

Digital libraries in Korea: Research patterns and comparisons for DL practices

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Introduction

- digital libraries can be dependent on cultural context and national environments
- the practices of digital libraries could be understood via research practices and patterns
- the research patterns from LIS core journals was investigated by Liew (2009)
- this presentation: research for DL practices in Korea will be explored according to the framework of Liew's study

Introduction

- In Korea, the research on digital libraries has conducted since 1995
- To understand multiple dimensions of DL including technological infrastructure, ethical, legal, socio-cultural, organizational, and economical issues
- 91 studies in Korea were analyzed and compared to the research patterns in core LIS journals

Introduction

RQs:

RQ 1: What research topics are studied in Korea?

RQ 2: To what extent the research topics are different from the result of core LIS journals?

Digital library: definitions

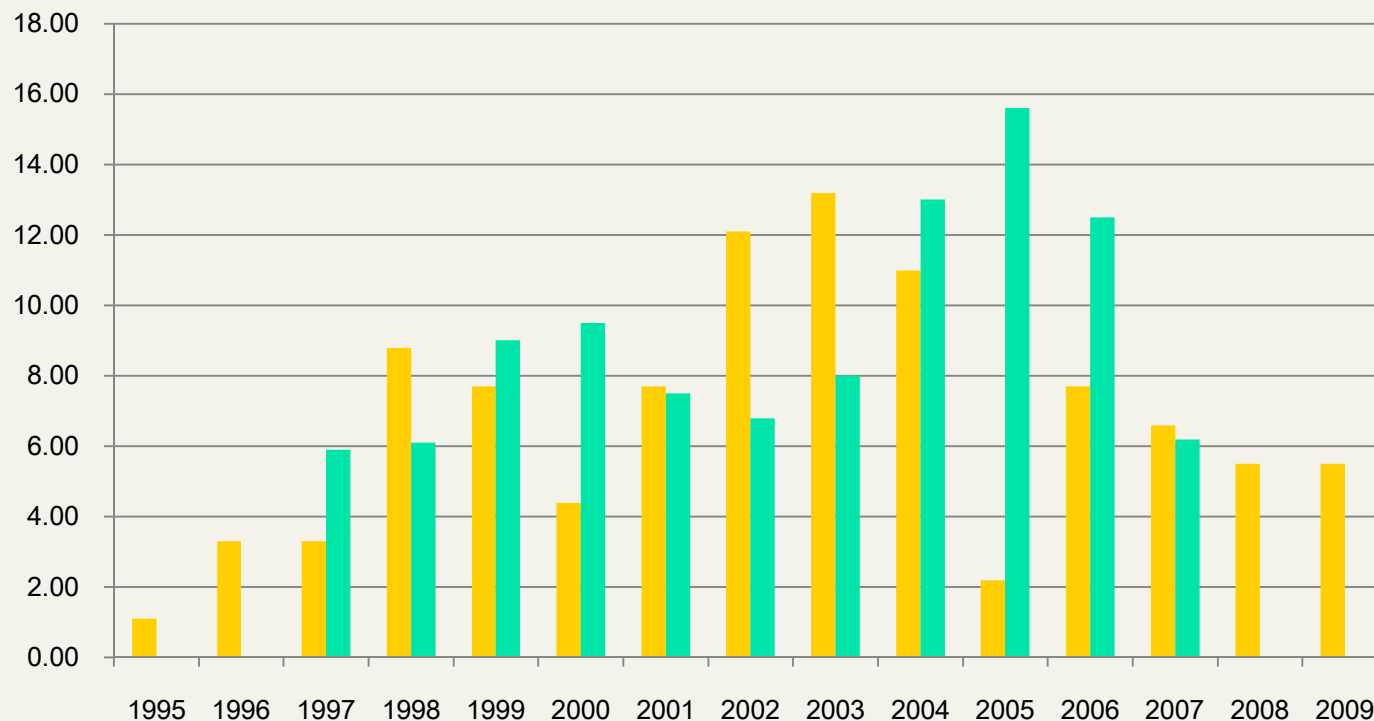
- Schwartz (2000): there are about 64 formal and informal definitions
- Cronin (1998): various disciplines are involved, library science, information science, computer science, cognitive science, cultural anthropology, electronic engineering, and many other disciplines
- → multiple dimensions in DL

a DL definition: multiple dimensions

- Digital libraries are organizations that provide the resources, including the specialized staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to, interpret, distribute, reserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities (DLF, 1998)

