



HEAL-Link activities and plans on annotating, organizing and linking academic content

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Presentation by

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HEAL-Link chairman



HEAL-Link profile in numbers

Hellenic Academic Libraries-Link (known as HEAL-Link) was founded in 1998

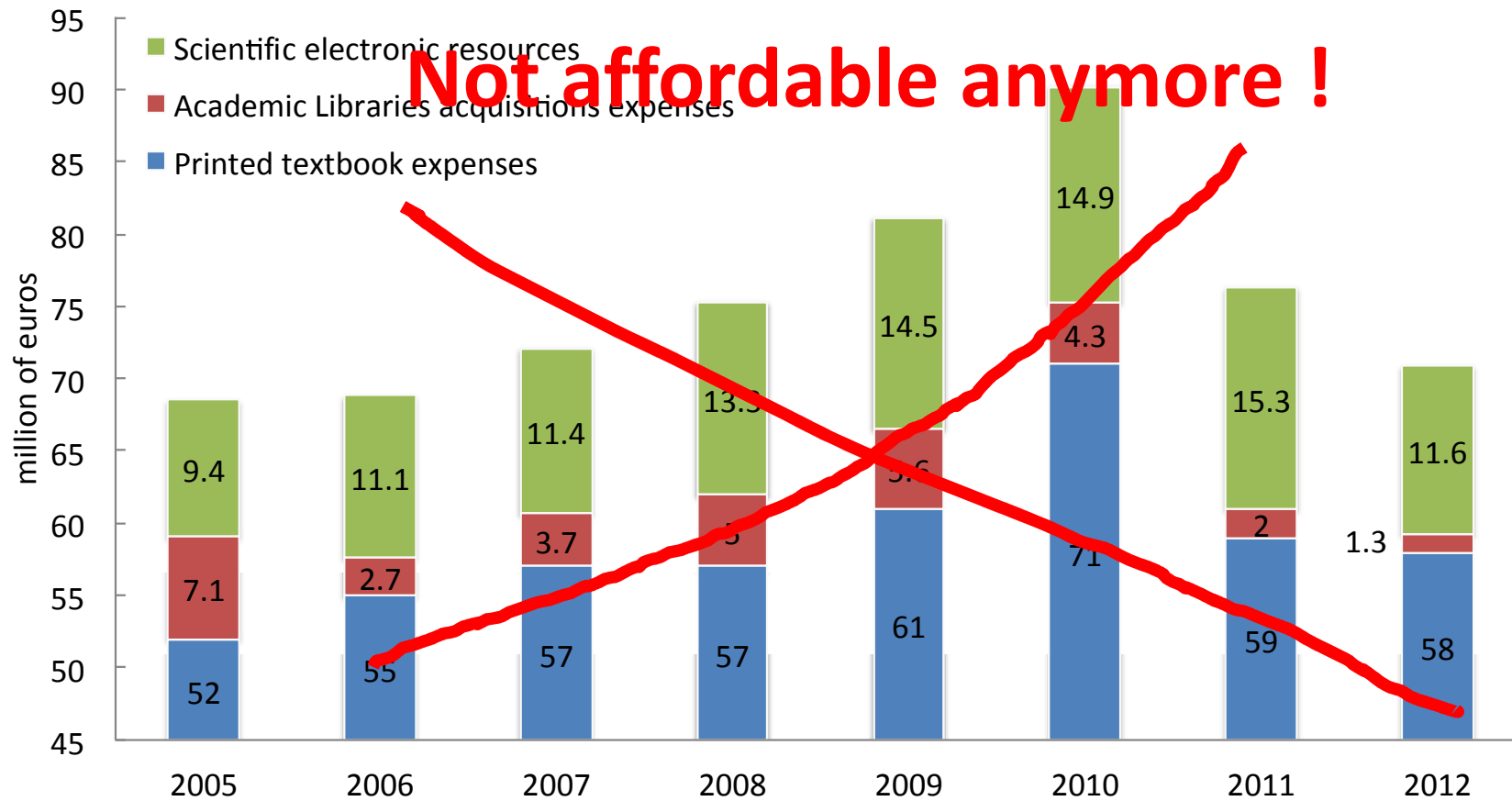
- **Members & Associated Members:** > 50 Higher Education Institutes, Research Centers and other Public Sector Organizations
- **Cooperating organizations:** > 30 Public and Private Sector Libraries and Organizations
- **Academic & Research community:** > 13.000 academic staff (faculty members & researchers)
- **Students:** > 350.000 under/post graduate students
- **On line content :** > 14.000 scientific journals, 30.000 eBooks, various digital databases etc. > 4.000.000 bibliographic records
- **Current ongoing projects:** > 13 M€ funding for upgrading/creating digital services



