

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich • 23 February 2017

Collective Collections: Right-scaling Cooperative Stewardship

Constance Malpas

Research Scientist and Strategic Intelligence Manager, OCLC Research

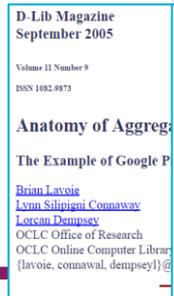
Establishing a body of evidence

Growing recognition that **institution-scale** print management models are **unsustainable**

Intra-regional duplication is low; inter-regional duplication is high; **“scale matters”**

Benefits & trade-offs of **operationalizing shared collections** at group or regional scale

Exploring characteristics of **European collective collections**; structural contrasts with US



2005



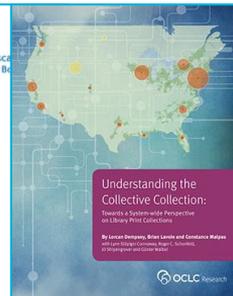
2006



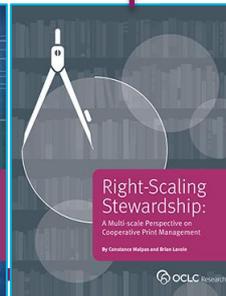
2011



2012



2013



2014



2016

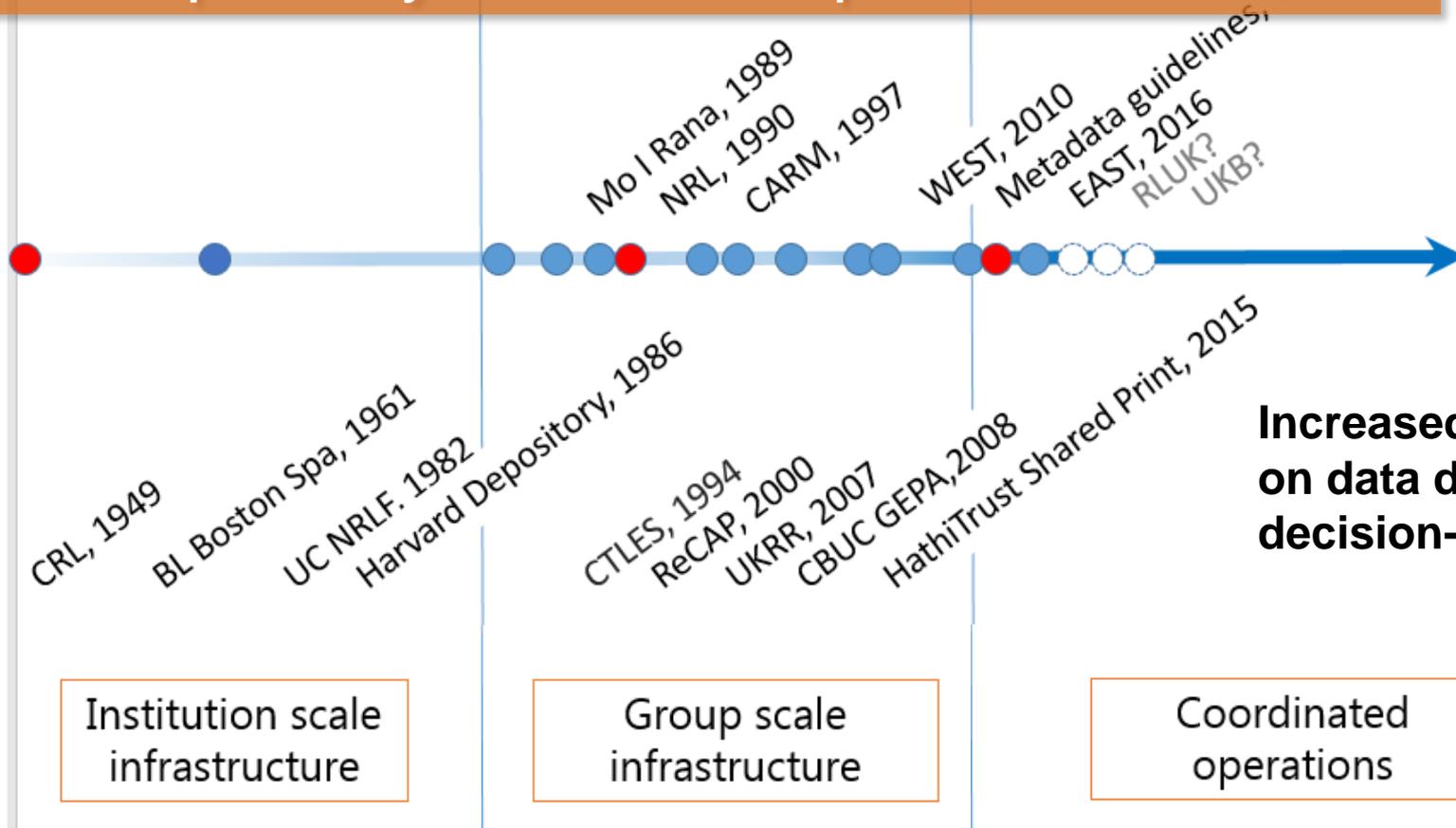
Significant share of institutional inventory is **duplicated in digital and print repositories**

