Background

Set up by the University of Liege (ULg) ORBi (Open Repository and Bibliography) experienced a considerable increase of the online posted references since its creation on November 26th, 2008. The contents of the repository managed to reach a value of 79,247 references by May 2012. 47,375 of those references have the full text and count approx. 1,400 downloads per day.

Aim

WHO and WHERE are the world internet users visualizing and downloading ORBi geographical references from?

Methods

According to the ULg obligatory self-archiving policy applied, geographers posted online their publications. From a total number of 574 articles, the sample of 150 scientific articles published between 2005-2010 in Human/Economic, Physical Geography, Geomatics was chosen for analysis.

- the categories of users interested in the geographical literature were identified by exploiting a MaxMind database;
- the globally distribution of the total numbers of visualizations and downloads was firstly analyzed (disregarding ULg views and downloads);
- the visualizations and downloads distribution over the world for the French (68) and English (82) articles was then separately analyzed.

Sample and Synthesis of article’s language, IF, access, visualizations, and downloads

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Results

Findings and Conclusions

- The frequent publication of the English articles (67/82) in Impact Factor Journals does not increase the usage of the English geographical literature.
- The higher usage of the French references is probably due to the local character of the case studies and their publication in French national journals not indexed by the bibliographical databases.
- Language of the articles and the specificity of the case studies could play an important role on the distribution of the article’s usage over the world.
- Future analysis will show the distribution of the user’s categories by country.

Special thanks to the ORBi team.
http://orbi.ulg.ac.be/
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