HEAL-Link main action lines

- **Economise** resources
- Provide improved services for supporting teaching and research within academic units
- Set a **common strategy** regarding **access** to **digital material**, allowing information sources to be managed effectively state-wide
- Promote adoption of common performance standards and indices for library services
- Coordinate the development of the collections of the member-libraries

Expenditure for access to academic textbooks and scientific on-line sources

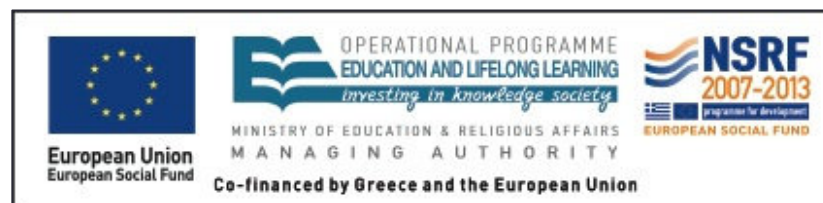




HEAL-Link's current activities towards Open Access

Two **co-financed** projects (national & EU funds):

- **Advanced Central Services of HEAL-Link's Open Access Digital Libraries** (2010-2015, 4.5M€)
- *> 30 projects executed by Academic Libraries (HEAL-Link members) with a total budget exceeding 23 M€*
- **Hellenic Academic E-books** (2012-2015, 8.3M€)





Advanced Central Services of HEAL-Link's Open Access Digital Libraries

HEAL-Digital resources and Institutional Repositories service (**HEAL-DIR**)

- Supporting and coordinating actions within the individual academic institutions in order to develop and/or upgrade their own institutional repository conforming to common standards which enable interoperability
- A common physical infrastructure and software platform for most Institutions
- A common set of metadata (healmeta)
- **HEAL Meta-search Service**



Advanced Central Services of HEAL-Link's Open Access Digital Libraries (cont.)



(Accessible Multimodal Electronic Library)

AMELib digital repository provides books to print-disabled students through a set of tools for converting printed books to audio-books as well as other forms.



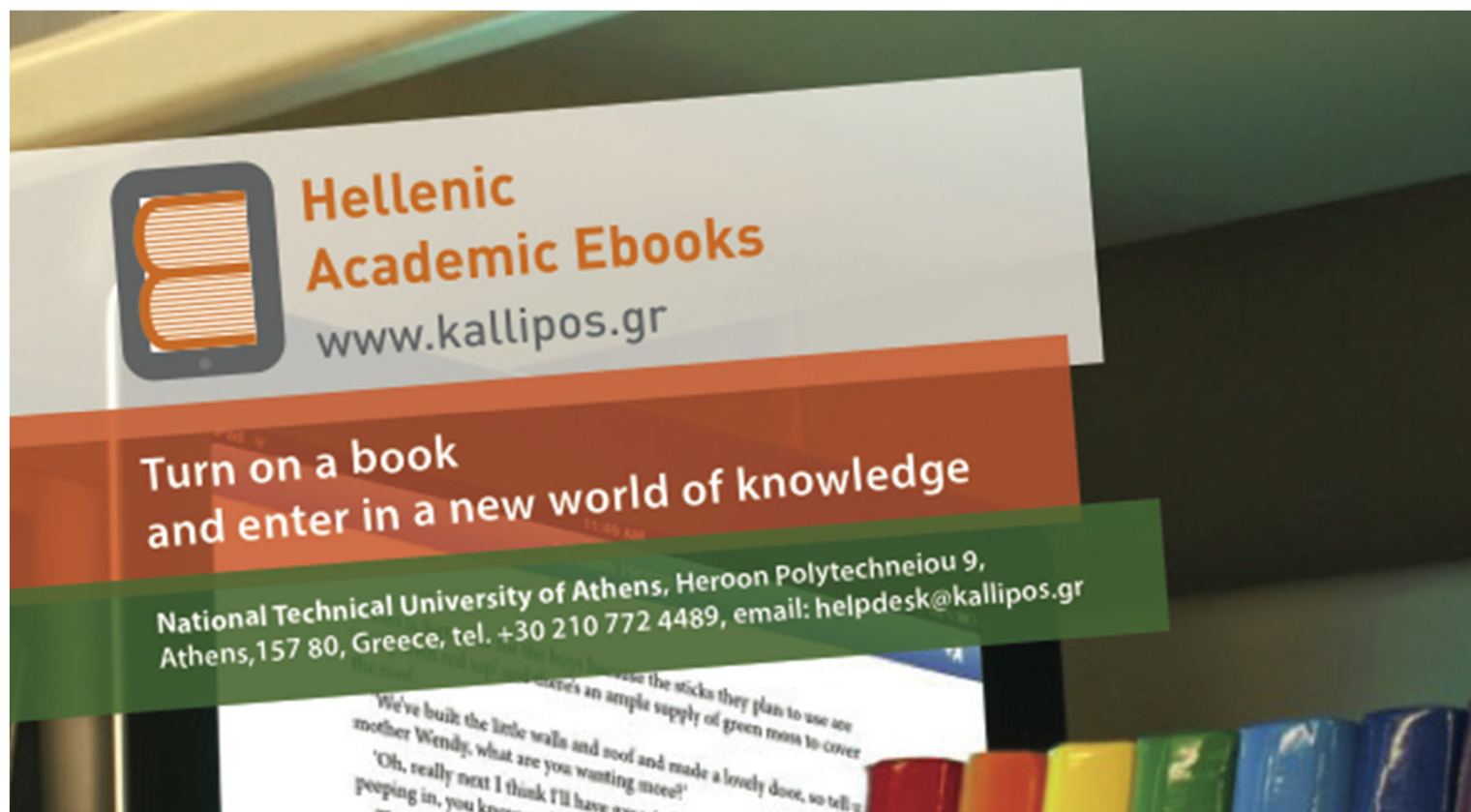
Advanced Central Services of HEAL-Link's Open Access Digital Libraries (cont.)

