

# Ten years on: e-books at the University of Auckland Library

**Ksenija Obradovic**  
k.obradovic@auckland.ac.nz

*Elsevier Library Connect Seminar, Auckland  
6 August 2008*

# e-Books at AU

- e-Books – an opportunity to expand library services
- Incorporate e-books into the University's learning and teaching initiatives
- In 2007 NZ\$1,514,665 spent on e-books, representing 8.5% of our total collections budget of \$17,752,691.
- In 2004 NZ\$429,532 spent on e-books, representing 3% of our total collections budget of NZ\$14,436,000.

# Looking back...

- 1998 – first link via Library catalogue
- 2001 – first collection (*netLibrary*)
- In 2003 and 2004 added twice as many bibliographic records for e-books as for printed books
- 2008 – over 300,000 e-books accessible via Library catalogue
- Over 60 e-book collections

# E- and print books acquisition / year

Year	E-books (holdings)	Print books (items)
2008 (June)	18,568	22,052
2007	14,321	46,868
2006	66,806	53,488
2005	40,746	50,340
2004	93,905	51,187
2003	81,890	46,757
2002	4,404	43,080
2001	5,261	43,467
2000	29	33,844
1999	3	29,340
1998	279	31,060

# *Back-office management of e-books*



# Various vendor business models and acquisition methods

- Collections offered by vendors via various platforms:
  - collections (e.g. *ebrary*)
  - single purchase (e.g. *netLibrary*)
  - combination of these two (e.g. *Safari*)
- Individual books from publishers
- Free e-monographs (e.g. Law Commission publications)
- Locally-digitised

# Selection

## Platform

1. What kind of document format is your e-book in (i.e. html, xml, PDF, proprietary)?
2. How do you navigate through the pages?
3. Is it web based or do you need client software?
4. Do you support stable title-level jumpstarts (i.e. can we link from our catalogue to a URL for an individual book)?
5. Do you supply MARC records with embedded URLs?

## Readers

1. Do you need any readers to view the content?
2. Are they proprietary to your product? (Important)
3. If yes to 2. – How often do you send updates for the readers?

## Borrowing

1. Describe how our users borrow or view books.
2. How much can they print?
3. If you have to create an account, how do you keep track of users who may have left the university?
4. If buying sets of e-books, can our users retrieve a customised bookshelf or list of works to which they have access?

## Authentication

1. Can it be IP based?
2. Does it work with ezproxy?
3. If you use a password or other methods, please describe. Note: access needs to be networkable, not single PC-based.

## Future of the product

1. What other vendors are you affiliated with?
2. Is your e-book line subject based?

# Main problems we experience:

- Vendors, publishers do not advise on ceased or superseded titles
- Publishers change URLs (particularly big problem with free e-books)
- No communication between publishers/vendors and libraries



## *Variety of access points*



# AU provides access via:

- Connect pages
- LEARN course pages
- Voyager Library catalogue
- E-book gateway

## LIBRARY

Te Tumu Herenga

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

[Library Home](#)[Voyager](#)[Databases](#)[E-Journals](#)[Resources by Subject](#)[Library Contacts](#)

## Knovel

[CONNECT](#)[Help](#)[Go Back](#)

### Content

An online collection of over 600 engineering and science books from a wide range of publishers. Subject areas include: adhesives, coatings, sealants & inks; aerospace & radar technology; biochemistry & biotechnology; ceramics & ceramic engineering; chemical engineering; construction materials & engineering; electrical & power engineering, environmental engineering; food science; mechanics & mechanical engineering; metals & metallurgy; pharmaceuticals; plastics & rubber; semiconductors & electronics; general engineering reference.

