## Software Sustainability Challenge: ECOLM and Lute Tablature

Chris Cannam
Particular Programs Ltd
London, UK
chris.cannam@particularprograms.co.uk

David Lewis
Goldsmiths, University of London
London, UK
d.lewis@gold.ac.uk

Tim Crawford Goldsmiths, University of London London, UK t.crawford@gold.ac.uk

## **ACM Reference Format:**

## 1 NATURE AND PURPOSE OF THE SUSTAINABLE TOOL OR RESOURCE

**ECOLM** (1999-2002) was a project run by Tim Crawford which developed and populated a queryable database of lute tablature encodings with metadata using a web interface. Subsequent projects **ECOLM II** (2002-2006) and **ECOLM III** (2012) expanded the database and used it for some computational musicological investigations. The resulting database was hosted on a public-facing web

server at Goldsmiths, University of London. <sup>1</sup> It is still running today, although nobody is formally responsible for maintaining it.

ECOLM is a relatively small scholarly resource with around 2,000 carefully-curated encodings. A number of other public lute tablature resources exist, of variable size, quality, and consistency.

- 2 AUDIENCE AND USERS, DISCIPLINES AND SUBJECTS
- 3 CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABILITY
- 4 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

1http://doc.gold.ac.uk/isms/ecolm/database/

DLfM'23, November 10, 2023, Milan, Italy 2023. ACM ISBN 978-x-xxxx-xxxx-x/YY/MM...\$15.00 https://doi.org/10.1145/nnnnnnnnnnnnnn