Growing trend toward **coordinated management** at a variety of scales

Web-scale discovery **redefines collection boundaries**; growing need for coordination capacity

'50 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010 2020 2030 2040

Print repository and shared print infrastructure



Increased reliance on data driven decision-making

Institution scale infrastructure

Group scale infrastructure

Coordinated operations

Current context

- Financial (relative purchasing power) and opportunity-cost **pressures on traditional owned/purchased collections** model
- Increased reliance on direct consortial borrowing, hosted management systems, consortial licensing and demand-driven acquisitions: “**more groupiness**”
- Network discovery has reconfigured **boundaries of collection**: from what is owned to what is available

RIGHT-SCALING STEWARDSHIP

System-wide Perspective



Institutional inventory viewed in **context** of group, regional, global collections

What is the **optimal scale** for shared management?

empirical approach:
aggregate across
existing library units

counterfactual approach:
mega-regions

Regional Print Book Collections*



North American print book resource:
45.7 million distinct publications
889.5 million total library holdings

Figure: North American Regional Print Book Collections. OCLC Research, 2012.



Can existing mega-regions reduce friction in scaling shared print management?

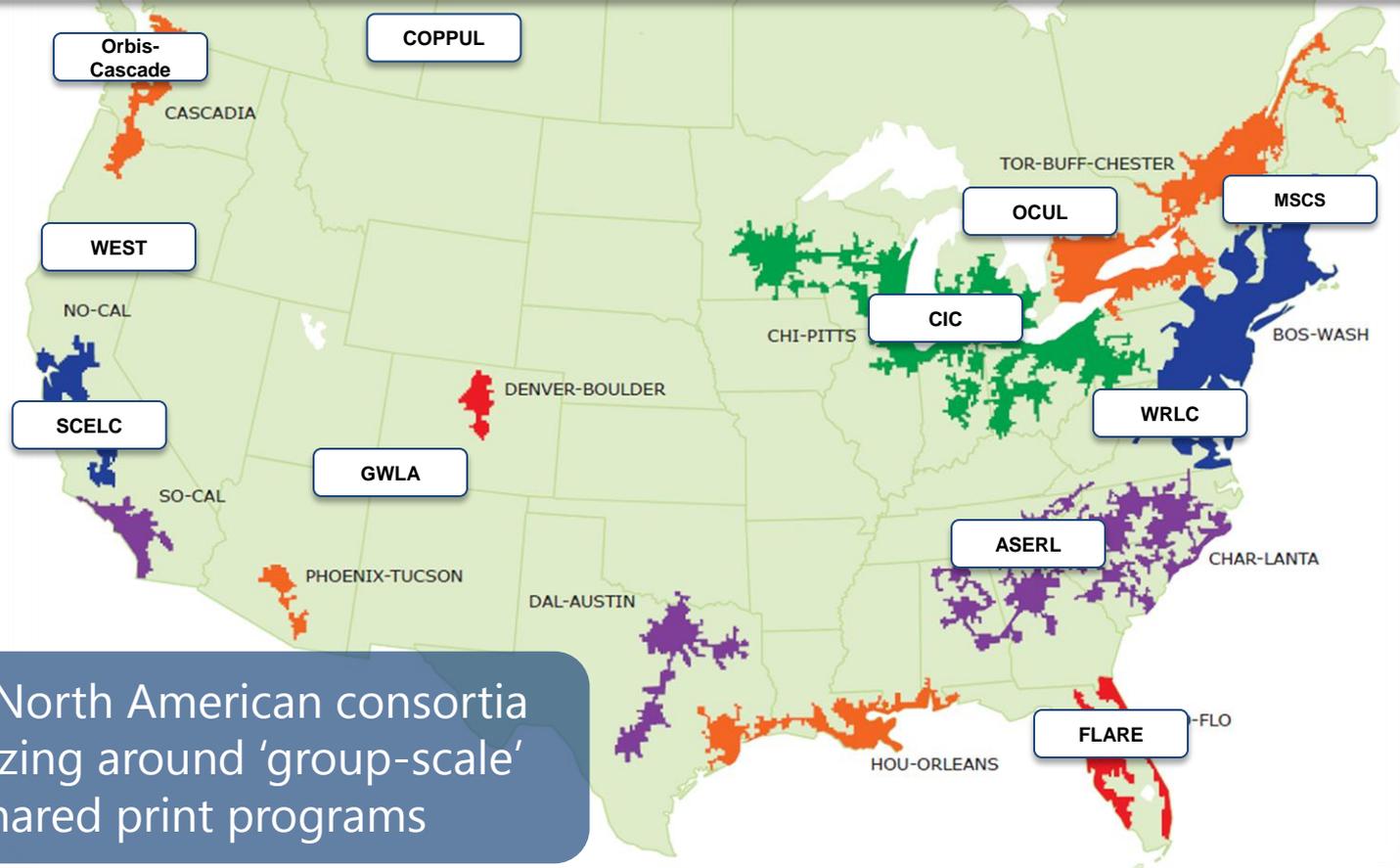
Will these corridors of trade compete with consortium or national-scale efforts?

