



## The CLOCKSS Archive -- Value Proposition

March 2022

***Libraries demand it.*** When scholarly content transitioned to electronic delivery, academic libraries realized that they no longer hold copies of the content. These libraries do not feel secure that the content they license from publishers is guaranteed to always be accessible to the library's users. Libraries have informed publishers that the content should be held in a trusted 3d-party preservation archive, in order to ensure that if, for any reason, the content is no longer available online, continuous access to the content can be assured via the 3d-party archive. Today all journal publishers deposit their content in at least one preservation archive, and a growing number of scholarly book publishers do the same. In brief, preserving their content in an archive like CLOCKSS makes it easier for publishers to license their content to libraries.

***CLOCKSS provides it.*** The CLOCKSS Archive holds a publisher's content on twelve [servers](#) around the world, in a "dark" archive (i.e., users do not have access to the archived content, unless it is "triggered" for access, see below). Using the [LOCKSS](#) software, CLOCKSS ensures that the digital data is healthy, so that if the content ever needs to be triggered for access, CLOCKSS is able to retrieve it and deliver it.

***CLOCKSS is governed by the community.*** CLOCKSS is a free-standing charitable, non-profit organization in the U.S. Its [Board of Directors](#) is comprised by twelve leading academic libraries, and twelve leading academic publishers. The Board discusses and sets policies, practices, and prices.

***CLOCKSS is supported by the community and is financially strong.*** CLOCKSS receives fees from over 435 publishers, and contributions from 300 libraries. CLOCKSS annual revenues are \$1.7 million, with a small annual surplus, and \$1 million cash on hand.

***CLOCKSS triggers are Open Access.*** In the rare cases that CLOCKSS triggers content, it is made available Open Access to everyone. CLOCKSS has [triggered](#) 66 journals, out of the more than 34,000 journals in the CLOCKSS system. Before CLOCKSS triggers content for access, it must be approved by the Board.

***CLOCKSS has flexible and robust processes.*** CLOCKSS can access publishers' content by [harvest](#) or [FTP](#). The harvest method is especially helpful for capturing more elements of new dynamic and evolving forms of digital scholarship.

***CLOCKSS is a partner to publishers and libraries.*** As a member of the scholarly publishing community, the CLOCKSS Archive is a "good citizen", providing a key infrastructure service, and participating in industry activities and contributing to the evolution of the academic literature.