### Helpsheets

[Knovel](#)

### Misc

[License](#)[site](#)

# BIOSCI 100 - Antarctica : The Frozen Continent

## LIBRARY RESOURCES

---

### [Course Material](#)

*Items available in the Short Loan Collection*

### [Assignments](#)

*How to get started with the Essay Assignment*

\* [Electronic Books](#)

\* [Library Databases](#)

\* [Help with Writing Essays](#)

### [Referencing](#)

◀ [Back to Stage 1 Resources](#)

---

## Course Material

### Items available in the Short Loan Collection

***Please remember that the Short Loan Collection is located in the Kate Edger Information Commons, Level 1.***

*Course readings may only be used for the University's educational purposes. You may print a copy for your own use, but you may not make a further copy for any other purpose. You may not copy or distribute any part of the reading to any other person. Failure to comply with these terms may expose you to legal action for copyright infringement and/or disciplinary action by the University.*

Aimer, D. (1998). A scurvy business. *New Zealand Geographic*, 37, 88-100. ([part a](#); [part b](#)).

Anonymous (2003). [Route to the pole](#). *Antarctic* 20 (3-4), 38-39.

Crossley, L. (1995). [Explore Antarctica](#). Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

George, A. (2004). [The highway at the end of the world](#). *New Scientist*, 181 (2433), 28-29.

Kendall, E. J. C. (1955). [Scurvy during some British polar expeditions, 1875-1917](#). *Polar Record*, 7(51), 467-485.

## Literature Research Assignment

### Essay 1

Discuss the nature and impact of scurvy within the context of Antarctica.

**Due Date:** Wednesday 13 April 4pm

### Essay 2

Discuss the cases for and against the 'road to the pole' emphasising key problems and issues.

**Due Date:** Monday 9 May 4pm

---

## Electronic Books

Remember to refer to the instructions for [Accessing Electronic Resources](#) before you start to use these resources.

Reference books such as dictionaries and encyclopedias are a good place to start for any essay assignment. Use dictionaries and encyclopedias to find out background information about an essay topic and understand what your essay topic is asking you.

- Example search on [Antarctica](#) in [Encyclopaedia Britannica](#)
- Dictionaries: [Oxford Dictionary of Biology](#) and [Oxford English Dictionary](#), [other online Dictionaries](#).

---

## Library Databases

Remember to refer to the instructions for [Accessing Electronic Resources](#) before you start to use these resources.

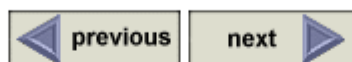
**The key library databases to use for the Essay Assignment are:**

- [Antarctic Bibliography](#) and [Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology](#)  
Both databases are published by the American Geological Institute with contributions from the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge and funded in part by the National Science Foundation and the U. S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory. *The Antarctic Bibliography* covers all disciplines related to the region including biological and geological sciences, medical sciences, meteorology, oceanography, atmospheric and terrestrial physics, expeditions, logistics equipment and supplies, and tourism. *The Bibliography on Cold Regions Science and Technology* includes references to scientific and engineering research related to material and operations in a winter battlefield, the nature and impact of cold on facilities and activities, cold-related environmental problems, and the impact of human activity on cold environments.
- [Biological Abstracts](#)

Database Name: The University of Auckland Library

Search Request: Keyword Relevance Search = e-book wiley

Search Results: Displaying 9 of 10000 entries

[Brief View](#)[Full View](#)[Staff View](#)

*Palladium reagents and catalysts new perspectives for the 21st century /...*

Relevance: ■■■

Author: [Tsuji, Jiro, 1927-](#)

Title: Palladium reagents and catalysts [electronic resource] : new perspectives for the 21st century / Jiro Tsuji.

Edition: 2nd ed.

Published: Hoboken, NJ : J. **Wiley**, c2004.

Description: 656 p. ; cm.

Electronic reproduction. Somerset, New Jersey : Wiley InterScience.

Subject Heading(s): [Organic compounds Synthesis.](#)

[Palladium catalysts.](#)

Other Author(s): [John Wiley & Sons.](#)

Link to: [Publisher description](#)

[Table of contents](#)

 [e-book Wiley](#)

Location: \*e-Resource\*



## E-Books

The University of Auckland Library provides access to over 215,000 e-books. Use Voyager (the Library catalogue) to search for a particular book or subject.