HEAL-Link Catalogues and Authorities/Indexing Service (**HEAL-CAS**)

- **Electronic Authorities / Indexing Service**
 - Greek Researchers and Research Institutes
 - Greek Scientific Journals
 - Greek Scientific Digital Resources
- **ILSAS (Integrated Library System as a Service)**
- **Electronic plagiarism detection service**
 - **HEAL-HelpDesk**



Hellenic Academic E-books



The service “Kallipos – Hellenic Academic Electronic books” aims to create and provide, in **open access**, a large number (more than 700 in the 1st phase) academic textbooks as e-books.



Hellenic Academic E-books (cont.)

Main features:

- Content mainly in the greek language
- Open access
- Multiple formats (pdf & Epub)
- Interactive & multimedia elements (video, sound, simulations etc.)
- **Learning objects**
- **Complete metadata description (healmeta)**



E-books vs e-courses

An e-book

- Is a linked collection of e-learning units, with a defined structure
- Is self-contained and portable within a standardized container, and presentable on special devices (e-readers)
- Has a unique theme and a defined sequence of reading
- Can contain multimedia elements and animations (**enhanced e-book**), as far as they can function locally
- Each stable edition can acquire a unique identifier (like the ISBN)
- Although outgoing links are allowed, all the basic building elements should be local, in order to assure the basic functionality in a non-connected mode

An e-course

- Is a loosely-bound set of e-learning materials
- Is provided usually by a Web server and presented by ordinary browsers
- Easy to incorporate multimedia elements, as well as animations in the form e.g. of **servlets** and **applets**
- Content can be changed dynamically. This may be a problem for assigning unique identifiers to individual content elements
- References to external components are easily handled



