Utilizing Knowledge Resources in education through Digital Library

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Abstract: A library is fundamentally an organized set of resources, which include human services as well as the entire spectrum of media (e.g., text, video, hypermedia). Libraries have physical components such as space, equipment, and storage media; intellectual components such as collection policies that determine what materials will be included and organizational schemes that determine how the collection is accessed; and people who manage the physical and intellectual components and interact with users to solve information problems. Libraries serve at least three roles in learning. First, they serve a practical role in sharing expensive resources. Physical resources such as books and periodicals, films and videos, software and electronic databases, and specialized tools such as projectors, graphics equipment and cameras are shared by a community of users. Second, libraries serve a cultural role in preserving and organizing artifacts and ideas. Great works of literature, art, and science must be preserved and made accessible to future learners. Third, libraries serve social and intellectual roles in bringing together people and ideas. Digital libraries combine technology and information resources to allow remote access, breaking down the physical barriers between resources. Although these resources will remain specialized to meet the needs of specific communities of learners, digital libraries will allow teachers and students to take advantage of wider ranges of materials and communicate with people outside the formal learning environment. This paper describes how digital libraries are evolving to meet the needs of teaching and learning and identifies issues for continued development.

Key words: Library, Digital library, Resource

Introduction
A library is fundamentally an organized set of resources, which include human services as well as the entire spectrum of media (e.g., text, video, hypermedia). Digital libraries are systems providing user with coherent access to a very large, organized repository of information and knowledge Digital library is a global virtual library. The library of thousands of networked electronic libraries from the dawn of civilization, the intellectual brains have poured their omniscience in different directions in shape of print and non-print form to enlightened mass to explore multifarious research and development. The term Digital library in broad sense is a computerized system that allows users to obtain a coherent means of access to an organized electronically stored repository of information and data.

• Collection in which complete contents of documents are created and converted to computer possible form for online access.
• Online databases and CD-ROM information products.
• Computer storage devices on which information repositories reside such as optical disc, Juke bases DVD ROM towers etc.
• Database including library catalogue accessible through the Internet.
• Computerized networked library system.

The digital library is making the library undergo a change in the paradigm of its role to create organize and distribution of information resources. A digital library is a distributed electronic collection that covers virtually all fields of human endeavor to serve the defined community. Digital libraries are logical extension and augmentations of physical library. They extend and augment their physical counterparts by extending existing resources and services and enable development of new possibilities for information access and Retrieval in other worlds. Electronic library based on digitalized data is text replacing the paper based records and that is why with the help of networking one can have access to resources round the clock. The advantage includes resources sharing, documents delivery services and data transmission in a minimal duration.

Key features of digital library
Based on the digital library projects and architectures described earlier, we can arrive at an indicative list of important features of digital library. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list nor does it suggest that a specific digital library should possess all the features.

A digital library is expected to support the following features.
• Provide access to very large information collection(s)
• Focus on providing access to primary (or complete) information not merely surrogates or indexes.
• Support multi media content
• Network accessible Provide user-friendly interface
• Use declarative representation of document (e.g. tagged small text) in addition or as against image, postscript, etc. forms
• Unique referencing of digital objects
• Enable link representation to local external object (hypertext)
• Clearly separate the digital library and the user interfaces by employing client server architecture.
• Support traditional library mission of collection development organization. Access and preservation.
• Support advanced search and retrieval
• Available for a very time
• Integrate personal group enterprise public digital library.

**Advantages of Digital Library**

- Management of documents in all formats in a unified way – texts, animations, interactive exercises, audio files, video streams, e-books, e-journals and online tests can be stored, described and distributed through computers and networks. The management is independent of the type of information, as long as it can be stored in digital files. It also can be shared without human intervention making the whole process faster and cheaper.
- Access control – contents can be assigned different types of access according to the classes of users that are entitled to them. Authors can decide if their works are to be used by their students only, by any student of a given institution or the public in general.
- Content sharing – authors can make their contents available for other faculty to aggregate into their courseware. This can be done without duplication, simply by ‘pointing’ to the contents with the suitable set of metadata elements.
- Interactivity – contents that are managed by digital libraries can be interactive and based on multimedia. Students can listen to soundtracks, view animated images, solve exercises and have them checked online, write and send comments to authors and/or tutors.
- Customization – some users may require special characteristics of the contents and the system. This is true when people with special needs are involved, for example, persons who are blind or visually impaired. System interfaces and contents in digital formats can be customized to fulfill these necessities.
- Reuse – courseware can be developed with a granularity that makes it flexible to combine and support multiple syllabus. Reuse is important because developing courseware is expensive and takes time, so increasing reuse improves efficiency. An example of the importance of this topic can be seen from a note on the Clips & Pinters section of the D-Lib Magazines.

- Any place and at any time – students study in different hours of the day any day of the week, this is more significant when distance learning is considered. Students can be in any country and accessing courseware anytime. Since digital libraries are available 24/7 (24 hours per day, 7 days per the week) and the Internet connects the whole world, courseware is always available from any geography.

**Digital Library – Limitations**

- Cost Limitation To establish a digital system in the traditional Library system is costlier in initial stage.
- Skill person If we want to work in digital system we need skill person in respect of working and maintaining
- Law effect In today some people wants to secure their publications, matters etc. that why they copyright their publications. Whenever a user will try to copy some matters, he will suffer from copyright law. There are some other laws like cyber law, which affect the digital library system.
- Effect of Technology In today advancement becomes in both area like soft ware and hardware. The digital library wholly dependent on telecommunication and computer. As new technology comes in the market the digital system should change or adopt that technology.
- Security problem When our digital system is connected to Internet the major problem is the security to prevent the unauthorized access and to prevent the information from virus is the major task in digital system.

**CONCLUSION**

Libraries have been the companions of higher education for many centuries. They have preserved and given access to all sorts of materials – books, manuscripts, rare documents, journals, maps, etc. – that have supported the process of learning. They have also been the keepers of materials produced by students, faculty and researchers – graduate projects, theses & dissertations, technical reports, etc. – in this sense they have functioned as the institutional archive. It is important to remark that, for institutionally created materials, the library has to grant access while preserving the documents as an archive. Theses and dissertations are scientific works but, at the same time, are parts of the history of the institution. When a digital library is created, all the functions that have been performed by the traditional library will have parallel in the digital and networked environment. In terms of preservation, the problem is more complex since two types are to be considered – the physical preservation (as traditional libraries) and the technological preservation, in a world of fast-changing technology. At the same time, a digital library can perform functions that are impossible with traditional situation and that aggregate value to higher education. These were presented in the second section of this work. Accessibility, availability, interaction, customization and reuse are strong reasons to use digital libraries for higher education even when there are challenges in the digital and networked environment.

**References**


