

The World is Flat, Yet Not Open: How Could Open Access Really Flatten the Information World

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Outline

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- The World is Flat
- Libraries in the Flat World
- Libraries as Virtual Destinations
- Inside Out Library
- Open Access
- How Could Open Access Really Flatten the Information World?
- Conclusion

"The World Is Flat", by Tom Friedman



AUDIO RENAISSANCE

#1 New York Times Bestselling Book



The World Is Flat

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Thomas L. Friedman

- Impact of networks
- Death of distance
- Global competition

Globalization

- G 1.0: 1492-1800

 Countries globalizing

 G 2.0: 1800-2000

 Companies globalizing
- G 3.0: 2000—
 - -Individuals globalizing

- 4



10 World Flatteners



 MS Windows (1989)
 "a universal graphical user interface . . . to look at the world through"

2. Netscape (1995)

a web browser making the world flatter no matter where the page is located

3. Workflow

Software and standards: "Have your application talk to my application"

10 World Flatteners (cont'd)



New Forms of Collaboration

4. Open Sourcing

"an important flattener because it makes available for free many tools, from software to encyclopedias, that millions of people around the world would have had to buy in order to use..." (pp. 102-103)

- 5. Outsorcing
- 6. Offshoring
- 7. Supply-chaining
- 8. Insourcing
- 9. In-forming

Google, Yahoo!, MSN Web search

"... people underestimated the importance of finding information, as opposed to other things you would do online." (p. 155)

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10. The steroids

digital, mobile, personal, and virtual. This flattener is simply the glue that makes other work together.

The Triple Convergence



• Convergence 1:

 - "the complementary convergence of the ten flatteners, creating . . . new global playing field for multiple forms of collaboration."

• Convergence 2:

 The impact of those flatteners can be felt more strongly as companies change their routines to align themselves with the users' environment.

• Convergence 3:

 - "... 3 billion people ... suddenly found themselves liberated to plug and play with everybody else."



"...what the flattening of the world means is that we are now connecting all the knowledge centers on the planet together into a single global network, which -- if politics and terrorism do not get in the way- could usher in an amazing era of prosperity and innovation." (p.8)



- Yes, we are connecting all the knowledge centers on the planet together, perhaps,
- But the full contents of knowledge centers have yet to be open access.

OCLC Open WorldCat



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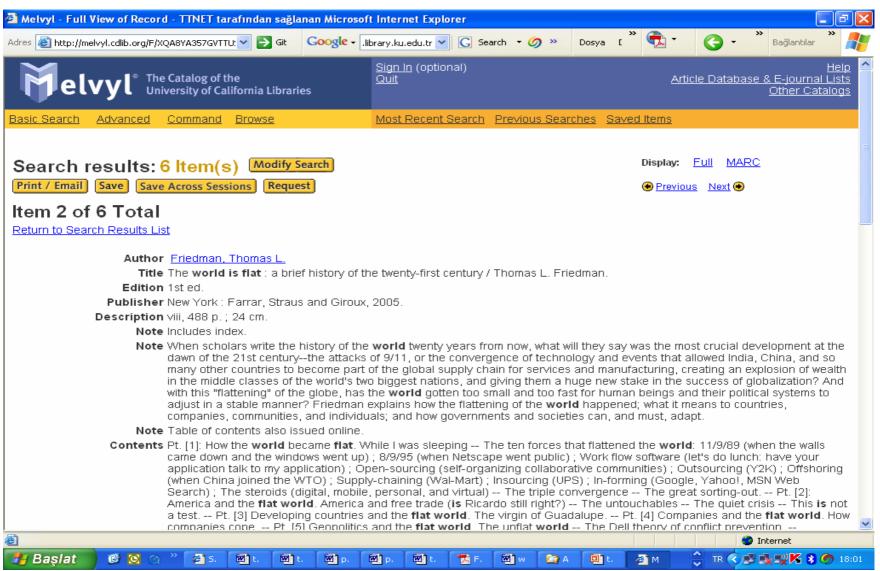


