

Management and preservation of digital library resources

Cen Mengping

College of Science & Technology Ningbo University, Ningbo, China

Abstract: *The management and preservation of digitised library resources is an important issue in the development of libraries in the digital age. This thesis aims to discuss the challenges faced by the management and preservation of digital library resources and propose some strategies to deal with them. Firstly, the concept of digital library resources and its value are introduced. Then, it analyses the challenges in managing digital library resources, including copyright protection, technology and equipment support, and long-term preservation and sustainability. Finally, several strategies are proposed, including strengthening copyright management and co-operation, leveraging new technologies and equipment to enhance resource management efficiency, and establishing a sustainable preservation mechanism for digital resources. Through research and practice, it is believed that digital library resources can be better managed and preserved for the sustainable development of digital libraries.*

Keywords: *Digitisation, Library resources, Management, Preservation*

1. Introduction

The management and preservation of digital library resources is becoming increasingly important in the library community in today's information age. Traditional libraries have made remarkable achievements in the collection and management of paper documents, but with the rapid development of digital technology, the functions and tasks of libraries have undergone profound changes^[1]. Digital library resources include e-books, digitised archives, academic journals, research data, etc. The digitisation of these resources allows users to access and retrieve them easily, providing unprecedented convenience for knowledge dissemination and research. However, the management and preservation of digital library resources face a series of complex challenges, such as copyright protection, technological evolution, and long-term preservation, which need to be seriously faced and solved by libraries and related organisations.

The management of digital library resources is not only related to the development of libraries themselves, but also to the dissemination of knowledge and the preservation of cultural heritage. Traditional libraries have accumulated rich experience in the management of paper-based documents, but the special characteristics of digital resources require libraries to continuously adapt and develop in order to better serve the society. Studying the management and preservation of digital library resources can provide library practitioners with practical guidance to help them better meet the challenges and promote the sustainable development of digital libraries.

The research in this thesis helps to provide practitioners, researchers and policy makers with insights into the management and preservation of digital library resources, providing them with better guidance to advance the development of digital libraries. In addition, this research also has important implications for knowledge dissemination and cultural heritage preservation, as the management and preservation of digitised resources is not only relevant to contemporary scholarship, but also affects the scholarly and cultural heritage of future generations^[2]. Therefore, studying the management and preservation of digitised library resources is an undertaking of broad societal value.

2. The concept and value of digital library resources

2.1 The concept of digital library resources

Digital library resources refer to a variety of resources that convert traditional paper documents into

electronic form through digital technology so that they can be stored, managed and disseminated digitally. These resources include, but are not limited to, e-books, digitised archives, academic journals, research data and so on. Digital library resources can make full use of the advantages of modern information technology to provide more convenient, efficient and reliable access and retrieval methods, and provide users with comprehensive and diversified knowledge services. Through digital technology, digital library resources can be stored, reproduced and disseminated at a lower cost, effectively improving the resource utilisation rate and meeting user needs.

2.2 Value of digital library resources

2.2.1 Knowledge dissemination and academic research

Digital library resources provide scholars, researchers and students with unlimited knowledge resources, removing the geographical and time constraints of traditional libraries. In the digital age, documents and materials have become more accessible, thus contributing to the rapid growth of academic research. Scholars and researchers can easily access previously inaccessible literature through digital resources, no matter where in the world they are located. This global sharing of information accelerates interdisciplinary research and international co-operation, and helps to solve global problems^[3]. In addition, digitised library resources often provide easy search and retrieval functions, enabling users to quickly locate the information they need, saving valuable time. For students, digital resources also provide more learning opportunities. They can easily access textbooks, research papers and online courses to strengthen their knowledge base. In conclusion, digital library resources play a key role in the dissemination of knowledge and academic research, advancing education and academia and making knowledge more universal, accessible and global.

2.2.2 Preservation and inheritance of cultural heritage

Digital technologies play an indispensable role in the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage. Many valuable documents, archival materials, artefacts and historical relics are at risk of degradation and deterioration, making digitisation technologies a powerful tool. Through high-resolution scanning and digitisation, this cultural heritage can be preserved permanently in digital form, avoiding further damage and loss. Digitisation also helps to preserve the accessibility of cultural heritage, as digitised resources can be presented online via the web, regardless of geographical location. This means that people can easily explore cultural treasures from around the world without having to physically visit an object museum or archive^[4]. In addition, digitisation provides easy access to cultural heritage research and education. Scholars, researchers and educators can use digital resources for in-depth research and teaching, thus promoting the transmission of cultural heritage. In addition, digitisation helps promote cultural diversity so that more people can understand and respect the contributions of different cultures. In conclusion, digitisation plays a key role in the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage, not only helping to preserve precious cultural heritage, but also promoting the transmission and popularisation of culture. This tool contributes to the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of humankind and ensures that it is transmitted to future generations.

