DIGITAL ARCHIVING

Balancing the Concerns of Libraries and the International Publisher

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What is an “international publisher”? 

- partially defined by author base
  - e.g., in the physical sciences, leading U.S. society publishers (ACS, AIP) have a large number of papers from non-U.S. authors

- partially defined by customer base
  - “international” means non-trivial distribution outside of home country

- publication location is a big factor
  - particularly regarding deposit laws
Elsevier as an international publisher

- Science & Technology vs Health Sciences
  - S & T authors and distribution about 1/3 - 1/3 - 1/3 U.S. - Europe - ROW
  - Health Sciences: blend of international & national (MD specialists, GP, nurses, EMS)
  - also varies by product type: journals, reference books, textbooks, e-products

- headquarters in Amsterdam
  - also large publishing operations in UK & US
  - publishing houses in France, Germany, Spain, Brazil, Japan, etc.
Digital archiving: ScienceDirect first

- >1,500 journals, 280,000 new articles annually

- > 7 million articles with backfile retrodigitization to vol. 1, no. 1

- commitment to ScienceDirect licensees starting in 1999
  - will maintain the archive and, if can no longer do so, transfer to library-approved facility
Archive assumptions (Yale-Mellon)

- digital archive > 100 years
- archiving content, not format or functionality
- archive responsible for tech. migration
- archive not competing with the publisher
- archive should not be totally “dark” -- i.e., need some use
- archive is not a mirror of the publisher’s site
- archive does not create content not in e-edition (≠ paper)
- highly desirable for publisher to provide any needed archival metadata
- standards are key
- archive is not a “hot backup”
How have libraries responded?

- 1999 ScienceDirect license guarantee: good, but not sufficient
  - need for archive in “neutral” hands

- concerns on several levels
  - continuing access at a particular institution (ownership vs license issues)
  - continuing access on a national level
  - concern for the long-term interests of scholarship
Dilemma of an international publisher

- if either at publisher expense or at least with no income to the publisher, need to have regional or international solutions

- cannot expect a publisher to underwrite free archiving in every country

- that message is difficult to deliver, but usually understood by libraries
  - some confusion with “hot back-up”
  - Swedish, Australian and Japanese examples
Elsevier’s archival overview

- internal “archive” -- our Electronic Warehouse, which is a production store (not ScienceDirect)
  - repository from which finished products can be created
  - does not include a distribution infrastructure

- ScienceDirect OnSite (SDOS) customers
  - perhaps a dozen SDOS libraries hold complete files locally (e.g., OhioLINK, LANL, University of Toronto, CSIRO)
  - no obligation to archive or serve “outsiders”
More formal archives

• National archives
  – variation on the SDOS model
  – individual agreements with nationally-accepted institution
  – reduced license fee if there is reduced access

• Official archives
  – formal agreement with institution accepting responsibility for permanent retention and technical assurance of access
  – serves a regional or international audience
Koninklijke Bibliotheek

• an recognized international leader in digital archiving investigations
  – fortunately, also our home national library

• first official archive
  – agreement signed in August, 2002

• will receive one copy of everything on ScienceDirect, including all backfiles
  – not a deposit requirement
Use of an official archive

• ensure continuing availability of and access to the electronic files
  – permit onsite access now
  – facilitate international remote access if we exit the business and files not commercially available from anyone else

• part of a disaster-recovery operation
  – in the event of a disaster that would result in ScienceDirect being down for a prolonged period, all libraries holding the journals (archives or SDOS) would be invited to open access to all (with no access controls)
Official archive contract terms

- contract is different from a normal license for SD
  - perpetual nature of an archive
  - service level agreement
  - trigger events -- public access
  - financial terms
  - format for submission
  - comprehensiveness of archive (e.g., handling of “withdrawn” material)

- as standards for archival repositories develop, KB must meet these
Need for additional official archives

• we understand importance of redundancy

• looking for comparable arrangement to KB in North America and Asia

• need partner that has demonstrated their technical capability and commitment and has the trust of libraries in their region