The Changing Nature of Library Networks

- Open Data or One Big Silo?

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A **library** is a collection of sources, resources, and services, and the structure in which it is housed; it is organized for use and maintained by a public body, an institution, or a private individual.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Library
Without data, libraries are nothing!
1968: Henriette Avram invents MARC
MARC made possible several initiatives for cooperation around library data
1982: A report from IFLA states that copyright cannot be used to control a global flow of bibliographic records
FIGURE 1: USE OF MULTILATERAL SOLUTIONS

Bilateral Solutions

Multilateral Solutions

Libraries

2011-09-12 / Anders Söderbäck, Stockholm university library
Cost of acquisitions at Swedish research libraries, 2002 - 2009

Digital content vs Print content
SFX usage in the Samsök consortia, 2006-2009

2011-10-26 / Anders Söderbäck, Stockholm university library
Do you remember web 2.0?

Flickr, del.icio.us: Tagging, not taxonomy
PageRank, eBay reputation, Amazon reviews: user as contributor
Google AdSense: customer self-service enabling the long tail
Wikipedia: Radical Trust

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Strategic Positioning:
- The Web as Platform
User Positioning:
- You control your own data
Core Competencies:
- Services, not packaged software
- Architecture of Participation
- Cost-effective scalability
- RemiXable data source and data transformations
- Software above the level of a single device
  - Harnessing collective intelligence

"An attitude, not a technology"
The Long Tail
Data as the "Intel Inside"
The perpetual beta
Software that gets better the more people use it
Play
Rich User Experience

Hackability
The Right to RemiX: "Some rights reserved" Emergent: User behavior not predetermined
Granular Addressability of content

Trust your users
Small Pieces Loosely Joined (web as components)
Web 2.0 is about controlling data

[Web 2.0] is really about data and who owns and controls, or gives the best access to, a class of data. ... A lot of people still think, "Oh, it's about social networking. It's about blogging. It's about wikis." I think it's about the data that's created by those mechanisms, and the businesses that that data will make possible.

Web 2.0 is about controlling data

The Internet business ecosystem can thus be seen as a competition to establish monopolies over various classes of data. ... [Y]ou have to make sure that public data remains public!

Current trend 1: Things are really, really messy
“...if each of the interoperating partners adopts the same set of agreements for interoperability solutions, each of them can reap the benefits of a single solution that is developed once and fits the need of all.”

Current Trend 2: Convergence between system and content

- SaaS, DaaS, PaaS, IaaS, web-scale, etc.
- Subscription based services in “the cloud”
- Publishers market services that look like systems (eg. Elsevier SciVerse)
- System vendors market services that look a lot like what the publishers used to sell us (eg. Summon, Primo Central)
- Systems depend on aggregations of data
- License issues are more difficult than technical issues
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excludable</th>
<th>Non-excludable</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rivalrous</strong></td>
<td><strong>Non-rivalrous</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Private goods</td>
<td>Common goods (Common-pool resources)</td>
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<tr>
<td>food, clothing, toys, furniture, cars</td>
<td>fish, hunting game, water, arterial roads</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club goods</td>
<td>Public goods</td>
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<tr>
<td>satellite television, golf courses, cinemas</td>
<td>national defense, free-to-air television, air</td>
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OCLC

“The fact that OCLC has a public purpose does not mean that WorldCat is a ‘public good’ in the economic sense.”

http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/recorduse/policy/default.htm

- OCLC is currently considering licensing of WorldCat using ODC - BY
“Establishing open access as a worthwhile procedure ideally requires the active commitment of each and every individual producer of scientific knowledge and holder of cultural heritage. Open access contributions include original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, source materials, digital representations of pictorial and graphical materials and scholarly multimedia material.”

From the Berlin declaration on Open Access (2003)
Europeana


OKFN Working Group on Open Bibliographic Data

• http://openbiblio.net/principles/
• http://wiki.okfn.org/wg/bibliography
Knowledge for All

"Knowledge for All is an open access citation database of all published scholarly journal literature that will provide the public with access to scholarly research and will provide libraries with a customizable open source search tool."

http://www.k4all.ca
WHAT IF WE COULD SEE INTO THE FUTURE?

EVEN JUST FIVE YEARS INTO THE FUTURE... WHAT WOULD WE SEE?
“[L]ibrarians should protect themselves by having some checks and balances in their supply chain...”

“[W]hen we’re dealing with extremely complex processes and workflows it is incredibly difficult, even improbable, that those software modules from disparate vendors can match the full range and rich functionality as when all the modules are provided by the same vendor.”

Open Data Scenario

- Library metadata are openly available
- Libraries are part of a dynamic and flexible ecology of public institutions, private companies, individuals and parties
- Knowledge is accessible
- Purchases and procurements are done on an open market
- Bibliographic control is collaborative, decentralized, international in scope, and Web-based
One Big Silo Scenario

- Library metadata are locked in by restrictive licenses
- One or a few organizations have, through licensing and mergers, control over access to information resources
- Libraries (and the public) have very weak bargaining position
- When the monopolies no longer need libraries, we are locked out of the information ecology