2.2.3 Social services and information equality

The popularity of digitised library resources has indeed provided the public with more access to knowledge and information and promoted the equal sharing of information resources. Compared with traditional libraries, digital resources are diverse and abundant, covering a wide range of subject areas and topics, and meeting the needs of different users. Users can access these resources free of charge or at low cost, and are no longer restricted by the limited physical collections and opening hours in traditional libraries. Digitised resources also provide a wider learning and research space, allowing users to access the materials they need whenever and wherever they need them, whether at school, at home or on the go. In addition, digital resources exist in a variety of forms, including e-books, online databases, digital archives, etc., to meet the diverse learning and research needs of users. Users can choose resources that suit their subject areas and learning styles, enhancing academic achievement and information access. Overall, digital library resources provide the public with more equal and convenient access to knowledge and information, helping to promote education, research and personal development. This trend facilitates the wide dissemination of information and the sharing of knowledge, thus making an important contribution to social progress and innovation^[5].

2.2.4 Economic benefits and resource management

Digital processing and storage of digital library resources can greatly reduce costs and increase the

utilisation rate of resources. Paper-based literature requires a large amount of storage space, maintenance costs and human input, while digital resources can be centrally managed and maintained through cloud storage and other means. Digital resources are also easier to reproduce and disseminate, which can reduce time and material waste and improve the circulation efficiency of resources.

The value of digital library resources lies in the fact that they provide users with convenient access to knowledge, promote academic research and cultural heritage, achieve equal sharing of information resources and have the advantages of economic efficiency and resource management. By making full use of digital technology, libraries can better manage and make use of digital resources to provide better services for users. At the same time, the development of digital library resources needs to focus on the challenges of copyright protection, technical support and long-term preservation to ensure the sustainable development of the resources^[6].

3. Challenges in managing digital library resources

The creation and management of digital library resources faces a number of challenges related to copyright protection and co-operation, technical and equipment support, and long-term preservation and sustainability.

3.1 Copyright protection and co-operation

Copyright protection is an important and complex issue in digitised library resources. Digitised resources include a large number of copyright-protected documents such as books, journals, music and images, and these digitised documents can be easily and widely disseminated, raising the issue of potential copyright infringement. Digital libraries have to face this challenge to ensure legitimate use and protection of intellectual property. In order to deal with copyright issues, digital libraries need to have clear copyright policies in place, and these policies should specify which resources can be digitised, stored and provided with access, as well as which ones require special licences or use agreements. Active co-operation with copyright holders is also essential in order to obtain the necessary licences or enter into co-operation agreements to use these resources within a legal framework. In addition, digital libraries can collaborate with other institutions to share digital resources for wider information sharing and collaborative research. Such collaboration can help facilitate legitimate use and promote knowledge sharing across institutions, thus making digital resources more widely available for the benefit of academics, research institutions and the community at large. In conclusion, digital libraries need to approach copyright issues with a combination of policy development, collaboration and sharing to ensure legitimate use and intellectual property protection while facilitating the dissemination and sharing of knowledge. This is one of the key challenges facing digital libraries in the digital age^[7].

3.2 Technical and equipment Support

The creation and management of digitised library resources is a process that is highly dependent on advanced technology and equipment. Digitisation requires high quality scanners, storage devices, digitisation software and other tools to ensure the accurate conversion of original documents into digital format. These equipment and technologies must be constantly updated and maintained to adapt to the changing digital environment and ensure the long-term availability of resources. In addition, powerful databases and search engines are essential for the effective management and retrieval of digitised resources. These tools enable users to easily access and retrieve the information they need, increasing the availability and accessibility of resources. Therefore, digital libraries need to continuously invest in and maintain technical equipment to ensure the quality and usability of their resources, and at the same time keep up with the development of new technologies to adapt to the ever-changing digital environment, to meet the needs of users, and to facilitate the sharing and dissemination of knowledge. Such technical support is the cornerstone of digital libraries and is critical to their successful operation.

3.3 Long-term preservation and sustainability

Long-term preservation of digitised library resources is an important challenge. Digitised resources need to be properly preserved and backed up to prevent data loss or corruption. In addition, digitised formats may become obsolete and regular data migration and format conversion are required to ensure

the accessibility of the resources. Long-term preservation is time and resource intensive and digital libraries must consider how to ensure the sustainability of their resources. This includes developing appropriate digital preservation policies, establishing storage centres for digital resources, and ensuring data backup and recovery plans^[8].

In summary, overcoming these challenges requires digital libraries to continuously improve their policies and collaborative mechanisms, invest in technological equipment, and establish sustainable resource management models to meet user needs and ensure the quality and availability of digital resources. Only by overcoming these challenges will digital library resources be able to better fulfil their important role in knowledge dissemination and cultural heritage preservation.

4. Strategies for managing and preserving digital library resources

The management and preservation of digital library resources require a range of strategies to ensure the legal use, efficient management and long-term preservation of resources.

