KBART: improving the supply of data to link resolvers and knowledge bases

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Credit for (most) slides: Charlie Rapple (KBART UKSG co-chair)

Outline
• Retrieval using a link resolver and its knowledge base
• What is a knowledge base, and why it matters
• Some examples of problems that occur

How does a link resolver allow retrieval?
• Takes an OpenURL and extracts the article metadata
  – http://baseurl.institution.edu/content?genre=article&issn=1234-5678&volume=53&issue=3&page=14
• Compares article metadata to knowledge base
  – where is the article available?
  – which version is preferred by the library?
• Puts together a direct link to this version
  http://baseurl.institution.edu/content?genre=article&issn=1234-5678&volume=53&issue=3&page=14

Your Citation
Article: Accessing distributed cultural heritage information
Author: Uzsu, William E
Journal or Book title: Communications of the ACM
ISSN: 0001-0782 Date: 04/1998
Volume: 41 Issue: 4 Page: 44

Online full-text access should be available through the following links:

http://tinyurl.com/59txop
Hang on. What is a knowledge base?

- A database
- Contains information about web resources
  - e.g. what journal holdings are available in JSTOR
  - and how would you link to articles in them
- Contains information about the resources a library has licensed/owns
  - May contain electronic and print holdings (in addition to a number of other services)

So why is it so important?

- It ‘knows’ where all the content is
- It ‘knows’ which versions the library is able to access
- So – it’s the only comprehensive source of links to a library’s full complement of electronic full text content
- i.e. It solves the “appropriate copy” problem

Example of the chain (from the consortium perspective)

Where the chain breaks

- Wrong data
  - Publisher gives wrong metadata for title to the KB
  - Link resolver uses bad metadata to make link
  - Link does not resolve to correct target
  - Dead end 😞
Where the chain breaks

- Outdated data
  - Publisher said it has a particular issue
  - Link resolver links to an article from it
  - Issue has been removed
  - Dead end
  - Or, provider doesn’t notify that issue is now live
  - So no traffic from link resolvers to that issue!

Right. So. What is KBART?

- Knowledge Bases And Related Tools
  - UKSG and NISO collaborative project
  - To improve navigation of the e-resource supply chain by
  - Ensuring timely transfer of accurate data to knowledge bases, ERMs etc.

Why was KBart established?

- UKSG 2007 research report, “Link Resolvers and the Serials Supply Chain”
  - lack of awareness of OpenURL’s capabilities
  - impacting the quality and timeliness of data provided to knowledge bases
  - undermining the potential of this sophisticated technology
- NISO partnership to help reach US audience

Who’s in KBart?

- Core working group chaired by Charlie Rapple (Publishing Technology – Ingenta) and Serials Solutions’ Peter McCracken
  - Link resolver/ERM suppliers – Ex Libris, Openly/OCLC, SerialsSols
  - Publishers – Taylor & Francis, Sage
  - Subscription agents/aggregators – Swets, EBSCO, Ingenta, Credo
  - Libraries – Edinburgh, Leicester, Cornell, Hanford Technical
  - Consortia – SCELC, CDL
- Monitoring group
  - More of these plus other related groups e.g. NASIG

What is KBart’s mission?

Guidelines
Education
Information hub

How are you going to do it?

- Terminology
- Problems
- Solutions (to come)
- Advocacy (to follow!)
**Terminology**

- Open Access
- embargo
- OPAC
- link resolver
- appropriate copy
- federated search
- knowledge base
- DOI
- SFX
- gateway
- OpenURL
- metadata
- link-to syntax
- content provider
- localisation
- aggregator
- ERM

**Problems**

- Knowledge bases
- Date coverage
- Title relations
- Licensing
- Data & transfer
- Supply chain
- Compliance

**When are you going to finish?**

- This time next year
- May go on to create a standard
- Phase II?
  - e.g. exploring options for a centralized knowledge base
  - Include wider range of resources (e.g. non-text content)?

**Questions?**

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