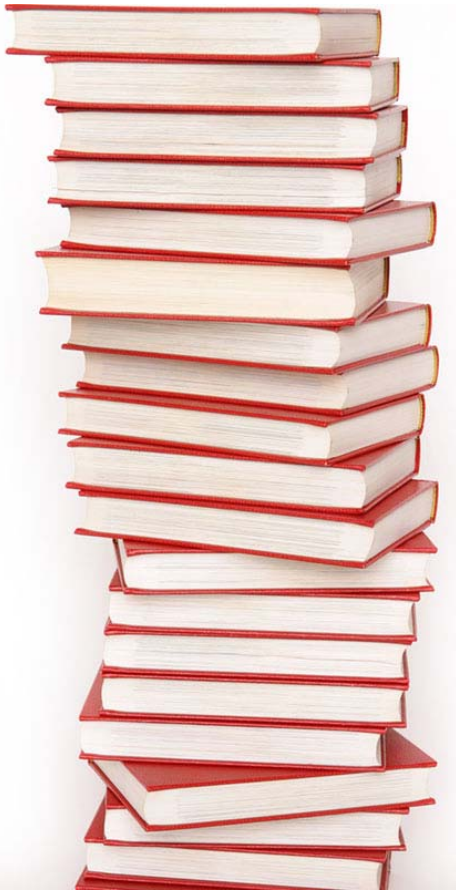


# library unplugged

the age of information ubiquity



**Kobus Ehlers**

Stellenbosch University

Stellenbosch Library Symposium

November 2008

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who am I ?



what is a **library**?



# information repository

## books, but not only books



# meeting of minds (great minds)

experts tend to flock to information  
sources



# academic space

students and researchers need places to work





help!

inexperienced knowledge workers  
need somewhere to go for advice

we also need to bridge the digital divide





but, recently the world changed...



in this new world  
it's all about  
**knowledge**

when say **knowledge** we  
mean **information**

**data** → **information** → **knowledge**

all this leads to incredible  
information consumption

**information ubiquity**

ubi qui ty /ju'bi kwiti/ (noun)

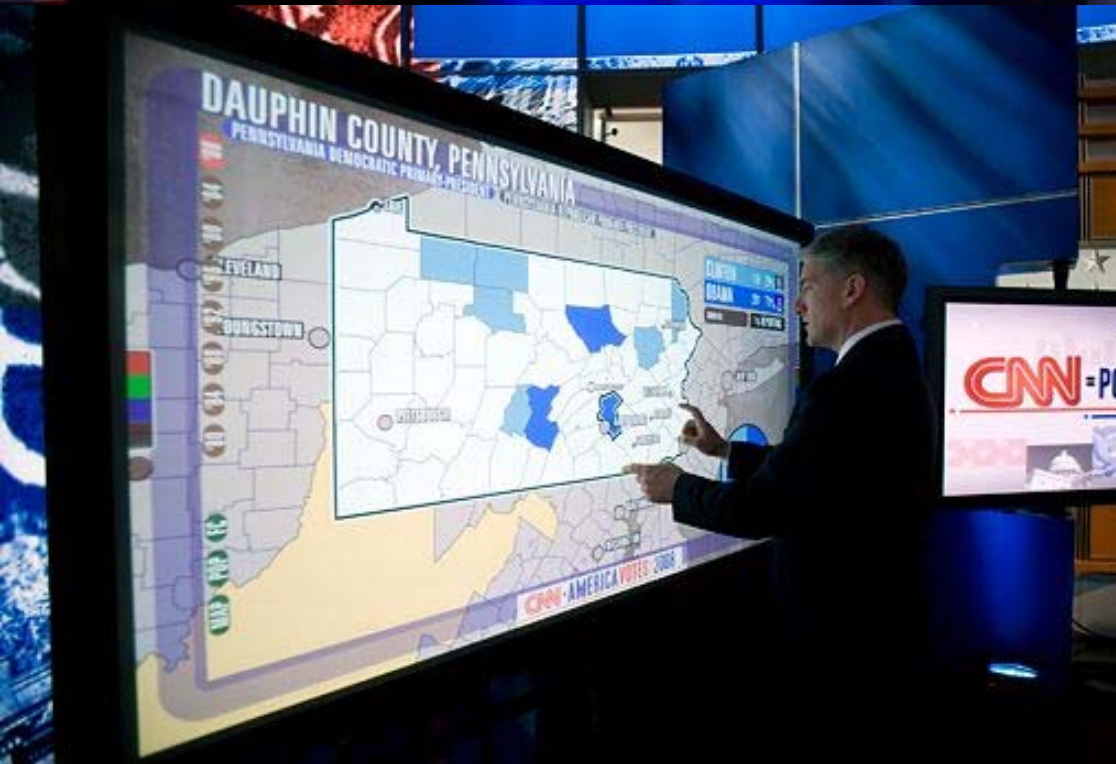
The state or quality of being, or appearing to be, everywhere at once; actual or perceived omnipresence.