### Search Voyager (Library catalogue) for e-books

Search For:

Search In:

KEYWORD BOOLEAN (link words with 'and', 'or', 'not') 

### E-book Collections

The major cross-disciplinary e-book collections are [ebrary](#) and [netLibrary](#).  
See also Library databases containing e-books:

- [ASM Handbooks Online](#)  
Online version of all current ASM handbooks.
- [Bible in English](#)  
Twenty versions of the Bible, from Tyndale to the King James Bible.
- [Books at Ovid](#)  
47 respected texts in medicine, nursing, and pharmacology.
- [CHEMnetBASE](#)  
Collection of chemical dictionaries and reference works.
- [Early English Books Online](#)  
Reproduces books in English from 1475-1700.
- [Ebrary](#)  
More than 19,000 recently published books on all subjects.
- [Editions and Adaptations of Shakespeare](#)
- [Eighteenth Century Collections Online](#)  
Reproduces Eighteenth Century books.
- [ENGenetBASE](#)

# *MARC records*



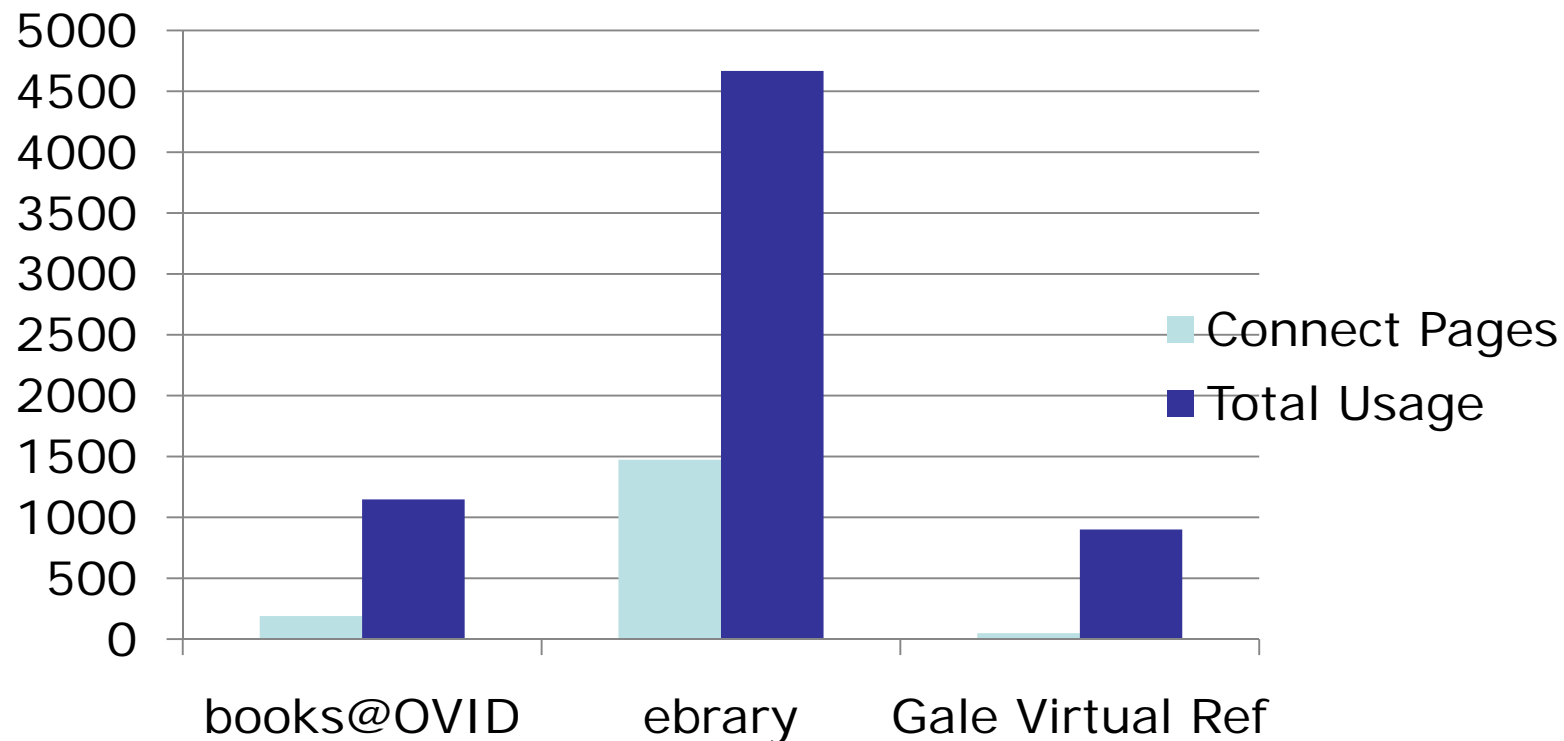


# Importance of MARC records

- E-books more likely to be used via catalogue
- High quality metadata is necessary:
  - for discovering e-books in library catalogue
  - for communication between different library catalogues

# Preferred access at AU

(Data from April 2008)



# SuperBook study at the University College London

- 38% via Library catalogue
- 5 % via federated searching
- 21 % via Google
- 11 % via aggregator

E-Book Focus Group: Ex Libris/ELUNA/IGeLU  
Recommendations and Requirements for E-Book Functionality  
(2008)

# AU sources of MARC records

- Obtain records from vendors
