

# APIs



Interfaces that provide access to our data

## Linked Data

Linked Data is a method of publishing structured data so that it can be interlinked and accessed by both humans and machines.

Our Linked Data services provide access to bibliographic data as well as controlled vocabularies such as thesauri, ontologies and authority files.

## OAI-PMH

The [Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting](#) (OAI-PMH) is a protocol for harvesting metadata descriptions of records in a repository. We provide OAI-PMH access to several document and metadata repositories.

All OAI-PMH endpoints provide basic Dublin Core metadata. In addition, our providers support several enhanced metadata profiles.

## OpenSearch

[OpenSearch](#) is a collection of simple formats for the sharing of search results. An OpenSearch description document can be used to describe a search engine so that it can be used by search client applications.

Our OpenSearch endpoints can be used to search for entities and retrieve the results as an XML document (RSS or Atom).

## OpenURL

[OpenURL](#) is a format for encoding a description of a resource within a URL, intended to help Internet users to find a copy of the resource that they are allowed to access.

Our OpenURL services provide access to individual pages of scanned documents.

## REST

REST (Representational State Transfer) is an API implementation style that provides web services using the HTTP protocol.

Our REST services provide access to system-specific functionalities for which no standardized protocol exists. The documentation of each API is provided in the form of an [OpenAPI/Swagger](#) specification that is both machine-processable and supports interactive documentation.

## Z39.50 and SRU

[Z39.50](#) is a client-server communications protocol for searching and retrieving information from a database. It is supported by many integrated library systems. [SRU](#) (Search and Retrieve via URL) is a successor protocol that is based on HTTP but provides the same facilities for searching.

Our library systems support access via Z39.50 and SRU protocols for retrieving individual MARC records or relatively small batches of records.