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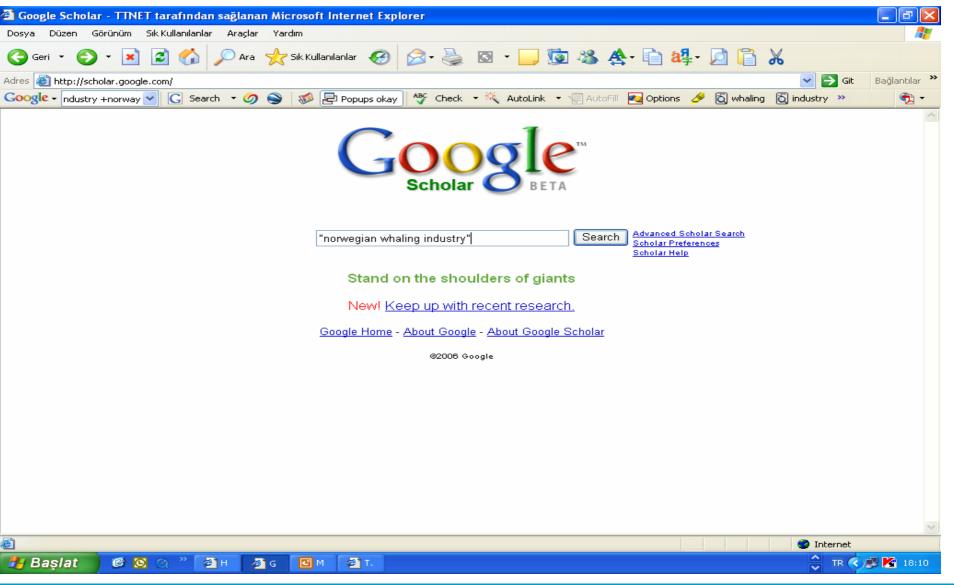
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Blubber fatty acids of minke whales: stratification, population identification and relation to diet

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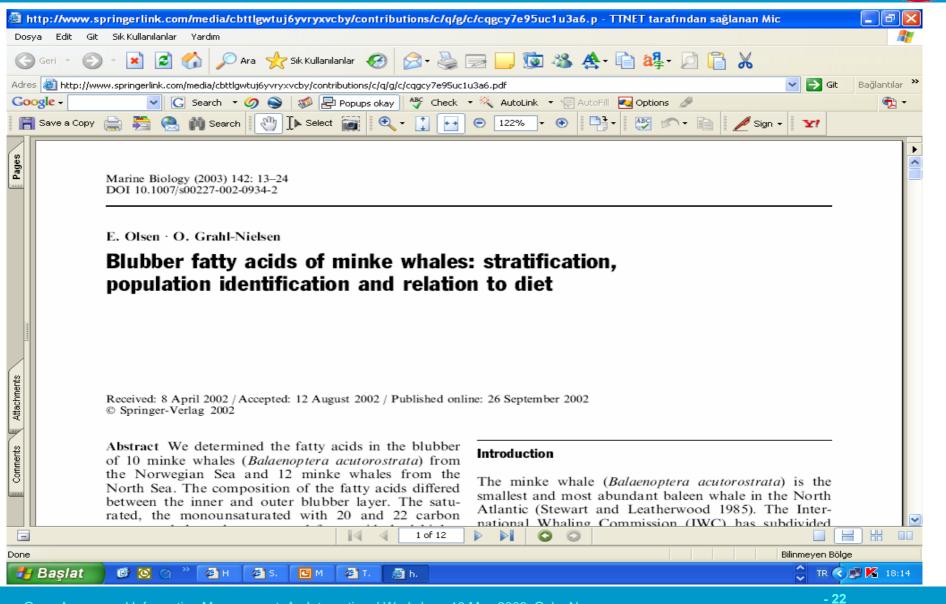
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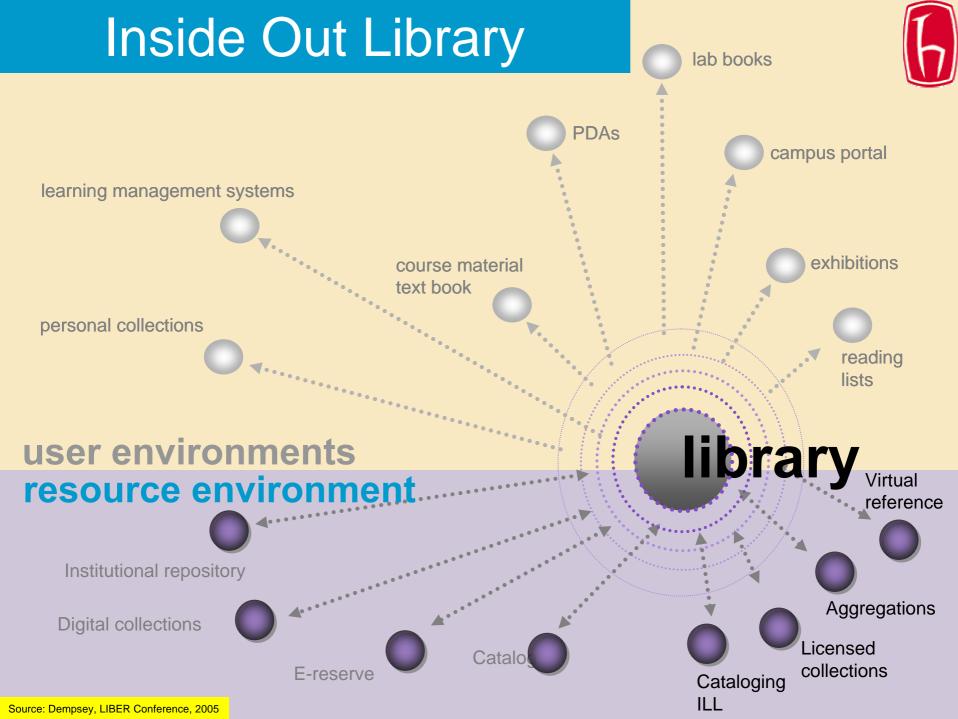
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Library Catalogs