4.1 Strengthening copyright management and co-operation

In order to protect copyright in digitised library resources, digitised libraries must take a range of measures, and the development of strict copyright management policies is a key part of this. These policies should include the following: first, co-operation and licensing. Digitised libraries should actively collaborate with copyright holders, be they publishers, authors, artists or other relevant organisations. By establishing collaborative relationships with these parties, digital libraries can obtain licences for use or develop collaborative agreements that specify how copyright-protected resources can be legally used. This can help avoid potential copyright infringement problems. Second, copyright education. Digital libraries can enhance copyright education to educate staff and users about copyright laws and ethical guidelines and raise their awareness of copyright-related issues. This can reduce the risk of inadvertent copyright infringement while promoting the legitimate use of resources. Third, digital watermarking and access control. Digital libraries can employ technological tools such as digital watermarking and access control to track and manage the use of digital resources. This can help reduce unauthorised copying and distribution and increase the effectiveness of copyright protection. Fourth, collecting usage data^[9]. Digital libraries can collect usage data in order to monitor the use of resources. This helps to understand which resources are of high interest and which may be at risk of infringement so that timely measures can be taken. In conclusion, digital libraries need to take a variety of measures to protect copyright, including collaboration, education, technology adoption and data monitoring. By developing clear copyright management policies and actively engaging in legitimate collaborations, digital libraries can balance the sharing of knowledge with the protection of intellectual property rights and provide users with high-quality digital resources.

4.2 Enhance the efficiency of resource management with new technologies and equipment

Digital libraries can operate more efficiently in resource management with the help of new technologies and equipment. The introduction of automated tools and digitisation software, such as advanced scanners and optical character recognition technology, can accelerate the digitisation process of documents and improve the quality and accessibility of resources. Meanwhile, high-performance storage devices and backup systems ensure the security and reliability of digital resources to avoid data loss. Artificial intelligence and data analysis technologies can also play a key role in resource management. They can help libraries to automate classification, labelling and metadata management of digital resources, thus providing faster and more accurate search functions. In addition, using machine learning and natural language processing, digital libraries are able to provide users with personalised recommendation services based on their interests and behaviours, enhancing the user experience. Taken together, digital libraries can make full use of new technologies and devices in order to improve the efficiency of resource management, the quality of resources and user satisfaction, and to make digital resources more accessible and available. This modern approach helps digital libraries to better meet user needs and protect them in the digital age^[10].

4.3 Establish a sustainable preservation mechanism for digital resources

Long-term preservation is an important issue for digital library resource management. To ensure the lasting preservation and accessibility of resources, digital libraries need to establish sustainable digital

resource preservation mechanisms. This includes regular data migration and format conversion to accommodate changes in technology and equipment. Digital libraries also need to establish digital resource storage centres to ensure secure backup and recovery capabilities for their resources. It is also important to develop appropriate digital preservation policies to ensure the integrity and consistency of resources. In order to strengthen the management and preservation of digital library resources, relevant organisations can work together to establish a co-operation mechanism and a sharing platform. For example, digitised libraries can collaborate with other libraries, universities and research institutes to share digitised resources and provide wider access to resources and collaborative research opportunities. In addition, governments and international organisations can also provide funding and policy support to facilitate the development of digital library resource management and preservation^[11].

Only through reasonable strategies and measures can digital libraries better protect and manage their resources to meet users' needs and fulfil the important role of digital resources in knowledge dissemination, academic research and cultural heritage preservation.

5. Conclusion

The management and protection of digitized library resources is crucial for the information age. Firstly, information security and protection is key, and the use of measures such as encryption and rights management is necessary. Secondly, accessibility is a must and resources need to be easy to access and share. Management strategies are indispensable, including metadata standards and database management. Collaboration and sharing help maximize the use of resources, and long-term preservation requires constant attention. User education and training are essential for effective utilisation of resources. In summary, the management and preservation of digital library resources require multi-dimensional measures to ensure the security, accessibility, efficient management and long-term preservation of the resources, while enabling users to make effective use of these valuable knowledge assets.

6. Future prospects

With the continuous development of digital technology, the strategies for resource management and protection of digital library resources need to be constantly updated and improved. In the future, in terms of enhancing copyright management and cooperation, digital libraries can explore the use of blockchain technology to ensure transparency and verifiability of copyright. In terms of enhancing resource management efficiency, digital libraries can further apply artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies to achieve smarter resource classification, indexing and recommendation. And in terms of digital resource preservation mechanisms, digital libraries can research and adopt more advanced storage technologies and long-term preservation strategies to cope with the growing and ever-changing digital resources^[12].

In addition, there is a need to strengthen international co-operation and exchange in digital library resource management and preservation. National libraries and related organisations can share their experiences and best practices to jointly address the challenges faced by digital libraries. At the same time, governments and international organisations can provide more support and resources to promote the development and cooperation of digital libraries globally.

In conclusion, strategies for resource management and preservation in digital libraries are a process of continuous development and evolution. Through continuous updating and innovation, digital libraries can better meet the needs of users, achieve effective resource management and preservation, and contribute to knowledge dissemination and cultural heritage preservation.

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