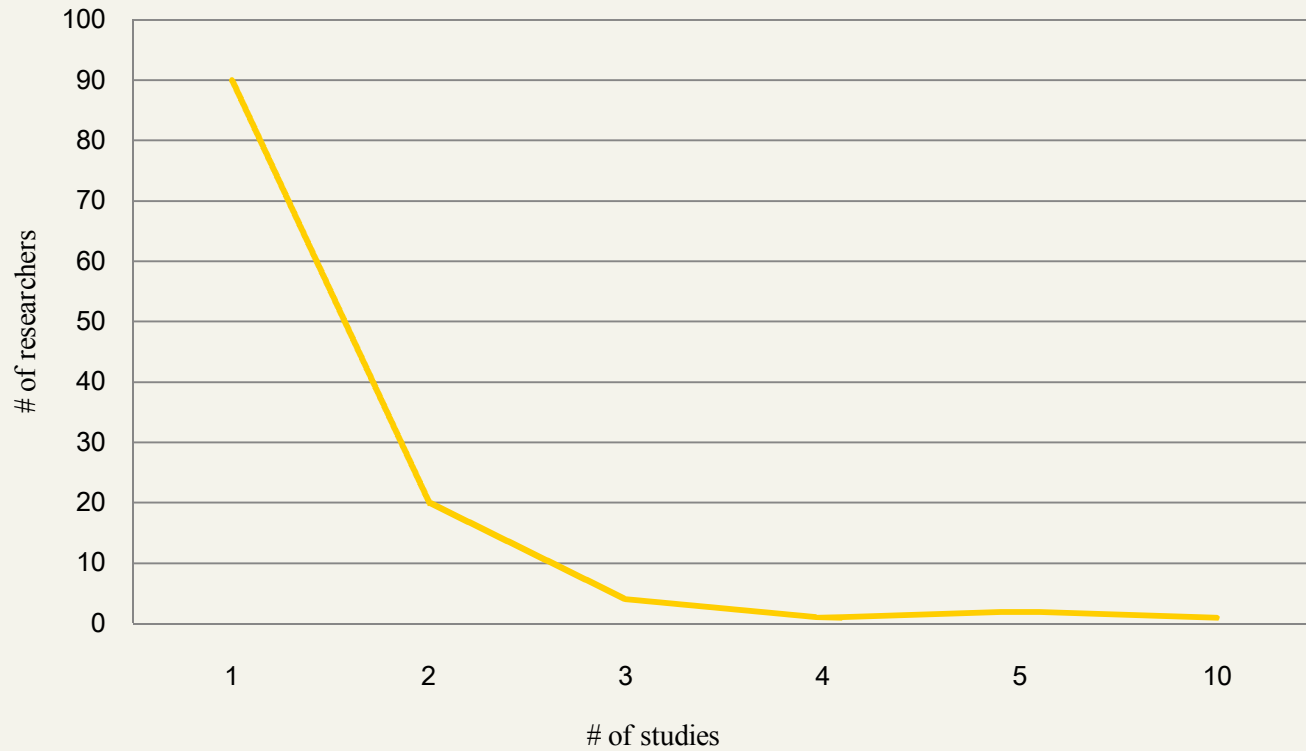
DL research: overview

- DL studies published by year in core LIS journals and journals in Korea



DL research: overview

- Researchers in Korea



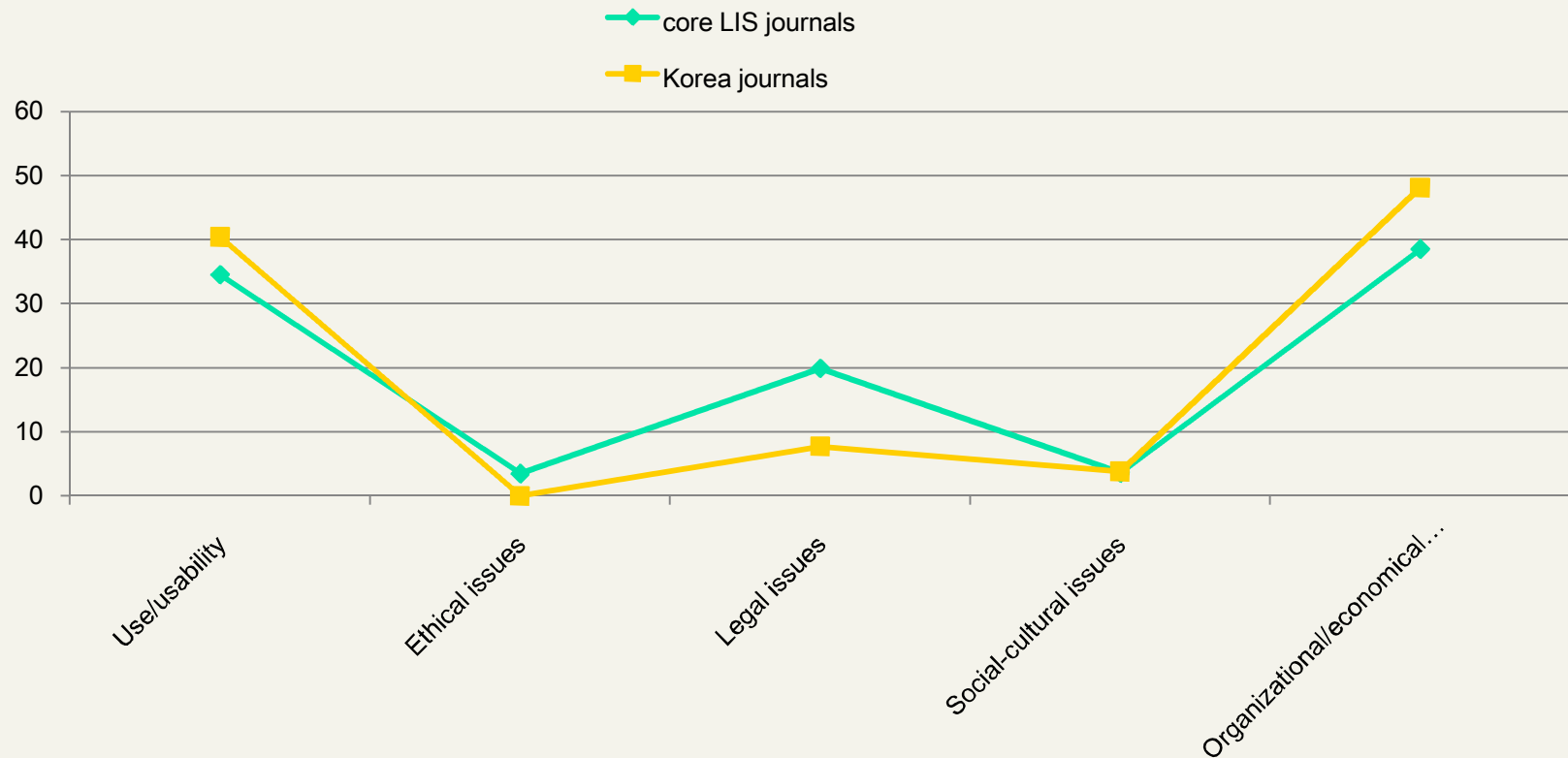
DL research: overview

■ Research topics

Topic	Research in core journals		Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research	# of research	% of research
Use/usability	199	34.5	21	40.4
Ethical issues	20	3.5	0	0
Legal issues	115	19.9	4	7.7
Social-cultural issues	21	3.6	2	3.8
Organizational/economical issues	222	38.5	25	48.1
	577	100.0	52	100.0