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- Library catalogs represent only a fraction of the information universe
- They list bibliographic descriptions of (mainly) books of their own only
- Journal articles are not represented in the catalogs at all!
- They should function similar to "Amazoogle" (L. Dempsey)



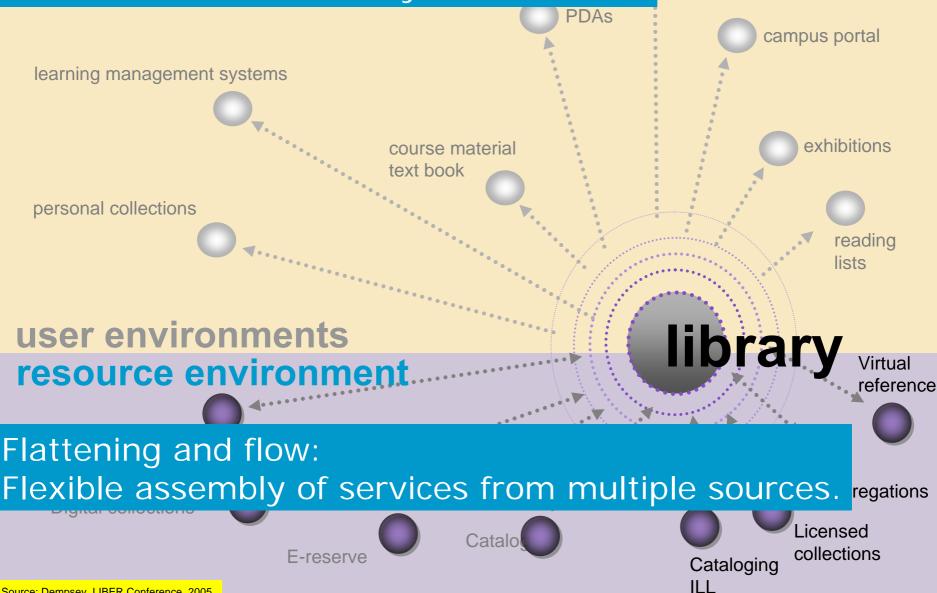
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Flow and flattening: the library in the user environment, Not the user in the library environment.

lab books





Libraries as Virtual Destinations I



- Library as a "place" metaphor
- Hard to identify where exactly the library is on campus nowadays because it is not just the building but the contents (Kohl, 2006).
- Contents are now increasingly outside the library building.
- So are services such as reference, electronic document delivery, and user instruction.

Libraries as Virtual Destinations II



- Amazoogle approach provides centralization
- More than 100 libraries opened their metadata and/or collections to Google Scholar
- Thus, more users can get access to their contents
- If online copy is unavailable, libraries should link to Amazon.com, link to journal articles or reviews that can easily be retrieved from library's licensed databases, etc.



- Number of users physically visiting libraries decreasing
- Yet the use of online resources increasing
- Most users tend to bypass libraries and go for "one stop shopping"
- Users still stop by because there are still some sources that are not on the web that can be obtained only through libraries
- But this will soon change . . .



Enter Open Access

Open Access Definition



- 1. "... free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly ...
- 2. A complete version of the work . . . is deposited . . . in at least one online repository . . . maintained by an academic institution. . . that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, inter operability, and long-term archiving."

Source: Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities

Use of Public Money in Research



- Public money used at three stages:
 - To fund the research project
 - to pay the salaries of academics who carry out peer review for no extra payment
 - to fund libraries to purchase scientific publications
- "what other business receives the goods that it sells to its customers from those same customers, a quality control mechanism provided by its customers, and a tremendous fee from those same customers?"