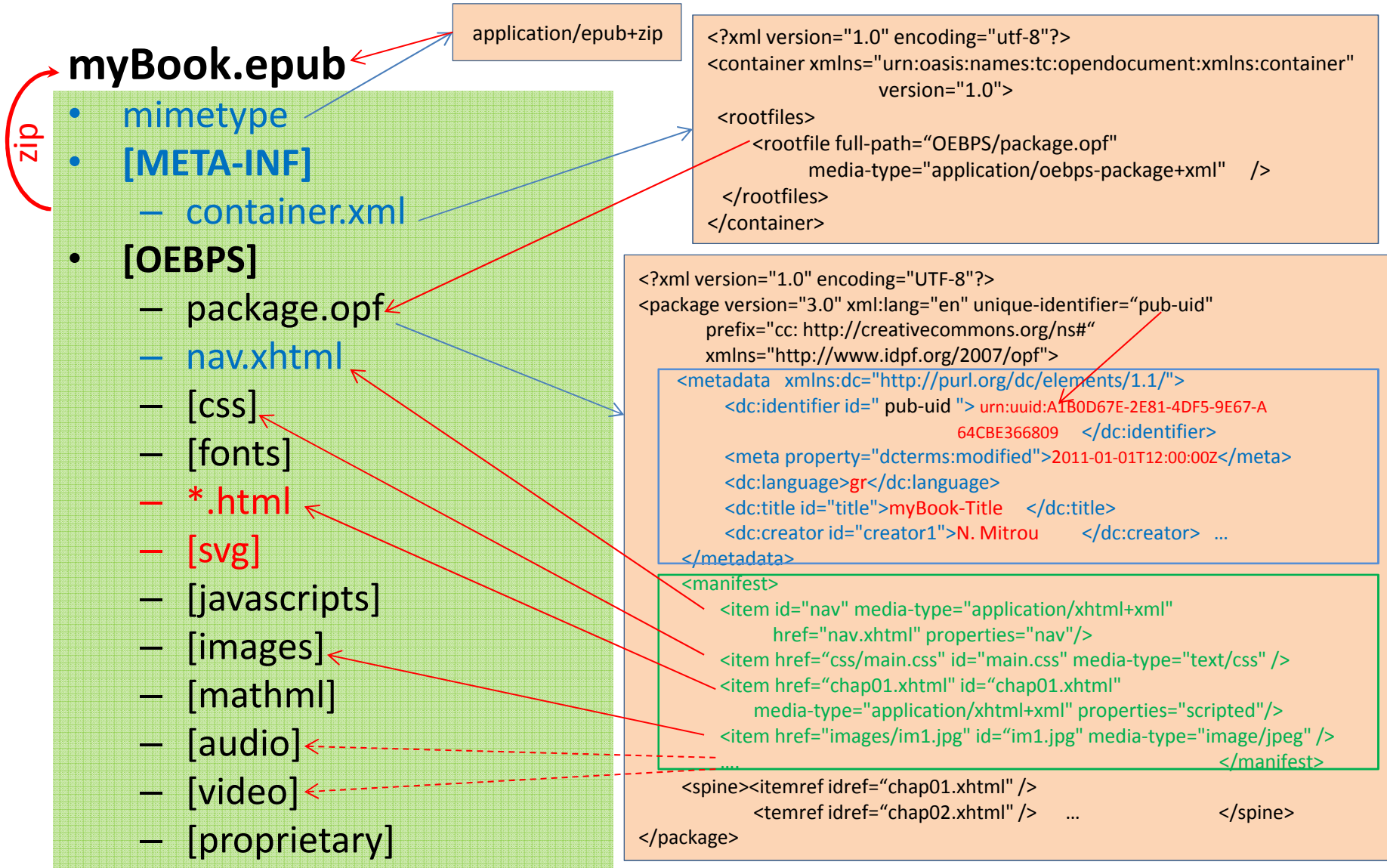
Epub: an e-book container

Epub is a distribution and interchange format standard for digital publications and documents:

- **Epub3** – the latest version
- Multiple resources wrapped into a single package
- **(X)HTML5** and **SVG** the primary content formats
- Multimedia and scripting supported (as defined in HTML5 and SVG)
- Human- and machine-readable navigation information
- Referencing document elements through the **epubcfi** (canonical fragment identifier)
- A minimal (but expandable) dc-based set of metadata
- Structural semantics



A typical Epub3 container structure





Epub: Identifiers

- **Unique EPUB identifier**

- Fully qualified URI (not required by the standard, but strongly recommended)
- Example

```
<package ... unique-identifier="pub-uid">
  <metadata xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">
    <dc:identifier id="pub-id">urn:doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2008.03.001</dc:identifier>
    <meta property="dcterms:modified">2013-11-26T12:00:00Z</meta>
    <meta refines="#pub-id" property="identifier-type" scheme="onix:codelist5">06</meta> ...
  </metadata>
```

- Unique package identifier: unique EPUB identifier + last modified date
e.g. urn:doi:10.1016/j.iheduc.2008.03.001@2013-11-26T12:00:00Z

- **Epub canonical fragment identifier** (<http://www.idpf.org/epub/linking/cfi/>)

- Defines a standardized method for referencing arbitrary content within an EPUB® Publication through the use of fragment identifiers
- Syntax: myBook.epub#epubcfi(path , [range])
- Example: myBook.epub#epubcfi(/6/4[chap01ref]!/4[body01]/10[para05]/3:10)



Why Epub ?