DL research: overview

■ Research topics



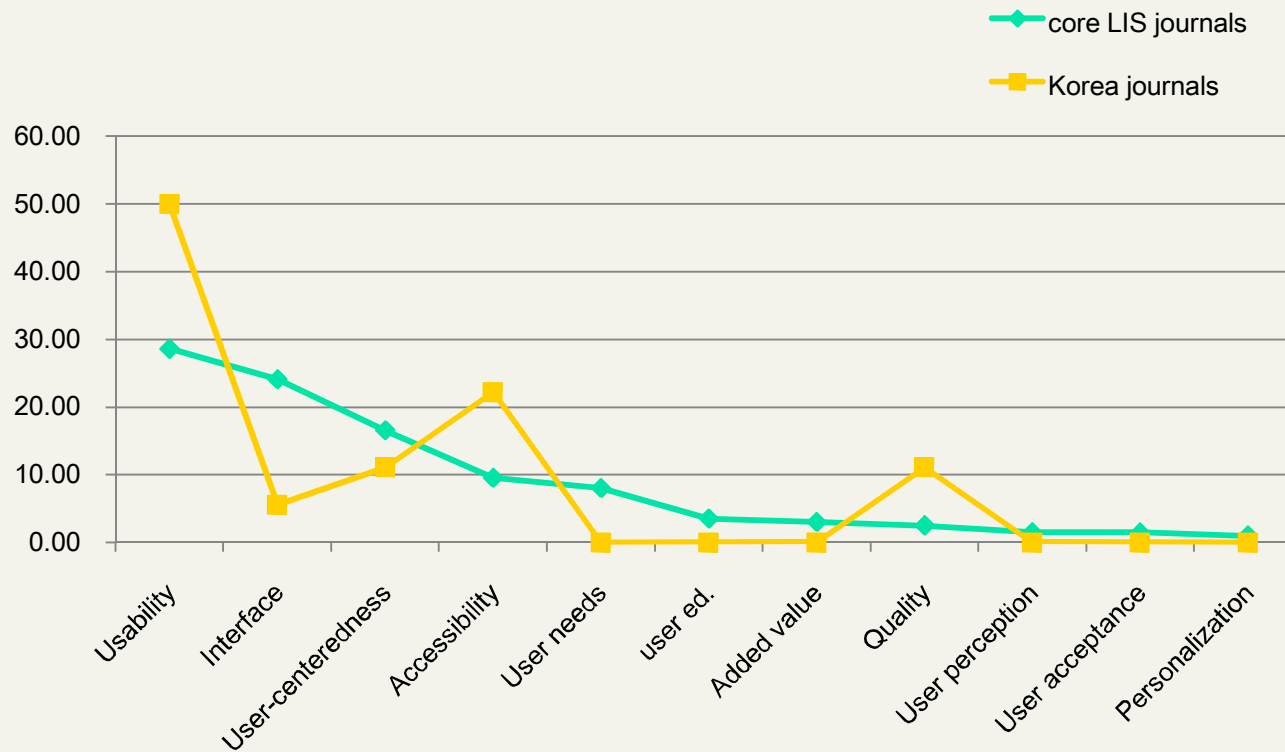
DL research: detailed topics

■ Usability issues

Topic	Research in core journals		Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research	# of research	% of research
Usability	57	28.64	9	50.00
Interface	48	24.12	1	5.56
User-centeredness	33	16.58	2	11.11
Accessibility	19	9.5	4	22.22
User needs	16	8.04	0	0.00
User ed.	7	3.52	0	0.00
Added value	6	3.02	0	0.00
Quality	5	2.51	2	11.11
User perception	3	1.51	0	0.00
User acceptance	3	1.51	0	0.00
Personalization	2	1.01	0	0.00
Total	199	100.0	18	100.00

DL research: detailed topics

■ Usability issues



DL research: detailed topics

- Ethical issues

Topic	Research in core journals	
	# of research	% of research
Privacy	10	50.0
Trust	6	30.0
Individual rights	4	20.0
Total	20	100.0

DL research: detailed topics

■ Legal issues

Topic	Research in core journals		Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research	# of research	% of research
Copyrights	57	49.6	4	100.0
Rights management	37	32.2	0	0
Intellectual property rights	21	18.2	0	0
Total	115	100.0	4	100.0

DL research: detailed topics

■ Socio-cultural issues

Topic	Research in core journals		Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research	# of research	% of research
Multilingual	11	52.4	0	0
Multicultural	3	14.3	0	0
Cross-cultural	2	9.5	0	0
Social inclusion/exclusion	2	9.5	0	0
Cross-lingual	1	4.7	0	0
Social/team empowerment	1	4.7	2	100.0
Learning/knowledge environment	1	4.7	0	0
Total	21	100.0	2	100.0

DL research: detailed topics

■ Organizational/economical issues

Topic	Research in core journals		Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research	# of research	% of research
Collaboration	47	21.2	4	17.4
Planning	43	19.4	8	34.8
Funding	39	17.6	0	0
Licensing	29	13.0	0	0
Collection	16	7.2	5	21.8
Marketing	12	5.4	0	0
Business models	7	3.1	3	13.0
Promotion	6	2.7	0	0
Cost-benefit	6	2.7	1	4.3
e-commerce	5	5.2	0	0
Feasibility studies	4	1.8	0	0
Benchmark	2	0.9	0	0
Outreach	2	0.9	0	0
Sustainability	2	0.9	0	0
Risk management	1	0.4	0	0
Socio-economic	1	0.4	2	8.7
Total	222	100.0	23	100.0

DL research: detailed topics

- Other topics

Topic	Research in Korea journals	
	# of research	% of research
Standards	7	17.9
Information services	5	12.8
DL physical architecture	2	5.2
Technological issues	25	64.1
Total	39	100.0

DL research: journal/disciplines

- In Korea DL research,
- three disciplines are involved: library and information science, computer science, and architecture

DL research: conclusion

- DL's multiple dimensional characteristics
- Overall research in core LIS journals and Korea journals are relatively similar
- In detail, there are considerable differences
- The differences could be from cultural and social differences
- Further investigations on this will be conducted

Thank you!

Please contact me via echung@ewha.ac.kr

If you have any questions or comments on
this presentation