information ubiquity also  
means **web 2.0** will very soon  
be **web 3.0**

# information is gathered in a variety of ways







**CNN JUMPING ON OBAMA** 8:16aET

ON SATURDAY

JUMPING PRIME MINISTER GORDON BROWN TO CALL A MEETING OF



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### Today's featured article



**Mayan languages** are a language family spoken in **Mesoamerica** and northern **Central America**. Mayan languages are spoken by at least 6 million **indigenous Maya**, primarily in **Guatemala**, **Mexico**, and **Belize**. The Mayan language family is one of the best documented and most studied in the **Americas**. Modern Mayan languages descend from **Proto-Mayan**, a language thought to have been spoken at least 5000 years ago; it has been partially **reconstructed** using the **comparative method**. Mayan languages form part of the **Mesoamerican Linguistic Area**, an area of linguistic convergence developed throughout millennia of interaction between the peoples of Mesoamerica. All Mayan languages display the basic diagnostic traits of this linguistic area. During the **pre-Columbian** era of **Mesoamerican history**, some

Mayan languages were written in the **Maya hieroglyphic script**. Its use was particularly widespread during the Classic period of **Maya civilization**. The surviving corpus of over 10,000 known individual Maya inscriptions on buildings, monuments, pottery and bark-paper **codices**, combined with the rich postcolonial **literature in Mayan languages** written in the **Latin alphabet**, provides a basis for the modern understanding of pre-Columbian history unparalleled in the Americas. **(more...)**

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- ...that **The Geysers**, a geothermal power field located north of **San Francisco, California**, (*power plant pictured*) is the largest geothermal development in the world?
- ...that **Betty Roberts** was the first woman to serve on **Oregon's Supreme Court**?
- ...that **Swearing on the Horns** is a **Highgate** pub tradition that dates back to the 1600s?
- ...that the **autobiography** of Italian sculptor **Raffaello da Montelupo** contains the only known contemporary reference to **Michelangelo's** natural **left-handedness**?
- ...that the **Rusty-barred Owl** is one of the only two members of the *Strix* genus of birds to be



### In the news

- **Fighting** between the **Lebanese Armed Forces** and **Fatah al-Islam** breaks out near **Tripoli** and **Nahr al-Bared** in northern **Lebanon**.
- ***Cutty Sark*** (*pictured*), a 19th-century **clipper ship** preserved in a **drydock** at **Greenwich** in **London**, is extensively damaged by fire while undergoing restoration.
- The **2007 FA Cup Final** concludes with **Chelsea Football Club** defeating **Manchester United** 1-0 (aet) at the newly rebuilt **Wembley Stadium**.
- About 500,000 colonial-era **silver** and **gold coins** are **retrieved** from a 17th-century shipwreck off the coast of **Cornwall**, **South West England**.
- The **Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia**, established abroad after the **Bolshevik Revolution** in 1917, is formally reunited with the **Russian Orthodox Church**.
- **Paul Wolfowitz** announces his resignation from the Presidency of the **World Bank Group** following allegations of ethics violations involving **Shaha Riza**.

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### On this day...

**May 21: Victoria Day** in **Canada** (2007); **Navy Day** in **Chile**.

- 1674 - **John III Sobieski**, elected by the **szlachta**, became the King of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.
- 1879 - War of the Pacific: Two Peruvian ironclads led by Miguel Grau Seminario attempted to lift the blockade of Iquique by Chilean battleships under Arturo Prat in the **Battle of Iquique**.
- 1894 - The **Manchester Ship Canal** was officially opened, linking the city of **Manchester** to the **Irish Sea**.
- 1927 - Aboard the *Spirit of St. Louis*, **Charles Lindbergh** completed the first solo non-stop transatlantic flight, flying from **New York City** to **Paris**.





