4: Overlay Journals

• What do we mean by “Overlay Journal”?
  – Certification or quality indicator which applies to items in one or more repositories (separate from repository?)
  – Broad scope - journals, conference proceedings, edited collections…

• Few existing examples:
  – G&T, G&TM, ATMP, JNMP (on arXiv, see Front)
  – Medical Education Online (on CogPrints)

• Why?
  – Move on from unsustainable duplication of self-archiving and journal publication (physics)
  – Permit variety of certification models
  – Cleanly split certification from functions of repository
## Spectrum of options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification type</th>
<th>Editorial selection</th>
<th>Tradition peer review</th>
<th>More involved or interactive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiated by</td>
<td>Author push</td>
<td>Journal pull</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of content</td>
<td>One disciplinary or institutional repository</td>
<td>Spread over many institutional repositories</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Issues

• Can’t readily build cross-repository overlays until there is widespread, stable and accepted institutional repository infrastructure
• Cross-repository overlays will require special metadata support
• Ideally certification data should be stored/served by the certification authority
• How to link from repository item to certification authority/remote index? How does a user verify the certification? (links? DOIs?)
What can we do now?

• There is a pressing need to fill institution repositories. Easy-to-do overlays are a possible transitional strategy to demonstrate benefits:
  – Conference proceedings
  – Technical report series (CERN example!)

• Secondary certifications
  – Best of xyz, edited collections (Koningskinderen)

• Good option for very small journals which benefit from repository infrastructure/stability/visibility