Bibliographic data science workshop

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Metadata is essential for virtual research environments. Recent research has highlighted the research potential of metadata, both as an object of research and as a supporting tool in the analysis of broader data collections such as full texts or audiovisual material. The emerging field of bibliographic data science investigates the questions of harmonization, integration, interpretation and statistical analysis in order to realize the overall research potential of metadata collections.

This workshop will bring together researchers, librarians and others to critically evaluate the potential of metadata collection, considering the questions of quality control, criticism and research use. The workshop will start with introductions of related ongoing projects by the workshop participants. This is followed by team discussions on three topical challenges in metadata research: data representativeness, interpretation, and openness. Representativeness focuses on questions about research data, in particular its completeness and reliability, and the limits of appropriate research use. Interpretation concerns research methodology and the limits of algorithmic understanding in the analysis large data collections. Openness considers challenges and opportunities related to data and methods availability. We will critically reflect these aspects in contemporary metadata research, in order to better understand the key limitations and challenges in this field, and how they could be potentially addressed. The workshop will conclude by summaries and discussion of the team work.

We expect 10-20 participants (no technical or other prerequisites) in this workshop, and encourage short presentations from the participants related to ongoing research projects. Kindly reflect one or more key themes of this workshop. Suggestions in the form of short abstracts (max. 300 words) can be sent to Iiro Tiihonen (iiro.tiihonen@helsinki.fi) by Sunday, August 25, 2019.