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The Mayan language family is one of the best documented and most studied in the [Americas](#).<sup>[3]</sup> Modern Mayan languages descend from [Proto-Mayan](#), a language thought to have been spoken at least 5,000 years ago; it has been partially [reconstructed](#) using the [comparative method](#).

Mayan languages form part of the [Mesoamerican Linguistic Area](#), an area of [linguistic convergence](#) developed throughout millennia of interaction between the peoples of Mesoamerica. All Mayan languages display the basic diagnostic traits of this linguistic area. For example, all use [relational nouns](#) instead of [prepositions](#) to indicate spatial relationships. They also possess [grammatical](#) and [typological](#) features that set them apart from other languages of Mesoamerica, such as the use of [ergativity](#) in the grammatical treatment of verbs and their subjects and objects, specific inflectional categories on verbs, and a special word class of "positionals" which is typical of all Mayan languages.

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**Genetic classification:** [language family](#) descended from [Proto-Mayan](#). See below for details.

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```
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{{featured article}}
```

<!--Spelling conventions:

- For individual language names this article uses the [ALMG](#) orthographies for the Mayan languages of Guatemala, and the Mexican languages [Ch'ol](#), [Wastek](#) and [Tojolab'al](#). Traditional Spanish spellings are used for [Tzotzil](#), [Tzeltal](#), [Lacandón](#) and [Chicomuceltec](#). The [Cordemex](#) orthography is used for the [Yucatec](#) language. For Classical [Quiché](#) the traditional [spanish](#) spelling is used. The name [Jakaltek](#) is preferred over the alternative [Popti'](#).

- For the names of language groups in the genealogical classification the following spellings are used: [Ch'olan](#), [Q'anjobalan](#), [Quichean](#), [Yucatecan](#) and [Huastecan](#).

-->

