

The UOW Library

Cube

library resources + student use = value



University of Wollongong Library, Australia

There are many approaches to evaluating the value of libraries.

This is our story

A 3D puzzle with one white piece missing, set against an orange background. The puzzle pieces are dark blue and white. The white piece is missing from the bottom right, leaving a gap. The puzzle is centered on the page.

Problem statement I:

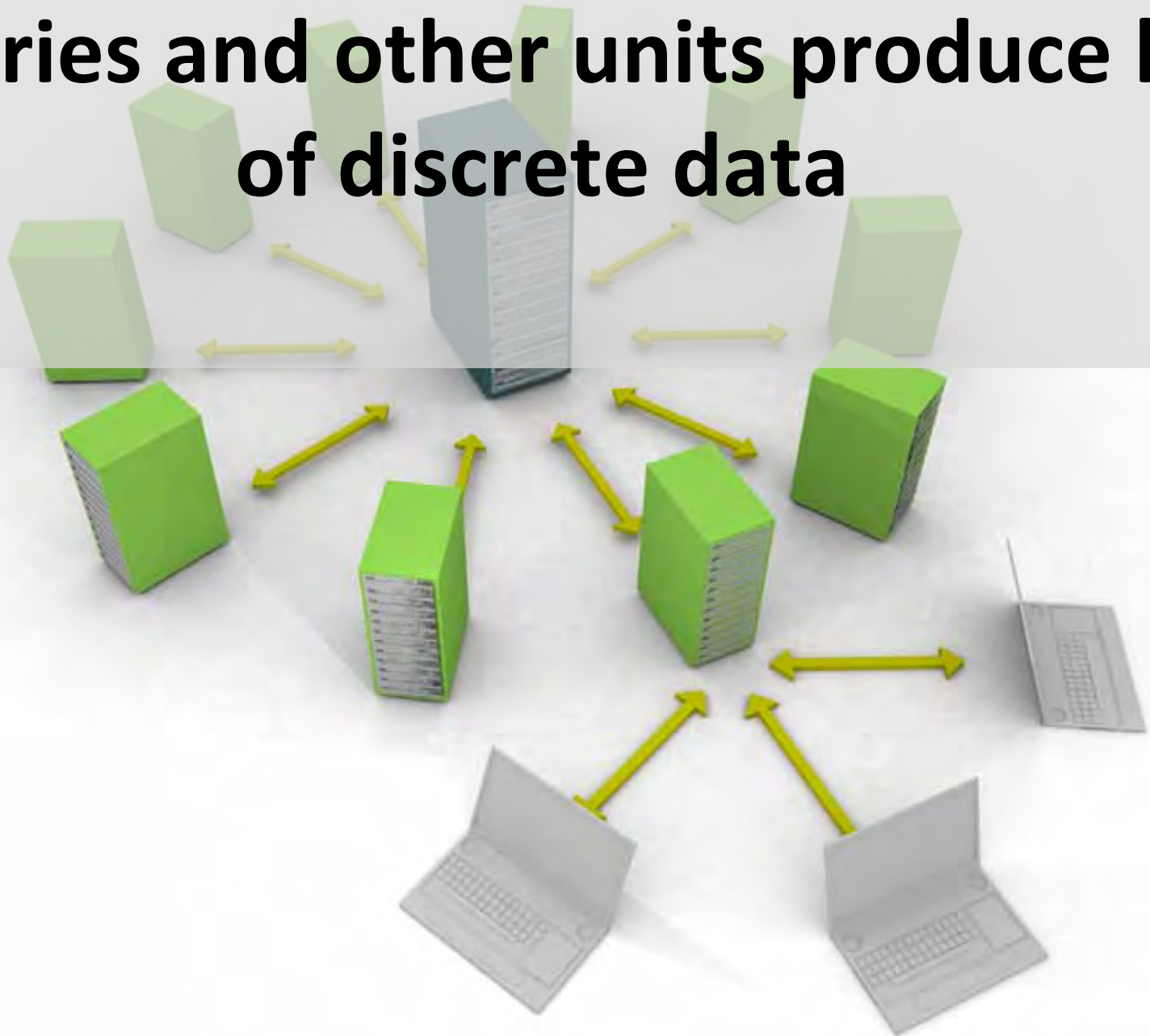
Does a student's academic performance improve through the use of library information resources?

The background of the slide is a solid orange color. In the center, there are two white puzzle pieces. One piece is positioned above the other, and they are slightly offset from each other. The puzzle pieces have a textured, slightly grainy appearance. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white horizontal band that spans the width of the slide.

Problem statement II:

Which students make little or no use of library information resources?

