

TITIA

Image: <https://flic.kr/p/k976Ka>

Develop the physical and technical infrastructure needed to deliver physical and digital materials. In this area OCLC Research is also investing major effort.

2

TITIA

Interlibrary loan is an important activity and is notoriously labor-intensive, making it one of the more expensive services typically offered by libraries. ILL is a core service because no library can afford to buy and manage everything that is published. ILL is a good example of libraries working together to ensure requests for titles are fulfilled (every reader his/her book) and that the “collective collection” of libraries collaborating in an ILL-network is exploited optimally (books are for use). Likewise we also explore opportunities for collaborative library strategies in the area of managing shared print collections.

In the next slides I will explain what we do in this area.
This activity strand will be renamed as: “The Networked-Library”.

Opportunity: shared print

- **Problem = opportunity**
 - Declining use of print collections to the benefit of growing digital alternatives
 - Institution-scale stewardship of print collections increasingly unsustainable for many academic institutions
 - Print collections staff => needed for new service priorities
 - Globalization of higher education, distance learning and rise of MOOCs – traditional library infrastructure is out of step with emerging trends



3

TITIA

Our research looks at ways to achieve cost efficiencies for the management of print collections. The problem statement is clear and the opportunities for cooperation between libraries too.

Opportunity: shared print

- **Solution: reduce costs by collaborating on the legacy print collections**
 - ARL libraries: growing overlap with Hathi Trust, most of which widely held
 - Significant opportunity for collaboration in print management
 - Print resource as a shared asset managed cooperatively
 - Regions are attractive scale for this cooperation



4

TITIA

Our research looks at ways to achieve cost efficiencies for the management of print collections. The problem statement is clear and the opportunities for cooperation between libraries too. Collaborating on legacy print collections also raises new opportunities and issues, such as mass digitization and preservation.

North-American Mega-regions

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

Regional Print Book Collections*



* Circles are scaled to reflect the number of print book publications in each regional collection.
Lavoie, Malpas & Shipengrover for OCLC Research, 2012.



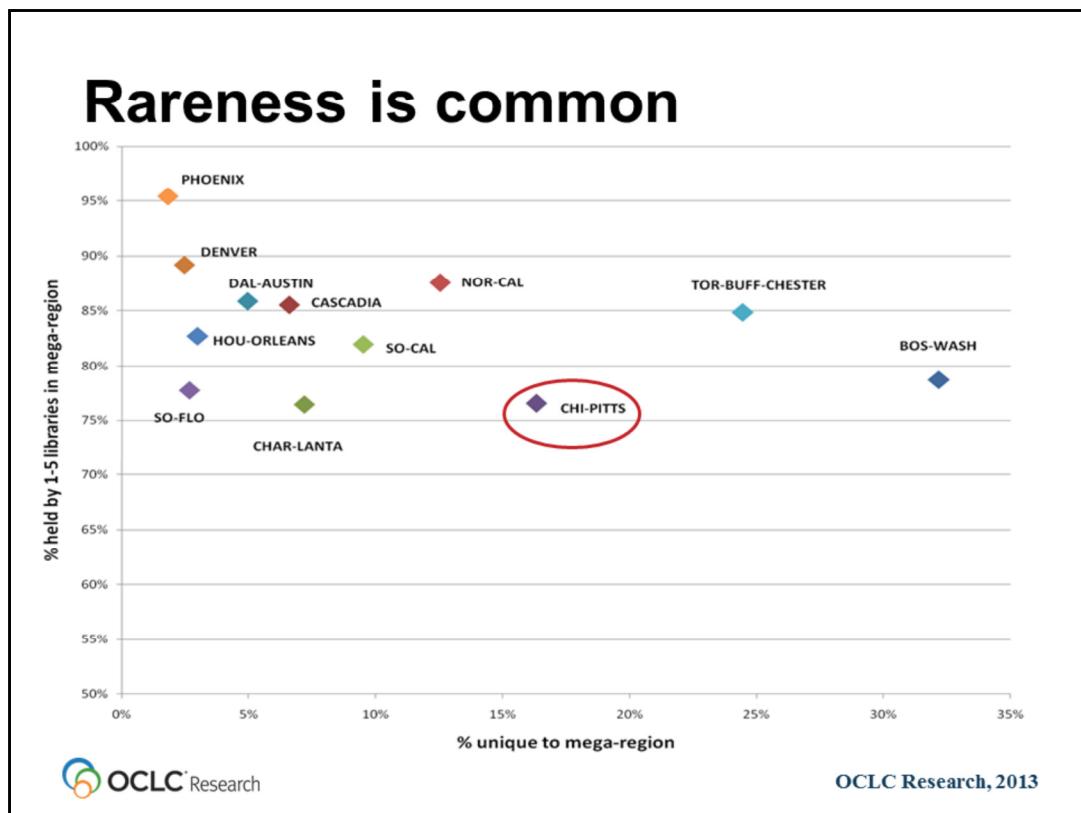
Geographic area defined by ***high level of economic integration***, underpinned by ***robust supporting infrastructure*** (transportation, logistics, etc.)