```
{{Infobox Language family
|name=Mayan
|region= [[Mesoamerica]]: Southern [[Mexico]]; [[Guatemala]]; [[Belize]]; western [[Honduras]] and [[El Salvador]]; small refugee
and emigrant populations, especially in the [[United States]] and [[Canada]]
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|familycolor=American
|proto-name=[[Proto-Mayan]]
|child1=Huastecan
|child2=Yucatecan
|child3=Ch'olan
|child4=Q'anjobalan-Chujean
|child5=Mamean
|child6=Quichean
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|iso2=ine
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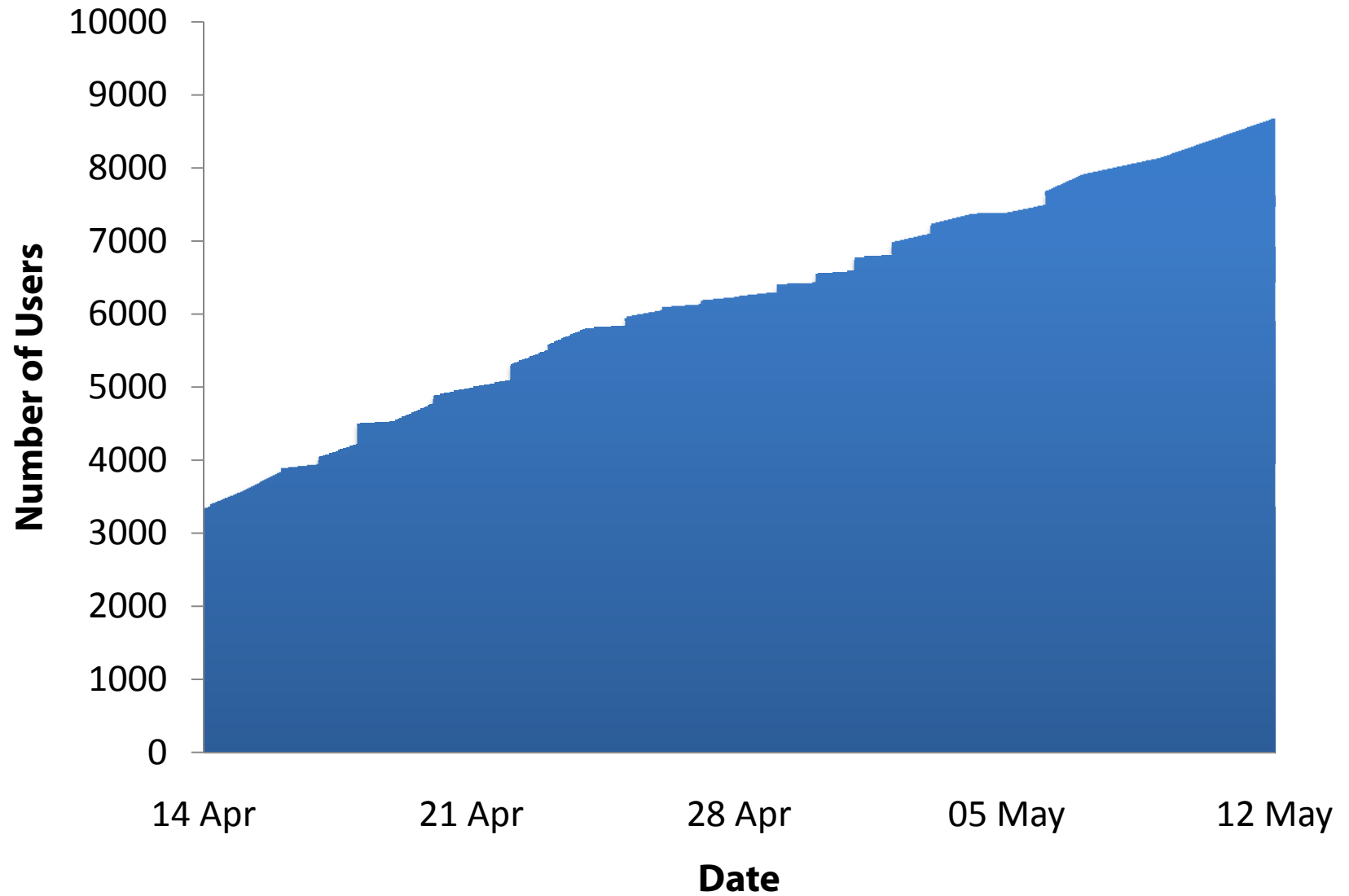
[some slides redacted]

# 91%

percentage of undergraduate  
USA students with Facebook profiles

# Facebook Growth (Stellenbosch)

Apr – May 2007



# 16 824

active Facebook profiles in the  
Stellenbosch network this morning

# “Facebook owns your campus”

- Prof Fed Stutzman

An Evaluation of Identity Sharing in Social Network Communities  
University of North Carolina

which **lessons** can  
we learn?



