

# The route of a homeless Digital Object from 'Closeland' to 'Openland'

Once upon a time, as a result of a research project, a digital object was born in a toll access world, it grew up and it could not place where it could be free - visible, accessible and free of barriers. That is how it started its journey from 'closeland' to 'openland'.

During the journey it discovered a whole landscape of new concepts and forms which helped it be open to the scientific world. This is the summary of the story of a homeless digital object, which became an open access resource, improving its chances of availability and preservation. The aim of this presentation is to illustrate some concepts within the process of archiving digital objects in repositories to make them clear, following the story of digital object from its birth to its deposit in a repository, and beyond, to its discovery and use by more scientists, freely building relationships between the object and other objects to create new knowledge, but respecting the rights of the object's original owner - the author.

The story is told by different cartoon scenes in which the characters and the scenarios are related to the open access movement, open archives, repositories and archiving. As in any other classical tale the story begins by "once upon a time".

Definitions of ideas like open archives, OAI-PMH, self-archiving, curation, preservation, workflow, sets, bitstream among others will be represented throughout cartoon pictures in the panels.

This is the story of my journey from 'closeland' to 'openland'. During the journey I discovered a whole landscape of new concepts and forms which helped me be open to the scientific world, and how I became an open access resource, improving my chances of availability and preservation.

My name is Object..... Digital Object (DO)!

When I was born.....

Once upon a time, a digital object was born in a toll access world, it grew up and it could not find a place where it could be free - visible, accessible and free .....

DO, tired and sad by the toll access barriers, decided to change his route.....

Budapest, Bethesda and Berlin Declarations buildings!!!!

New landscapes, the BBB declarations buildings defined new open views: Budapest Open Access Initiative, Bethesda and Berlin Declarations.

DO discovered a new family of non restrictive licences, the creative commons: attribution, non commercial, share alike, no-derivatives. And more.....

An institutional repository is primarily a vehicle for open access. A successful IR is not just software, disk space, and content; it's a living organism of institutional activity, inseparable from the day-to-day research practices of the institution (Peter Suber, personal communication).

An **item** is a constituent of a repository from which metadata about a resource can be disseminated. An item is conceptually a container that stores or dynamically generates metadata about a single resource in multiple formats, each of which can be harvested as **records** via the OAI-PMH.

Each item has an **identifier** that is unique within the scope of the repository of which it is a constituent.

Metadata fitted into any format!!!

I was hosted in a repository, got high quality metadata and a URI

This allowed me visibility, data exchange and a unique identifier to be located with

I also met new objects in the OA repository with completely new formats, size and content

I heard about a new vehicle for repository interoperability: the **OAI-PMH**, The Open Archives Initiative-Protocol for Metadata Harvesting

From Data to Service Providers

1. GetRecord
2. Identify
3. ListIdentifiers
4. ListMetadataFormats
5. ListRecords
6. ListSets

The Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) is a low-barrier mechanism for repository interoperability. Data Providers are repositories that expose structured metadata via OAI-PMH. Service Providers then make OAI-PMH service requests to harvest that metadata.

OAI-PMH supports items with multiple manifestations (formats) of metadata. At a minimum, repositories must be able to return records with metadata expressed in the Dublin Core format, without any qualification.

Requests: Identify, ListMetadataFormats, ListSets, ListIdentifiers, ListRecords, GetRecord

Responses: General information, Metadata formats, Set structure, Record identifier, Metadata

Optionally, a repository may also disseminate other formats of metadata. The ListMetadataFormats request returns the list of all metadata formats available from a repository, or for a specific item.

A whole fashion of services around OAI-repositories!!! and this is only a sample!!!!

The greater access, the more visibility and higher impact among scientific community

OA increases visibility, availability and impact of scientific outputs  
Preservation of open access resources guarantees their shelf life and stability

Welcome to the Curation Centre!!

what will happen when I get old?

Digital curation is maintaining and adding value to a trusted body of digital information for current and future use; specifically, we mean the active management and appraisal of data over the life-cycle of scholarly and scientific materials (Digital Curation Centre).

That's all folks!  
My advice:

- [ Follow the green route ]
- [ Practice self-archiving ]
- [ Talk about OA and its advantages for any party ]
- [ Advocate OA ]

Thanks Open Archive Initiative for most of explanations given in my story

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