Main assets

- **Uses the web standards and technologies (HTML5, SVG)**
- **Is promoted by big names in the publishing industry**

(e.g. the Association of American Publishers/AAP)



Learning objects

- Definition: “any entity, digital or non-digital, that may be used for learning, education or training” (IEEE)
- Features:
 - “small” entities (typical duration of presentation or reading: 5-20 minutes)
 - self-contained in their own micro-container (file, folder, etc)
 - uniquely identifiable, accessible and portable
 - have an educational value
 - reusable in compositions of larger LO (e.g. e-books)
- Examples:
 - interactive figures or maps
 - algorithms
 - mathematical theorems
 - audio-video elements
 - slide shows
 - book chapters or sections

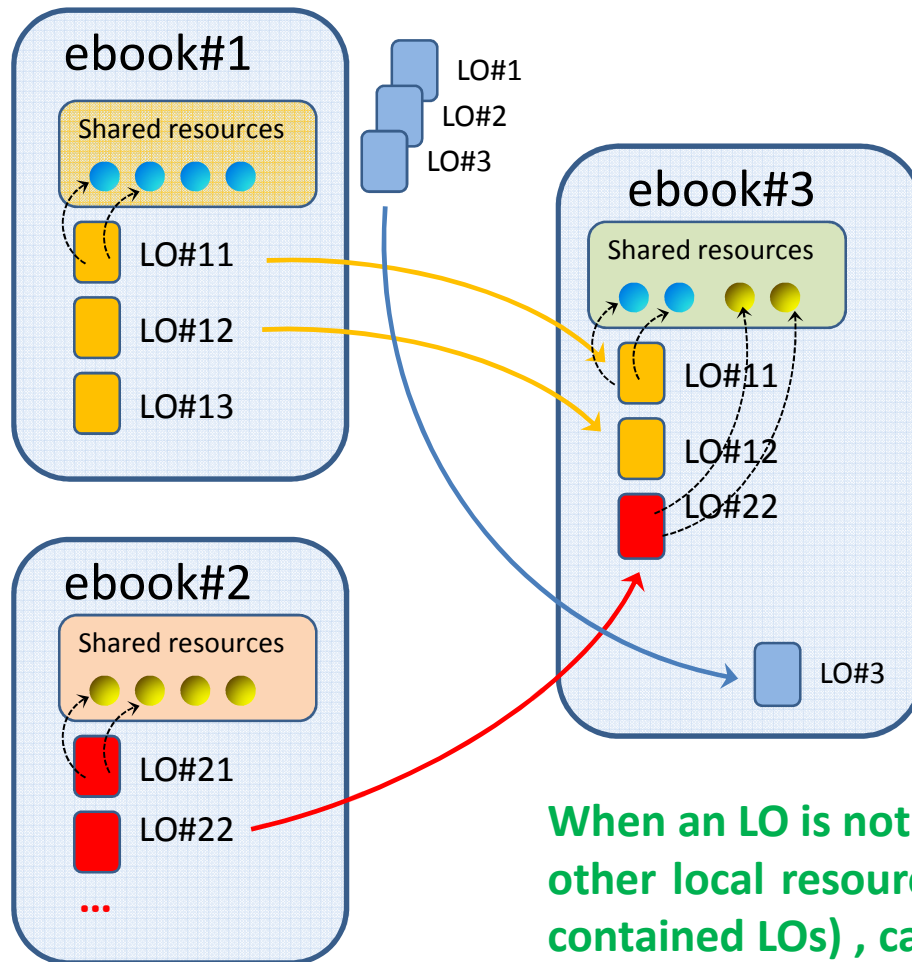


Learning objects (cont.)

- A novel implementation feature of the Hellenic Academic E-books
- Preserved within an e-book aggregator, with unique, dereferenceable URIs
- Self-contained, portable and re-usable for composing virtual e-books
- Vocabularies-Metadata: a combination of subsets from simple and widely used ones
 - General (dc, ...)
 - creator, title, creationDate, ...
 - Structural (Epub, OAI-ORE)
 - typeOf {chapter, division, table, figure, toc}, partOf-hasPart...
 - License (cc, ...)
 - Bibliographic (bibo, ...)
 - Scholar - learning (LOM, ...)
 - prerequisites, interactivityLevel, difficulty, technicalRequirements, ...
 - hasSubject {subject headings}



Reusing LO for composing new e-books



When an LO is not self-contained but refers to or uses other local resources (style-sheets, javascripts, other contained LOs) , care should be taken in order to take with it all the required resources, maintaining their relative position within the file structure.