**books** are still relevant

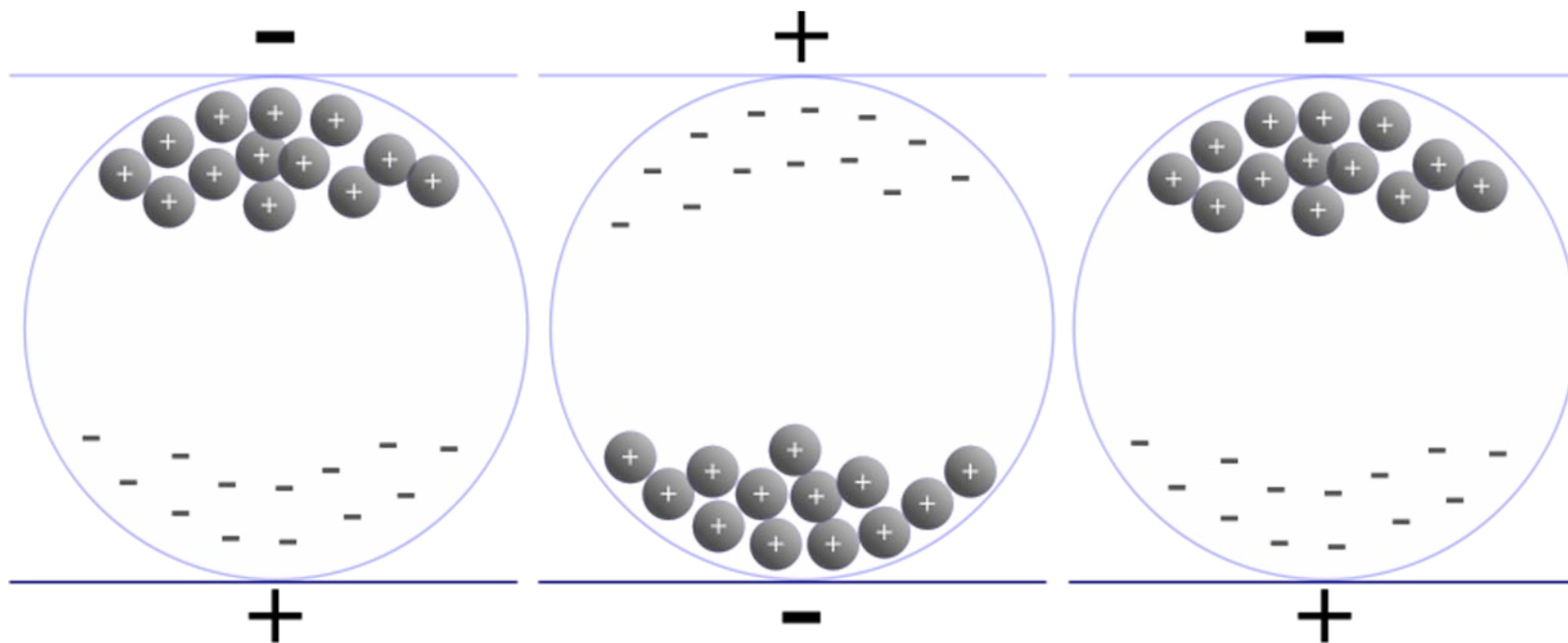




books will exist in  
**new forms**

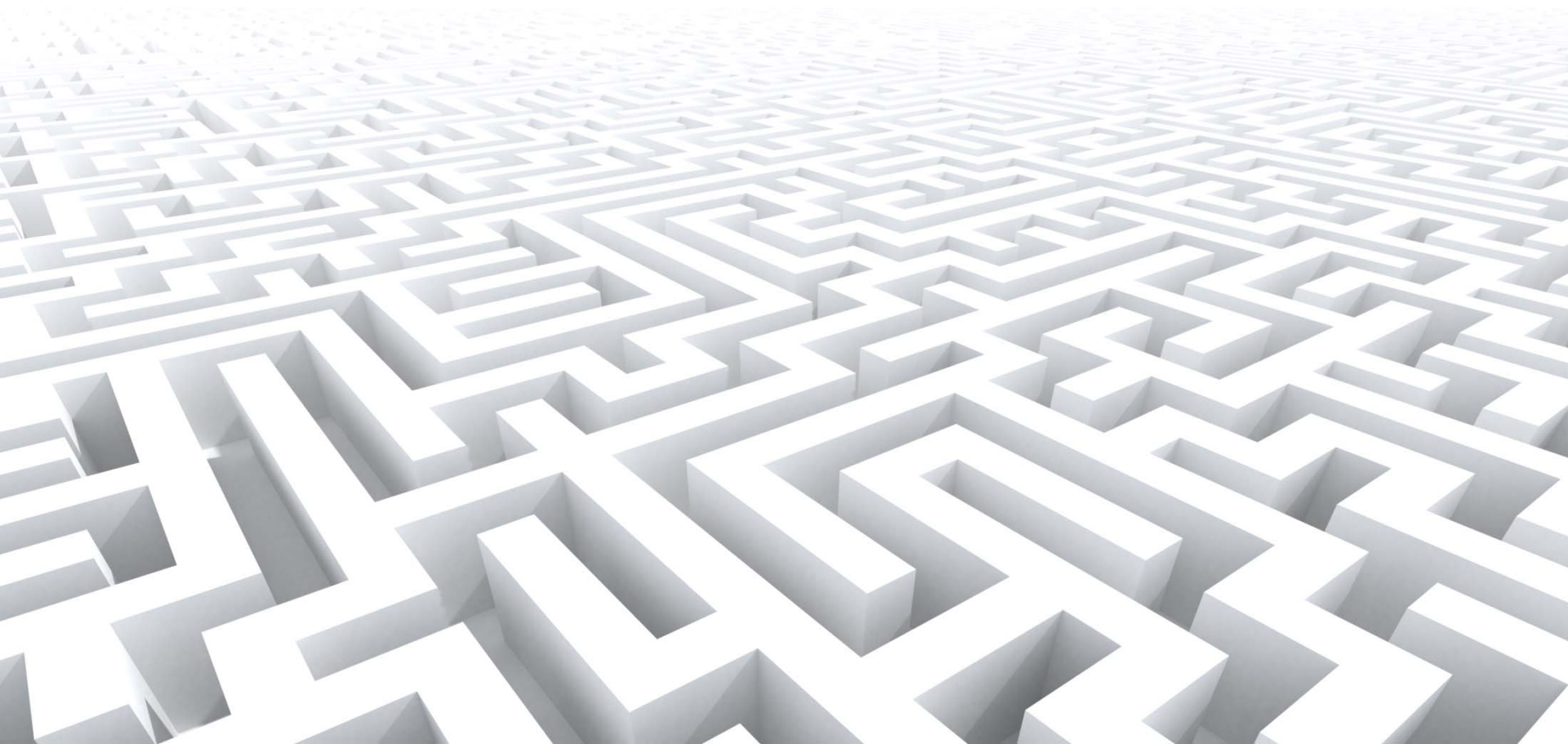
amazonkindle







someone needs to **co-ordinate**  
**information flows**



don't forget the **clients**

for many it doesn't matter what is more accurate.  
It matters what is more available.



the **space** is imperative

physical space and  
facilities



library services will also be delivered **outside** the library



**access** is the product  
**searching** is key  
computing & storage is **irrelevant**





# **elastic** and **cloud** products completely transformed computing

processing power (EC2)

