Publication Year	2011
Acceptance in OA@INAF	2020-06-23T07:17:53Z
Title	Information sources and services in the Italian astronomical libraries and histo-archives
Authors	GARGANO, MAURO; GASPERINI, Antonella; SCHIAVONE, Luisa
Handle	http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12386/26186

INFORMATION SOURCES AND SERVICES IN THE ITALIAN ASTRONOMICAL LIBRARIES AND HISTO-ARCHIVES

Mauro Gargano[1], Antonella Gasperini[2], Luisa Schiavone[3], Laurence Bobis[4]

[1] INAF - Astronomical Observatory of Capodimonte
[2] INAF - Astrophysical Observatory of Arcetri
[3] INAF - Astronomical Observatory of Turin
[4] Observatory of Paris

The National Institute for Astrophysics (**INAF**), born in 2002 joining 19 Astronomical Observatories and Astrophysical Institutes, is the National Institute for the research in Astronomy, Radioastronomy, Space and Cosmic Physics. Since 2004 the Historical Archives and Library Service (**SBA**) builds, develops, and promotes the digital library of INAF. It plans the activities to acquire, preserve, and valorize the bibliographic holdings and the historical documentation. Promoting the innovative projects in the new technologies is one of the main goals of SBA to emphasize the historical heritage, and to offer high level services to users.

Library software and On-line Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

In 1995 the Astronomical Observatory Libraries developed a MetaOPAC of all local bibliographic resources: the CUBAI (Unified Catalogue of Italian Astronomical Library) project. Formerly based on WAIS system, in 1999 the architecture was changed adopting the HTTP protocol. At that time the libraries used different softwares: commercial, homemade tools, or closed and non relational systems. Some libraries decided to join the local University systems.

In 2010 INAF decided to buy a software with a central DB and web-based applications, permitting the derived and participated cataloguing: BiblioWin5.0. It has an ASP.NET architecture and a MS SQL server DB. It is compatible with the main international standards of cataloguing and web based services. It can also query external catalogues through Z39.50 and Dublin Core standards (i.e. the Italian National Library Catalogue and the Library of Congress) to perform data capturing. BiblioWin5.0 has an OPAC integrated with a Metasearch and content management systems and can search and retrieve information on the entire database or a specific library recordset.

Registered users will be also able to save query results, reserve a book, send purchase requests to librarians, control the status of borrowings.

At the present moment, librarians are working on bibliographic records and authority lists, that need to be normalized because the imported datasets have non-homogeneous characteristics.

www.bibliowin.net/inaf

Document supply service: NILDE and ADS

NILDE (Network Inter-Library Document Exchange) is an online software for document supply and interlibrary loan service around which a community of libraries shares its bibliographic resources in the spirit of mutual collaboration and mainly on a free basis. It was conceived in 2001 by the CNR Library of Bologna, within the CNR BiblioMIME project. In 2006 the project was completed and NILDE became a National service. Currently 737 libraries use NILDE, and they also contribute to the growth of innovative features. INAF Libraries have joined NILDE, which is now the most important channel for Document Supply requests.

Software Architecture

NILDE 4.0 architectural software is the well known LAMP (Linux Apache MySQL PHP); the user interface is managed in Javascript and with the open source Prototype AJAX.

Functionalities

- ✔ Integration with the authentication processes of the users of GARR-IDEM Federation
- ✔ SEDD (Secure Electronic DD): "Hard Copy" procedure for the conversion of text documents into PDF image
- ✔ Links to the most important online databases through OpenURL protocol
- ✔ Links to ACNP for a dynamic search of libraries holdings
- ✔ Links with the Italian National Catalogue SBN through Z39.50 protocol and XML standard

What NILDE can do for libraries

- ✔ Automatic management of procedures related to document supply and inter-library loan
- ✔ Electronic delivery of documents through a secure web interface with a dedicated server
- ✔ Detailed and always up-to-date reports of the exchanges carried out between the libraries

Integration with the ADS

From 2011, astronomers can easily retrieve and request astronomical and physics papers thanks to an integration with the ADS. The registered users both in ADS and NILDE can define in the ADS Library Link Setting page the NILDE server address. Using the icon "Ask by NILDE" the users allow to request the electronic or paper article through NILDE automatically.
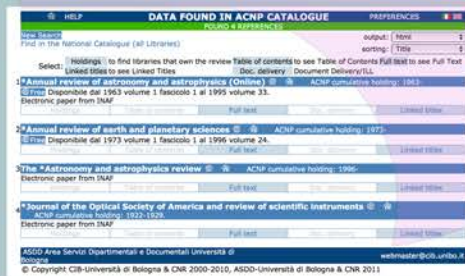
Serials catalogue and E-journal service

The Italian Union Catalogue of Serials, **ACNP**, contains the bibliographic descriptions of serials held by Italian libraries. It has been carried out by the Institute for Studies on Research and Scientific Documentation (ISRDS) of National Research Council (CNR), since the 1970's. In 1988 the Interlibrary Centre of the University of Bologna (CIB) made the catalogue available online using its Information Retrieval system.

ACNP is an integrated catalogue offering not only serials descriptions and holdings, but also information about libraries, business hours, services, document supply terms and procedures. Italian Observatory Libraries joined ACNP at the end of the 1990's. At present 2450 Italian libraries partecipete ACNP and the DB contains 177820 records.

In 2000 CIB and a working group of Observatory libraries have realized Astronomy Union Catalogue, the **ACNP astronomico** (Astronomical ACNP). It is a special virtual OPAC searching within astronomy libraries holdings only. http://acnp.cib.unibo.it/catalogo/astro

This catalogue consists of about 2600 titles

From 2006 most of the purchase procedures of serials (both print and electronic) are centrally managed by SBA leaving to single libraries only a small part of budget for local needs.

The increasing number of electronic serials, available to INAF research structures, required a new search tool for union electronic holdings. In 2010 all E-Journals purchased by SBA have been added to ACNP's **INAF Electronic Library**. It contains about 100 titles. Users have many details on each title: years available, access conditions, and links to full text.

http://acnp.cib.unibo.it/catalogo/inaf

Historical archives

INAF is the first Italian scientific institute that has almost concluded the project of rearrangement, preservation and valorization of its archival heritage. In 2009, SBA has promoted the project **POLVERE di STELLE** (STARDUST) realizing a web portal and a booklet to increase the scientific knowledge of the national historical astronomical heritage in Italy.

The portal permits the navigation inside each archives and contains the analytical inventories, where available, a description of the project plan and goals, and a summary of the structure and contents. Finally an image gallery shows a wide collection of the most important and beautiful documents preserved in the archives. Some inventories, available in a textual or tabular format, are converted and tranferred in a MySQL DataBase. Some PHP scripts allow to search and consult the archives via web. The project is in progress and the final aim will be the creation of an unified DataBase of INAF historical archives.

www.archivistorici.inaf.it/en

Thereafter, INAF and Observatory of Paris are starting a collaboration to create a common platform to permit a simultaneous query of the historical archives of both Institutions. INAF is converting its archives dataset into XML-based format by the DTD/EAD code (Encoded Archival Description - http://www.loc.gov/ead -is a standard for encoding archival finding aids maintained by the Library of Congress and the Society of American Archivists). The XML data archives of INAF will be transferred on a free common platform, Pléade, presently used by the Observatory of Paris that has been developed in the ALIDADE system - http://alidade.obspm.fr/sdx/alidade. This project will create the basis for an European Historical Archives for Astronomy.