- Add 856 to existing hard copy record
- Create record for e-book
  - Traditionally, one at the time
  - In an automated manner, by cloning records for print books

# Main problems we experience:

- Not all vendors and publishers provide MARC records
- MARC updates are not timely
- Quality of MARC records varies significantly

## *Reaching out towards users*



# Making it easier for users

- e-Books course  
<http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/instruct/ebook/ebook.htm>
- Course handout in PDF format  
<http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/docs/handouts/e-book.pdf>
- Guide to finding & using E-books  
<http://www.library.auckland.ac.nz/instruct/ebook/ebook.htm>
- Presentations on newly acquired e-resources

# Feedback from users

- Print is the preferred format in many instances - users will often browse an e-book to see if it is useful, and then get the printed copy for more substantial reading
- **Printed books:** easier to read, more familiar, no time limit, easier to look through, e-books are too slow
- **e-books:** availability, keyword searching of full text
- More e-books? YES

*(Questionnaire for LIANZA 2004 conference)*



# Arizona State University Libraries 2007 survey

“Overall, the focus group revealed that faculty had generally unsatisfactory experiences in using e-books in their research and teaching owing to the unreliability of access, lack of manipulability, and the steep learning curve of the various interfaces. However, most faculty agreed that e-books would be a very viable and useful alternative if these issues were resolved.”