Libraries and other units produce lots of discrete data



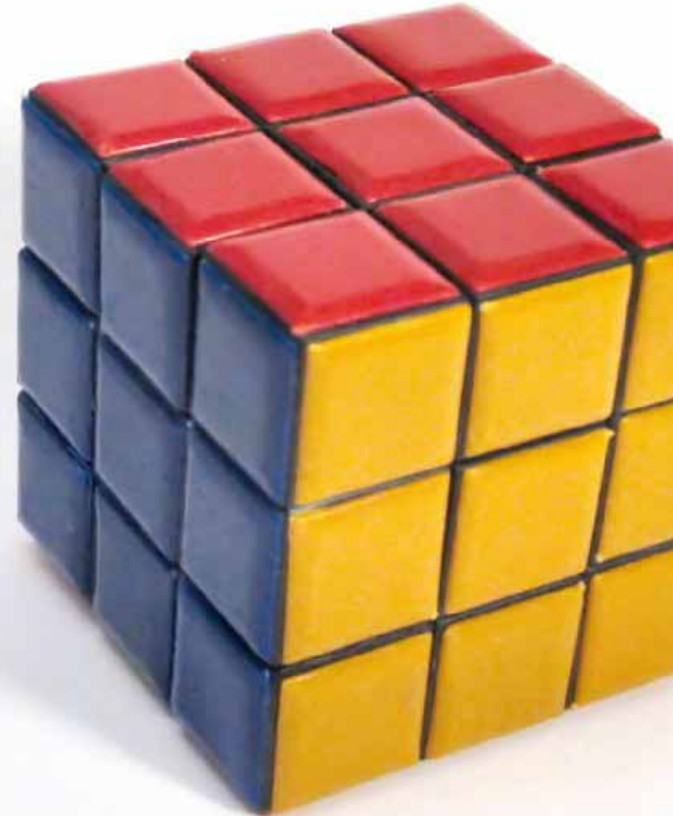


but...

our systems typically don't talk to
other university systems

The challenge was to build a relational database (or cube)

- books
- ereadings
- databases
- ebooks
- student grades



How?

Book loans:

- >Weekly export of flat files from LMS**
- >Monitor weekly 'snap shots'**

Resources:

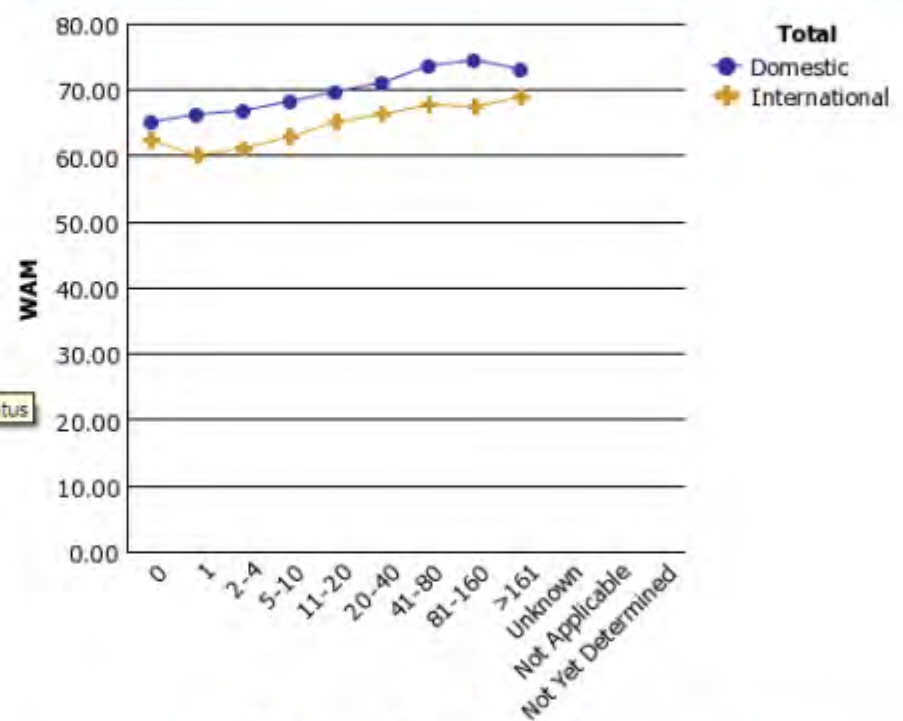
- > Authentication logs (ezyproxy)
- > Monitor use in 10 minute blocks (144 ten minute periods p/day)
- > When used – database name captured

Other benefits

- logs are updated weekly

- Borrowing Analysis
- All Dates
- All Course Faculties
- All Courses
- All Course Commencing Years
- All Borrower Types
- All Resources Used
- All Number of Courses
- All Frequency Resources Used
- All Degrees
- All Campuses
- All Course Status
- All Student Types
- All Genders
- All Ages
- All Citizenships
- All Days of The Week
- All Months
- STUDENT_NUMBER
- STUDENT_COURSE_ID
- Measures

Rows: All Student Typ... Columns: All Frequency R...



Filters/dimensions

All Course Status

Grades →

All Frequency Resources Used

WAM	0	1	2-4	5-10	11-20	20-40	41-80	81-160	>161
Domestic	65.29	66.28	67.09	68.29	69.88	71.18	73.67	74.51	73.22
International	62.40	60.16	61.14	62.98	65.28	66.43	67.79	67.50	68.92
Total	63.94	64.52	65.32	66.66	68.63	69.90	72.11	72.34	71.71

Is it perfect?

- >Some limitations in correlations**
- >Arbitrary measures; business rules**
- >Many external factors affect grades, e.g. academic influence**

WHAT BUSINESS ACTIVITIES WILL THE CUBE SUPPORT?

- > **Accountability**
- > **Marketing**
- > **Continuous improvement**

But.....

A first at UOW Library:

- >for true integration of data silos**
- >getting answers to our problem statements**
- >evaluating our communication and intervention strategies**
- >for a new way of demonstrating the value of the Library**



QUESTIONS?