

## KBART:

improving the supply of data to link resolvers and knowledge bases



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 NISO/BISG Forum @ ALA Annual Anaheim  
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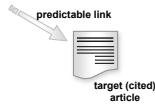
Credit for (most) slides: Charlie Rapple (KBART UKSG co-chair)

## 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
- KBART – what? why? who? how? when?

## How does a link resolver allow retrieval?

- Takes an OpenURL and extracts the article metadata
  - <http://baseurl.institution.edu/content?genre=article&issn=1234-5679&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://tinyurl.com/59txop>

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### Your Citation

Edit citation

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

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1. Accessing distributed cultural heritage information: a consortium's use of the international Z39.50 standard moves access to museum-based digital collections to a new platform (interoperability). William E. Moen. *Communications of the ACM* 41:4 (April 1998): p44:3. (1459 words)

**Title:** Accessing distributed cultural heritage information: a consortium's use of the international Z39.50 standard moves access to museum-based digital collections to a new plateau.(interoperability).

**Author(s):** William E. Moon

**Source:** Communications of the ACM 41:4 (April 1998): 444-51; (1458 words)

**Document Type:** Magazine/Journal

**Bookmark:** Bookmark this Document

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THE CONSORTIUM FOR THE COMPUTER INTERCHANGE OF MUSEUM INFORMATION (CMI) is leading an international effort to provide distributed search and retrieval of cultural heritage information [1]. A primary aspect of CMI's work utilizes Z39.50: Z39.50-1996, an American National Standard protocol for information retrieval [2]. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) recently approved Z39.50 as ISO 23950. CMI chose Z39.50 to enable uniform access to existing and emerging digital collections and the vast repositories of cultural heritage information resources. These resources include a variety of physical and digital objects—physical artifacts and digital derivatives of those artifacts, descriptive records designed for collection management, bibliographic records, full-text documents, online tools such as thesauri and authoritative lists of artists' names, and more. CMI's application of Z39.50 in the networked cultural heritage information environment is breaking new ground in distributed and integrated access to textual and non-textual digital collections.

CMI membership reflects a diversity of museums, museum organizations, projects, and research centers. CMI members share a commitment to working cooperatively to solve problems that restrict the electronic interchange of museum information and more broadly, cultural heritage information. CMI's work demonstrates how existing and emerging standards, such as Z39.50 and the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set, address major interoperability barriers between heterogeneous information systems for users attempting distributed search and retrieval in the networked environment.

In the past few years (1995-1997), CMI explored and applied Z39.50 as part of a demonstration project funded by the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities. The ultimate goal of this experience was to demonstrate the utility of Z39.50 in applications for search and retrieval of cultural heritage information. To accomplish this, the CMI Z39.50 Working Group, comprising experts in museum information systems and Z39.50, software developers, and commercial vendors, developed specifications for using Z39.50 in this application and documented these specifications in a profile called Z39.50 Application Profile for Cultural Heritage Information [1]. An application profile is an ancillary standards mechanism. Profiles specify the use of one or more standards to achieve a set of functions.



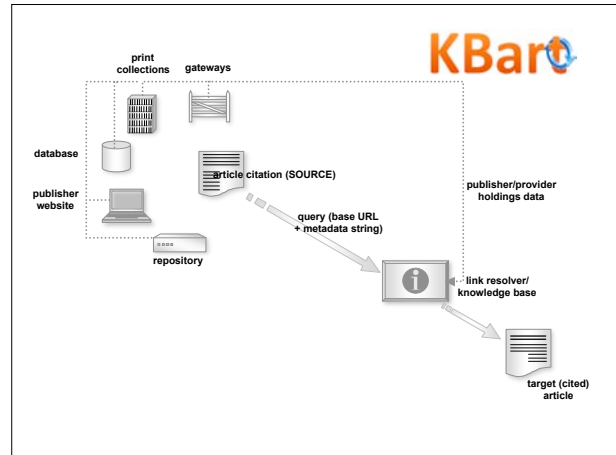
## Hang on. What is a knowledge base?

- 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?

- **K**nowledge **B**ases **A**nd **R**elated **T**ools
- 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!)