\$0.10 per hour (R0.96)

storage space (S3)

\$0.12 per GB/month (R1.16)

# challenges

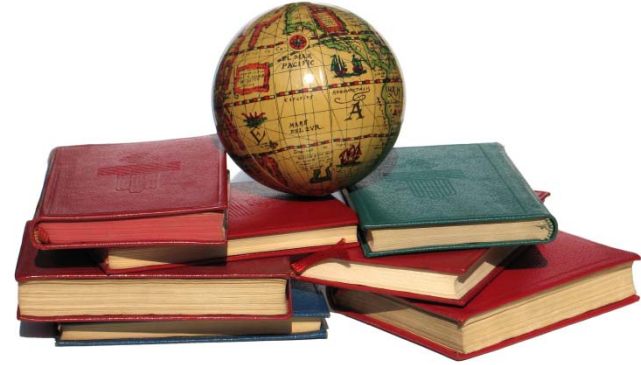
accessibility of technology

local relevance

funding

**bandwidth bottleneck**





in short...

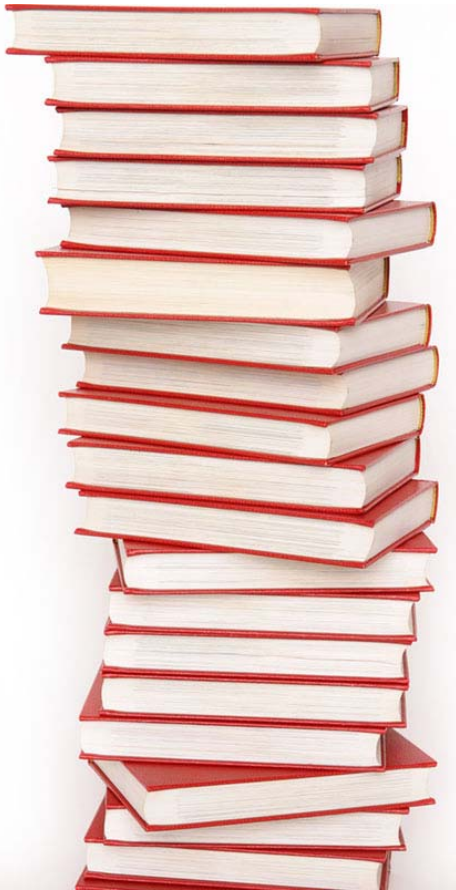
the traditional library is **doomed**, but  
libraries are **here to stay**

questions?



# library unplugged

the age of information ubiquity



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Department of Information Science  
Stellenbosch University

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