Reusing LO for composing new e-books (cont.)

Issues to be taken care of

- In putting resources from different containers into a shared space, there might be cases of name conflicts (same name, different functionality)

Possible solution: Not use shared spaces. Isolate each LO along with its associated resources within its own micro-container



Reusing LOs for composing new e-books (cont.)

An example from Wikipedia

Otto cycle

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

See also: [Otto engine](#) and [Four-stroke engine](#)

An **Otto cycle** is an idealized [thermodynamic cycle](#) with the functioning of a typical [spark ignition](#) reciprocating [piston engine](#). It is a thermodynamic cycle most commonly found in automobile engines.

The Otto cycle is constructed out of:

Top and bottom of the loop: a pair of quasi-parallel [isobaric processes](#)

Left and right sides of the loop: a pair of parallel [isochoric processes](#)

The book is a collection of relevant Wikipedia articles

Book:Thermodynamics

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This is a **Wikipedia book**, a collection of Wikipedia articles that can be easily saved, rendered electronically, and ordered as a printed book. For information and help on Wikipedia books in general, see [Help:Books](#) (general tips) and [WikiProject Wikipedia-Books](#) (questions and assistance).

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Everything you need to know [\[edit\]](#)

Chapter 1. Introduction

- [Classical Thermodynamics](#)
- [Statistical Thermodynamics](#)
- [Chemical Thermodynamics](#)
- [Equilibrium Thermodynamics](#)
- [Non-equilibrium Thermodynamics](#)

Chapter 2. Laws of Thermodynamics

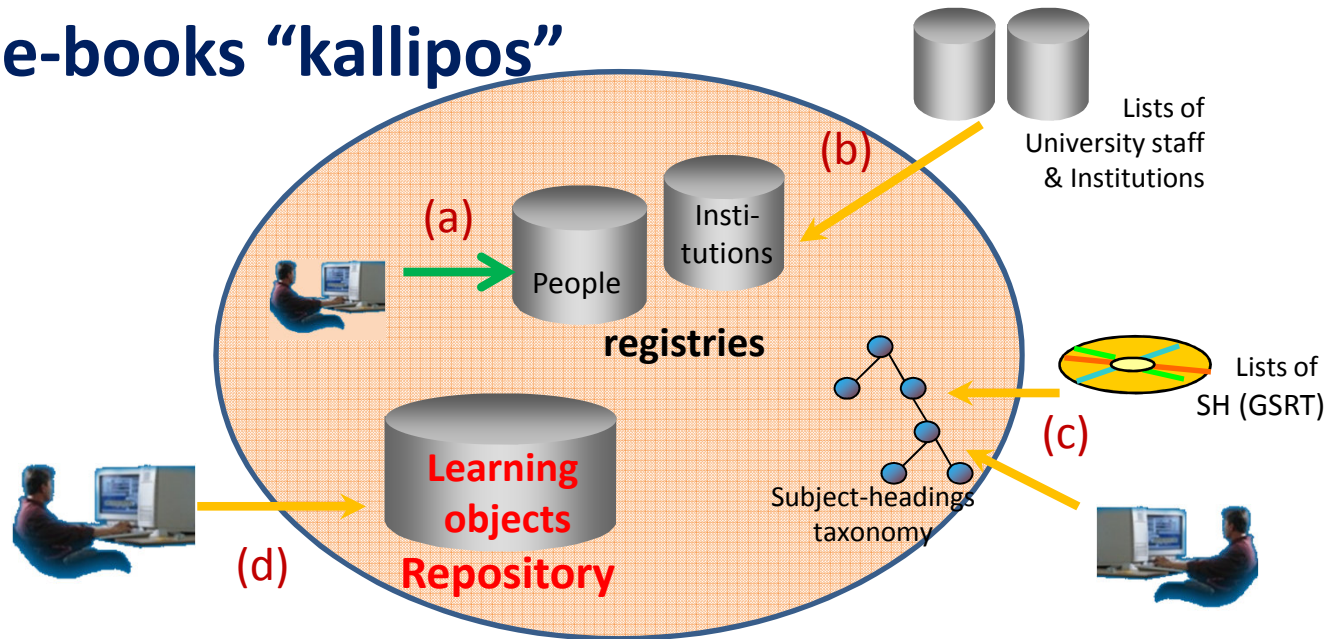
- [Zeroth](#)
- [First](#)
- [Second](#)
- [Third](#)