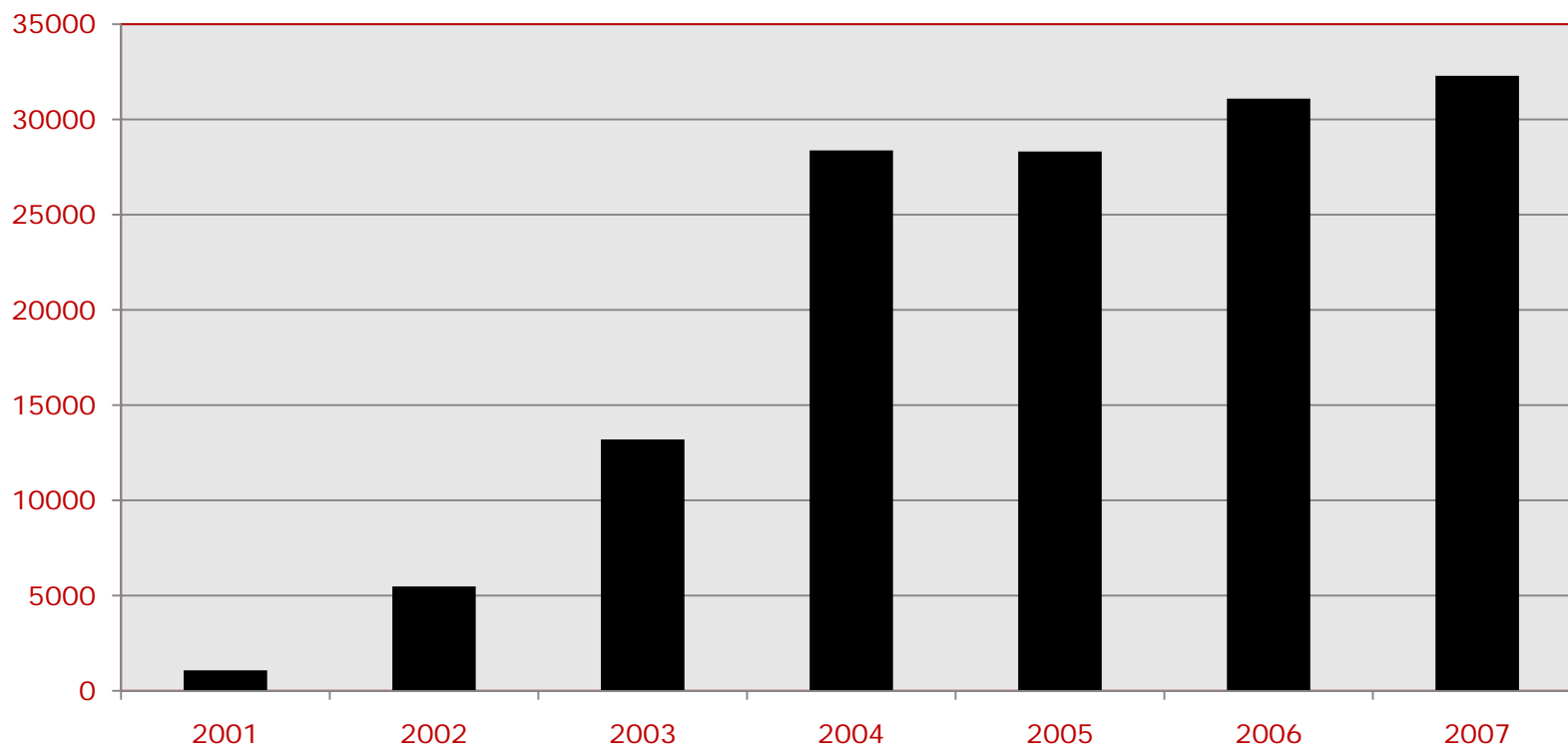
Danielle M. Carlock, A. M. P. (2008). Exploring faculty experiences with e-books: a focus group. *Library Hi Tech*, 26(2), 244 - 254.

# UK survey

- “The study shows that e-book penetration is very strong (61.8 per cent of all students are already using them in connection with their scholarly work, as teachers or students), so the e-book revolution has already happened but clearly it has some way to go.”
- “The textbook bottleneck has been confirmed with more than half of lecturers in JISC subjects get regular complaints about library provision of these texts.”

Nicholas, D., et. al. (2008). UK scholarly e-book usage: a landmark survey. *Aslib Proceedings*, 60(4), 311 - 334.

# *NetLibrary Usage* (10,369 titles)



# Main problems we experience:

- Still not all users aware of e-books
- Not enough recommended reading
- Unreliability of access

# *New use of e-books*



# Incorporating e-books into the University's learning and teaching initiatives

- *Info Lit* programme (Lynne Mitchell)
- Integrate information literacy into the BBIM curriculum
- Five online tutorials utilising both LEARN and Cecil
- Students navigate from the LEARN online tutorials to multi choice questions hosted on Cecil
- Worth 5% of course grade

# Demand for e-texts increases

- Course reading lists
- Digital Institutional Repository
- Digital Theses
- Early New Zealand Books Online
- Digitising local archival inventories
- Add other digital products to our collections (Naxos)

# Comments about ENZBO prove its value:

- “A FABULOUS service and one which opens up the early contact years to us all.”
- “This is a wonderful initiative - I applaud it heartily. My research finds in Canada are spooning over its potential and the information it shares.”
- “What a wonderful and invaluable resource.”
- “Extremely useful.”



# Areas for improvement

- More standardisation (purchase models, formats, ways of access)
- High quality metadata for discovering e-books
- More recommended texts
- Timely updates
- Collaboration - vendors, publishers, LIS developers, libraries should work close together and further explore best practices, workflows, and business models

# Introducing the Book

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQHx-SjgQvQ>