5

TITIA

“**Lights from space**” definition (Richard Florida et al.) Mega-regions, a concept developed by urbanist Richard Florida, are geographical regions defined on the basis of economic integration and other forms of interdependence. OCLC Research is proposing a **North American network** of regional shared print book collections, based on this model of regional economic activity/infrastructure.

Using WorldCat data. Planning to do this for a European region – finding out what is possible with available data.



TITIA

Among the many findings, is this one: rareness is common.

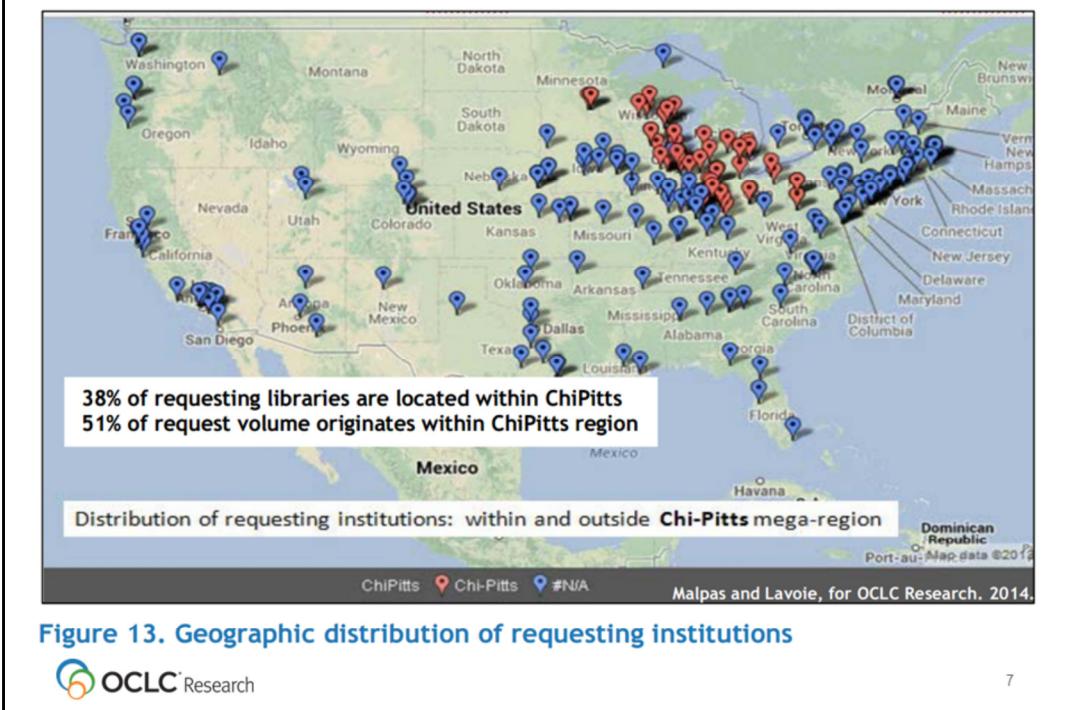
As an example, let's look at the CHI-PITTS region: **38% of OSU print book collection “rare”; 76% of CHI-PITTS collective collection “rare”.**

Rare print book = less commonly held by other libraries (unique/distinctive)

Highly likely to be non-English

Highly likely to be humanities

Probably older than average (pre-1950 – but also very new materials after 2010)

**Figure 13. Geographic distribution of requesting institutions**

7

TITIA

As an extension of this work, OCLC Research collaborated with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) and The Ohio State University (OSU) to investigate how demand-side circulation and inter-lending data might be combined with supply-side library holdings data to inform a regional print management strategy for monographic collections in the Chi-Pitts mega-region.

The Chi-Pitts mega-region represents more than 40% of titles held in North America. About 16% of these titles are unique to the region. The remainder constitutes a significant preservation backstop for other North American libraries: 50-92% of titles held by other regions are also held by Chi-Pitts. Thus investments in the preservation of print books in the Chi-Pitts region benefits libraries throughout North America. Conversely, there are relatively few regional collections that duplicate a significant share of the Chi-Pitts collection, which suggests that the burden of print preservation responsibilities (and investments) will be largely shouldered by institutions within the region.

Right-scaling Stewardship

Key insights/takeaways

- Collective CIC resource offers great breadth and diversity while exhibiting patterns of internal coherence and complementarity
=> **scale adds scope and depth**
- Even the largest institutional collections are far from comprehensive
=> **coverage requires cooperation; preserving the ‘collective collection’ will require coordination on a large scale**
- Aggregate CIC print book resource is rich and varied; supports thousands of libraries across North America
=> **institution and CIC-scale decisions about print retention will affect larger library system**
- CIC libraries: 30% of titles loaned, 20% of titles borrowed, duplicated by HathiTrust;
=> **strong incentives to coordinate CIC shared print strategy with HathiTrust shared monographs strategy**



8

TITIA