Chapter 3. History



The HEAL-Link e-book aggregator

e-books “kallipos”



Development steps

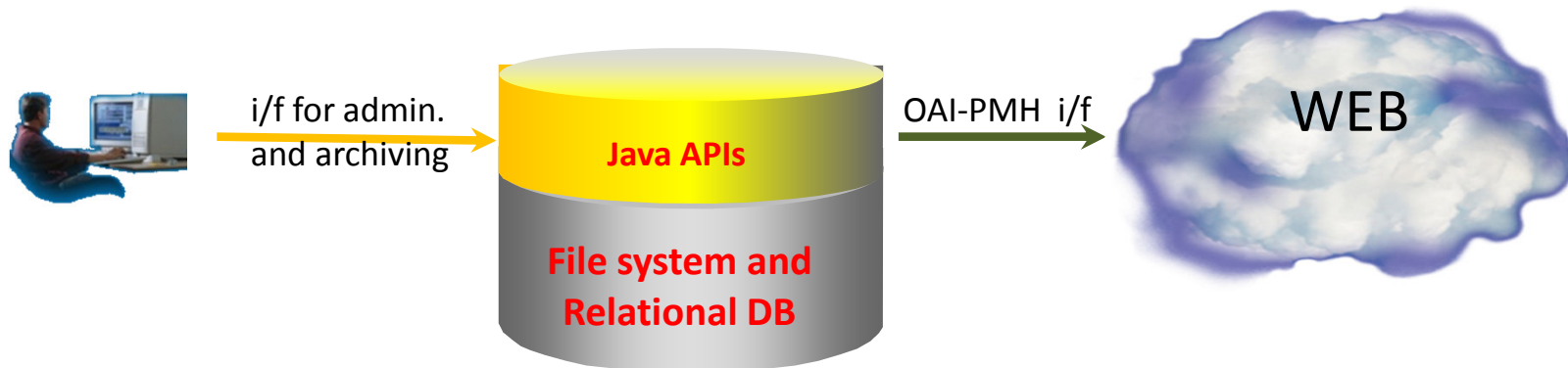
- (a),(b) Develop-populate registries of contributors (university staff) and Institutions
- (c) Compile subject-headings taxonomies and metadata schema (healmeta)
- (d) Archive learning objects and books, with the appropriate metadata



The HEAL-Link e-book aggregator (cont.)

Learning Objects Repository

- **Dspace platform**
 - Open-source software (initially by MIT and HP Labs → Dspace Foundation)
 - Content objects in a file system
 - Metadata in a relational database (Postgres)
 - OAI-PMH interface for metadata harvesting
 - Does not support the RDF model (Fedora does)
- **Same repository as for the rest of the academic content (publications, etc.)**
[Institutional Repository]





Learning objects as Linked Data

Guidelines

- ✓ Each LO, being either within an epub container or stand alone, will be assigned a dereferencable URI
- ✓ The metadata (healmeta) will be mapped to elements of widely used vocabularies (dc, bibo, Dbpedia, ...) to the maximum possible extent. For the rest, new concepts/properties will be devised
- ✓ The thematic classification schemes will be organized by means of the SKOS vocabulary and interlinked with well-known taxonomies (LCSH, DDC)
- ✓ Outgoing and incoming links will be developed and advertized
- ✓ A live extractor may be developed for extracting information from the repository about modified or newly added LOs through the OAI-PMH interface (much like the DBpedia gets information from Wikipedia)
- ✓ ...



Learning objects as Linked Data (cont.)

Incoming and outgoing links


- Incoming links may refer to the Learning Objects preserved within the aggregator, like to any other content element on the web
- E-book readers, e-book composers or mashup applications will be able to discover, access and use the LOs by following these links
- **Outgoing links may refer to any resource on the network**
- In general, e-books are written and read as stand-alone content entities. E-readers do not require a network connection in order to present the content of an e-book. In such a connectionless mode of operation any outgoing links remain dormant; they can only be activated whenever the reader gets connected to the network
- **The basic functionality and appearance of an e-book should not depend on external resources**



Example

A Learning Object example

with links to external resources and navigation utilities



[COMMENTS](#)
[Save](#)

