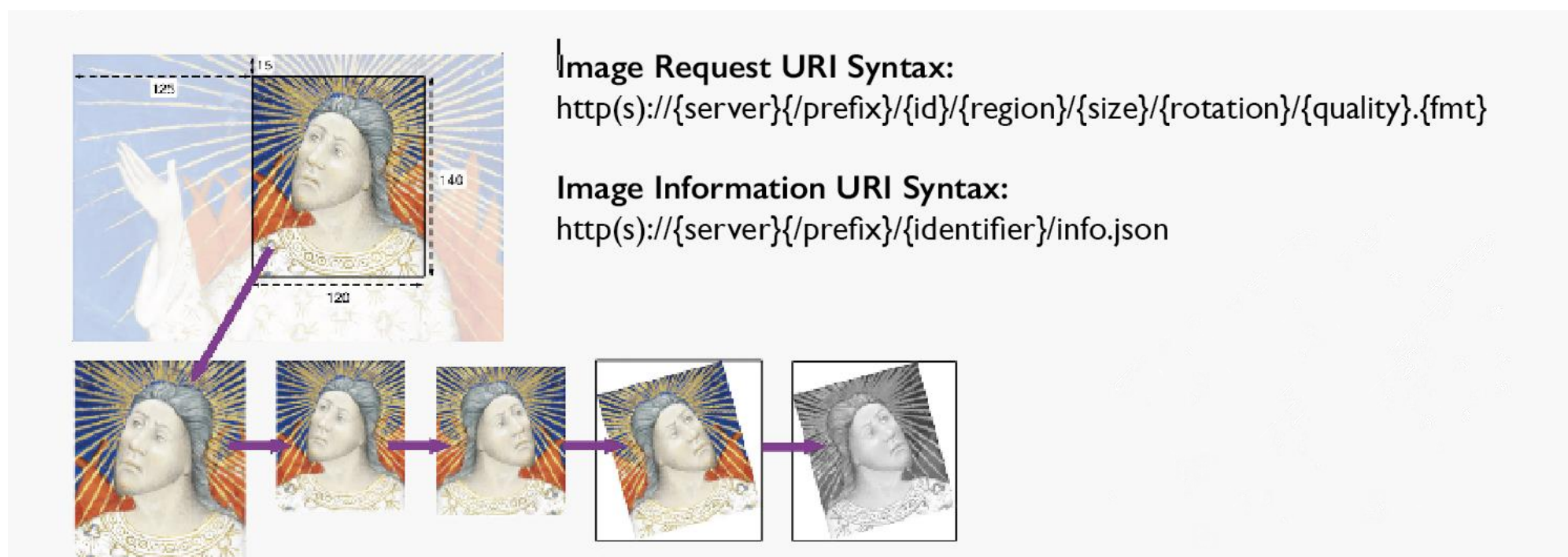
A community that develops **Shared APIs** implements them in **Software** and exposes **Interoperable Content**

A collaborative project **using IIIF** to bring **unique** & **hidden text** to scholars

Shared APIs

- IIIF Image API 2.1

Software

- **IIIF-compliant servers**
  - **Loris (Python)**
  - **IIPImage (C++)**
  - *jiiify (Java) (coming soon)*

- **IIIF-compliant viewers**
  - **Universal viewer**
  - **Mirador viewer**
  - **Leaflet IIIF**

- **IIIF-Solutions**
  - **CONTENTdm**
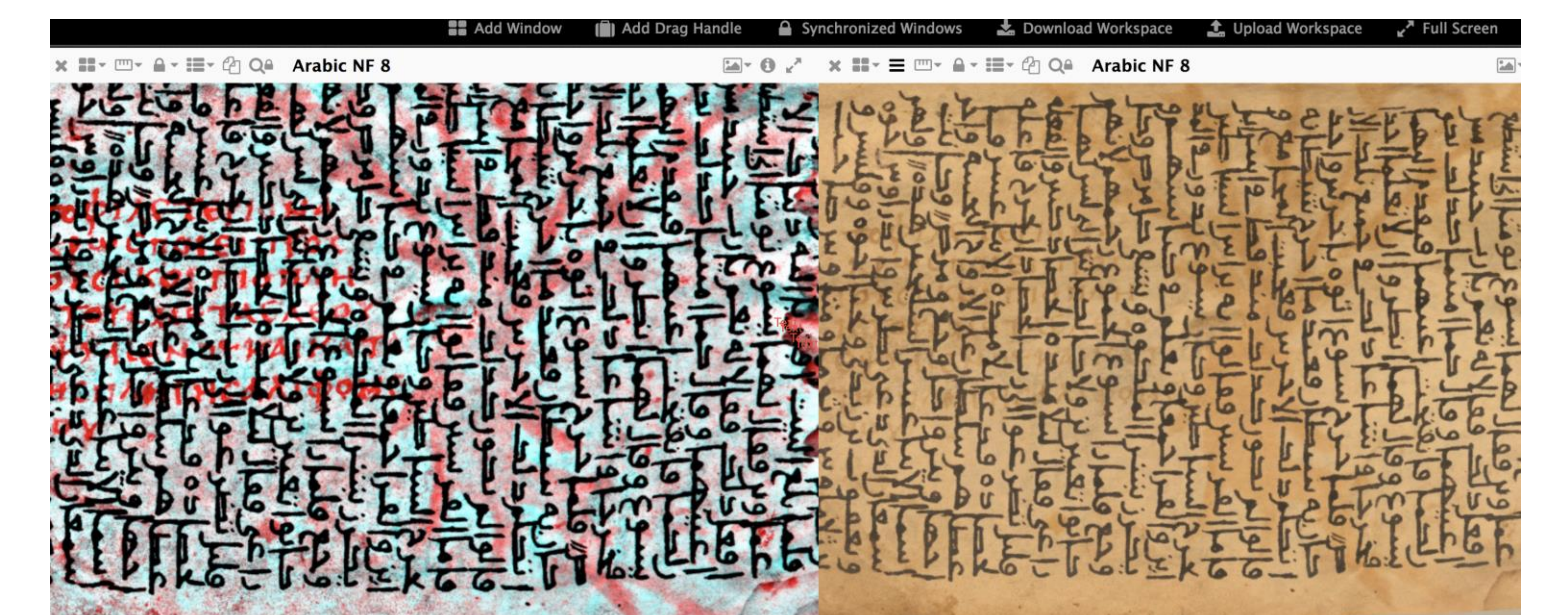 - **DSpace**
  - **PLUM- Hydra**

Palimpsests

- Parchment scraped or washed of previous text to be reused
- Previous text still present, but varying levels of legible

Multispectral Imaging

- Image objects under multiple light spectrums
- Imaging scientists combine resulting files and develop algorithms to optimize legibility of "undertext"

Web Presentation with IIIF

- Multi-directional navigation
  - Multiple images for each page
  - Multiple pages in object
- Multiple viewing panes to allow comparison
- Ability to present multiple orders of images to assist

Learn more at iiif.io

Learn more at www.sinaipalimpsests.org