

Widget Integration in Open Repositories: Real World Experiences with the PlumX Widget

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Session Type (select one)

- Poster

Abstract

Integrating third-party Javascript widgets into repositories is a great way to add value, but it does have its challenges because effective integration has to be done at the artifact level. This poster will explore the real world experiences Plum Analytics has had integrating PlumX widgets into multiple repository platforms. These experiences can help inform others who are contemplating integration projects, regardless of the platform or widget product they want to use. Included in this poster session will be a view into user engagement to help answer the question: are widget integration projects worth the effort?

Conference Themes

Select the conference theme(s) your proposal best addresses:

- Integrating with External Systems
 Exploring Metrics and Assessment

Keywords

Javascript widgets, widget integration, repository metadata

Audience

Repository managers and developers

Background

Repositories can find increased value and serve an increasingly sophisticated audience by looking for ways to integrate external content maintained by others.

Presentation content

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Widgets can potentially exist at multiple levels:

- **Artifact.** A repository might have thousands of artifacts of all types, ranging in format from full text to abstracts. Adding content at an artifact level requires matching up metadata points, so depending on the content can require custom programming by a repository developer.
- **Researcher.** Some repositories have researcher aggregation pages that could benefit from widgets that match at the researcher level.
- **Groups.** Group level widgets can aggregate data for a collection of artifacts.

Plum Analytics has worked with customers across most repository platforms to enable integration of PlumX widgets, such as the Plum Print that shows Plum metrics at the artifact level. Central to that work has been working through metadata matching issues, installation of the Javascript code, formatting and layout, and the exchange of metadata about the artifacts in the repository to create a true automated “round trip” of data on both platforms.

The poster will include diagrams that show how widget integration works in general, the layout and placement choices that repository managers need to be aware of before starting an integration project, and real-world examples of widgets that are currently in production.



We will also cover the user behavior we see from these widgets to help repository managers set the right expectations with stakeholders about what represents success.

Conclusion

The integration of third-party content via Javascript widgets is helping to add value to repositories worldwide, and helping increase user satisfaction with repository content.