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Created: November 2013

Theme: Internal Compustion Engines and the Oto cycle

Abstract

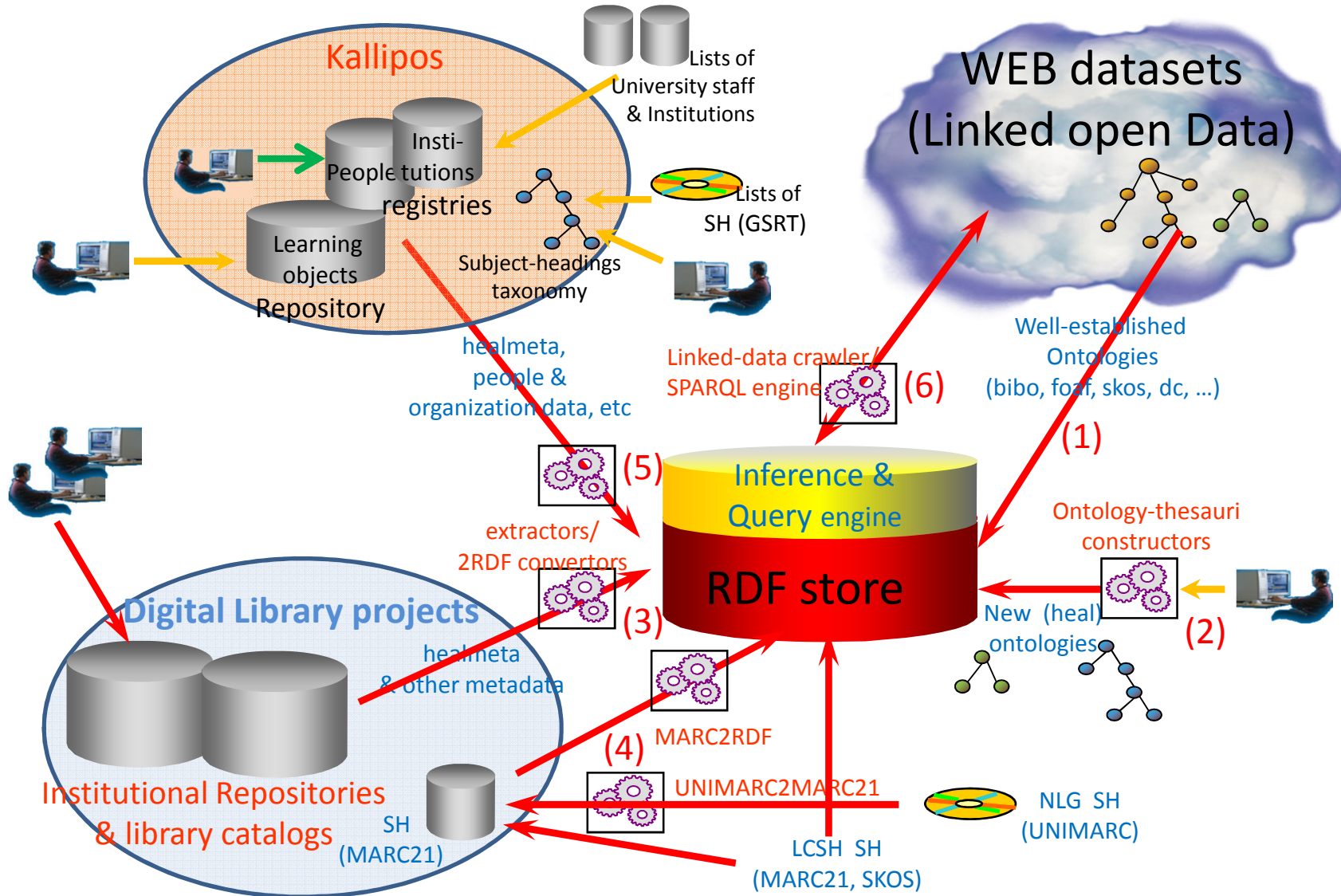
In this example, a couple of illustrations and related information about a specific theme are presented, with the sole purpose of demonstrating useful features and presentation techniques when links to external resources are included for fetching content into a Learning Object dynamically. The content itself provided here about the theme is neither complete nor important for this demonstration.

- Presents two animated illustrations of the chosen theme
- **Demonstrates the encapsulation of content from external resources (HTML pages or linked open data, e.g. DBpedia)**
- Provides a set of navigation and comment compilation utilities
- Available by a server (as HTML) or within an epub3 container; so can be played by ordinary browsers or epub3-readers (e.g. Radium)

http://pyrros.cn.ntua.gr/epub/LO-Otto_cycle-html.html



Final target: semantic integration





Ideas for a Horizon 2020 project



THANK YOU !