Source: House of Commons Select Committee on Science & Technology Tenth Report, 2004. Chapter 4

Open Access Mandates



- US Federal Research Public Access Act, 2006
- EC Report on STM Publishing and OA in Europe
- Open Access Policy of RCUK
- US House of Representatives suggestion Summer 2004
- UK House of Commons Select S&T Committee 10th Report - Summer 2004
- Wellcome Trust Mandatory Open Access 1 October 2005
- Similar initiatives in India, Norway, the Netherlands, Germany, Canada, and Scotland
- Mandatory Open Access in universities (e.g., Soton, Queensland, Minho)
- Institutional Repositories (Univ. of California eScholarship Repository, and Univ. of Southampton e-Prints Service)

Open Access and Research Impact



• The UK is losing around £1.5 billion (or \$2.7 billion) annually in the potential impact of its scientific research expenditure because of the limitations of the current academic publishing environment. (Stevan Harnad)

1.5 billion lost annually in potential return on British science



The UK is losing around £1.5 billion annually in the potential impact of its scientific research expenditure, according to one of the key figures in the global open

access publishing movement. Professor Stevan Harnad, Moderator of the American Scientist Open Access Forum and Professor of Cognitive Science at the University of Southampton's School of Electronics and Computer Science, has calculated the potential return on the investment in scientific research findings that are being lost to the UK each year through the limitations of the current academic publishing environment.

Open Access and Journal Literature



- Mostly journal articles are Open Access
- Publishers allow journal articles to be selfarchived
- Yet theses and dissertations, technical reports, and digitized local resources are also becoming Open Access.
- Currently books are mostly not Open Access in view of copyright restrictions
- Although book digitization projects aim to provide Open Access to books that are out of copyright.

Digitization Projects



- Google Book Search, 15M books in 10 years,
- Million Books Project, CMU, 600K books already scanned as of Nov. 2005
- Amazon.com, 200K books
- Project Gutenberg, M. Hart, 18K books
- The Internet Archive, Brewster Kahle
- Gallica, BNF, 70K books
- the Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- Publishers (HighWire Press, MIT Press, etc.)

Open Access and "Amazing Era of Prosperity and Innovation"



- More resources will be Open Access.
- Availability of millions of Open Access materials freely may result in what Friedman calls an "amazing era of prosperity and innovation."
- Libraries should hurry up!
- Failure to move resources and services to the network and failure to provide access to OA materials means losing existing users forever!
- Users are likely to supplant the library with something else that is available on the web



FINAL REPOR March 17, 2006	
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	Prepared for the Library of Congress
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"Today's research library . . . reflect only a small portion of the expanding universe of scholarly information.

"The library is not the first or only stop for many information seekers. Search engines are the favorite place to begin a search"

"... it may be safe to say that catalog records will have a role to play in discovery and retrieval of the world's library collections for at least a couple of decades and probably longer."

Source: K. Calhoun, The Changing Nature of the Catalog and its Integration with Other Discovery Tools. 2006, p. 26

Graceful Exit or Becoming a Truly Virtual Destination

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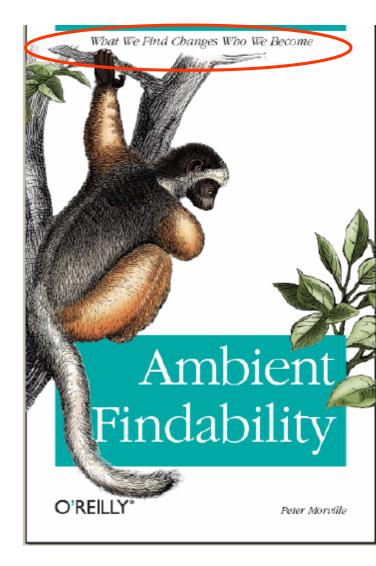
- Increase in born-digital resources
- Increase in digitized resources
- Open Access mandates
- Permission to self-archive (93%)
- Few users consulting information sources that are older than five years of age

Improve the User Experience



- Enrich the catalog with services and data
- Federate discovery and delivery of books, journals, and journal articles
- Link the user to full text whenever possible
- For items that cannot be delivered instantly, offer a range of unmediated, quick delivery options
- Push library metadata and links out to course Web pages and portals
- Take advantage of e-commerce functions to serve non-members of the library community

- Conclusion
- Libraries should strive to be truly virtual destinations in the web information space
- They should aim to provide online access to all types of information sources including Open Access materials
- Otherwise, they are in danger of being bypassed / ignored in the "flat world"
- "What we find changes who we become"





"What we find changes who we become"



Cartoon by Doug Sheppard and Katrin L. Salyers



The World is Flat, Yet Not Open: How Could Open Access Really Flatten the Information World

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