Have they already affected the contours of institutional collections?

In practice:

- Existing consortial partnerships are the most expedient path to shared stewardship arrangements
- Peer institutions prefer to work together (despite potential advantages of multi-type partnerships)
- Geographic proximity is important to managing personal relationships and fulfillment services

North American Mega-regions & Shared Print Initiatives



Many North American consortia mobilizing around 'group-scale' shared print programs

Figure: North American Mega-regions and shared print activity. OCLC Research, 2013.

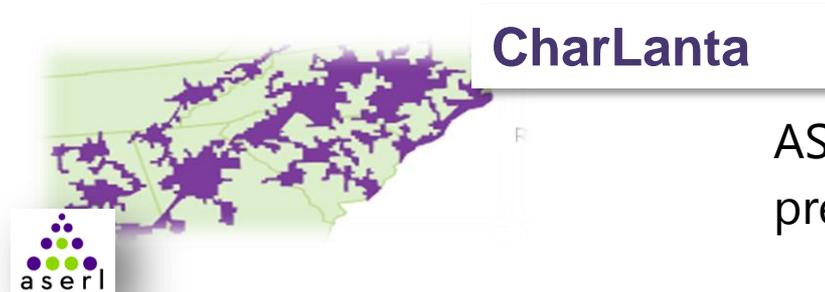
Regional Impacts of Consortial Print Stewardship



SCELC-scale shared print program could preserve **47%** of regional collection



CIC-scale shared print program could preserve **58%** of regional collection



ASERL-scale shared print program could preserve **67%** of regional resource

Libraries: 13
Print books*: 12.4M

Average duplication:

In-group: 3 holdings

...

Scarce: <4 holdings

Group: 76%

...

Libraries: 124
Print books*: 35.4M

Average duplication:

In-group: 7 holdings

Globally: 31 holdings

Scarce: <5 holdings

Group: 73%

System-wide: 51%

Libraries: 32*
Print books*: 20.9M

Average duplication:

In-group: 2 holdings

Globally: 33 holdings

Scarce: <5 holdings

In group: 88%

System-wide: 56%

Scarcity is common – why?

- **Research libraries** collect a greater share of historical literature; intrinsic supply constraints
- Regionally and nationally, **cataloguing practices** can vary widely; clustering and de-duplication gets harder
 - Monographic series
 - Language of cataloguing
 - Sparse and ‘stub’ records for hard-to-catalogue titles
- Institutional decisions about **what to represent in union catalogues**
 - Rare books and special collections
 - Grey literature, technical reports

SUCCESS FACTORS

Shared Print: Key Performance Indicators

Success

Operational and strategic goals are met; **local burden** of print management is **reduced**, while a **broader range of materials is preserved** and made available

Sustainability

Shared management **reduces costs** and creates enough surplus benefit to ensure **continued contribution** and **participation**

Scalability

Models are extensible; as adoption curve grows, additional participants can be added to **maximize economies of scope** and **scale**

Key factors for success, sustainability, scale

- **System-wide view of aggregate resource**
operational success relies on measuring, managing and monitoring risk
- **Robust trust networks**
single greatest constraint on success and scale of shared management?
- **Scalable infrastructure**
discovery/delivery logistics that reduce cost and friction

GERMANY

National context factors

- Sondersammelgebiete (**SSG**) – has it produced the desired result of comprehensive coverage?
- **Regional networks** (BVB etc) – does cataloguing vary systematically from one network to the next?
- Small scale **feasibility study** with OCLC Research currently underway to determine if collective collection analysis is possible with current data, resources

Thanks for your attention.

Constance Malpas



malpasc@oclc.org



@ConstanceM

**Because
what is
known must
be shared.SM**

