

# Preservation of Electronic Journals

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# Preservation of access to information

- Importance
  - Type of insurance
  - Management of risk
- Role of the publisher
  - Produce and distribute information
- Role of the library
  - Libraries preserve and provide access to that information
  - Libraries acquire information to serve their users
  - Researchers utilise libraries to source information
- Roles are clear

# Role of the Journal

- Scientific literature
  - Totality of publications that report empirical and theoretical work
  - Includes journal articles, patents, books and reports
  
- Standing of journal articles is highest
- Articles written by academics for other academics
- Referring procedures, usually abstracted and indexed
- Competition is keen, rejection rates can be high
- Key role is a publicly available archive

# Preservation of Electronic Journals

- New issues
  - Increased access to users
  - Delivery to off-site users
  - Reduced shelving and processing
  
  - Less control over access
  - Instability in the marketplace
  - Lack of assurance in long-term preservation

# Preservation of Electronic Journals

- Whose role is it?
  - Shift from ownership to access (publisher's server rather than library's shelf)
  - Still a fundamental need to preserve electronic journals or risk losing these resources
  - Libraries require perpetual access to these resources
  - Increased risk with small publishers

# Technical Obsolescence

- Data has the potential to get lost
  - Formats continually evolve and change
  - Data must be transferred from one medium to the next
  - Digital information must be interpreted before it can be read
  
- 400 year old book v's 15 year old floppy disc

# Role of Preservation

## 1. Publisher

- Decentralised approach
- Publishers maintain and migrate data until...
- Implications of mergers, acquisitions, bankruptcy
  
- A fail safe mechanism to ensure continued access by libraries is required

# Role of Preservation

## 2. Library

- In keeping with the traditional role of libraries
- Effort in maintaining data in a usable format – expensive and duplicated effort
- Only affordable by the most well resourced institutions
- Cost is unattractive and impractical for most libraries

## 3. National or Large Research Library

- Centralised responsibility
- Already in place for printed works (legal deposit)

# Role of Preservation

## 4. Cooperative Effort

- Between libraries
- Already in place for online catalogues

## 5. Trusted Third Party Archive

- New organisations
- Mediate in the interests of both libraries and publishers
- Access for a fee
- Guaranteed preservation and provisions for access
- Maintainable infrastructure

# LOCKSS – Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe

- Facilitates lots of libraries in acquiring lots of copies of electronic resources
  - Open source
  - In testing since 1999. Production in 2004
  - Libraries assume responsibility for future use and access
  - Access to authorised users when publishers copy is unavailable
  - Easy and affordable (membership: US\$1,080 – US\$10,800)
  - Ability to own rather than lease
  - Over 100 LOCKSS servers and 50 publishers participating

# CLOCKSS – Controlled Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe

- Small network that aims to provide a safety net for a broad community
  - Uses CLOCKSS system
  - Additional functionality
  - Intention is to build continuing access to an archive of electronic content
  - Limited number of libraries maintain a CLOCKSS box
  - Access granted after a “trigger event”
  - Overseen by joint board of publishers and libraries

- Permanent archive of scholarly electronic journals
  - Began in 2002, launched in 2005
  - For publishers offers a permanent archive of their content with responsibility for migration of data types
  - Income from publishers, institutions as well as charitable and government organisations
  - Meets libraries demand for a trusted third-party archive and requirement for perpetual access
  - 19 publisher participants
  - Content available after “trigger event”

# E-Depot at Koninklijke Bibliotheek (KB)

- Acknowledges growing number of electronic journals and that these must be preserved for long-term access
  - Operational in 2003.
  - Will contain 5M articles from 3,500 titles using over 5 terabytes of data
  - Annual increase of 400K articles per annum
  - Began with Dutch publishers then extended to others (9 so far)
  - Publishers deposit free of charge but KB protects publishers interests
  - KB able to provide on-site use and Doc Del
  - National source of data following “trigger event”

# DISCUSSION