

**Digital preservation in institutional repositories: a  
systematic literature review**

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## Digital preservation in institutional repositories: a systematic literature review

### Abstract

Purpose: This paper carries out a literature review on the implementation of digital preservation policies, strategies and actions by institutional repositories. The objective is to identify, out of the published experiences, at which level they are fulfilling the function of ensuring the long term availability of the deposited materials.

Design/methodology/approach: Using a systematic literature review methodology, a total of 21 articles from international refereed journals published between 2009 and 2020 are reviewed.

Findings: The research production on this subject is very limited. The scarce number of published articles proves that the interest of repository managers has been focused on issues other than to assure the long term availability of the assets they store. Our literature review has not found clear evidences about how institutional repositories are implementing digital preservation. It is particularly striking the lack of works focused on the situation in European countries. More field studies are needed. They would allow to extract conclusions and produce best practices to help managers to improve preservation strategies.

### Keywords

systematic literature review ; digital preservation ; institutional repositories ; preservation policies ; administrative metadata ; repository certification

### Introduction

Authors like (Koler-Povh et al., 2015), (Marsh, 2015), (Nemati-Anaraki and Tavassoli-Farahi, 2019) or (Bullock, 2016) have illustrated how institutional repositories (IRs) have become an essential element of the scholarly communication ecosystem.

The most widespread definition of IRs was provided by Clifford A. Lynch in his seminal article (Lynch, 2003): *A set of services that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members. It is most essentially an organizational commitment to the stewardship of these digital materials, including long-term preservation where appropriate, as well as organization and access or distribution.*

The importance of digital preservation was already pointed out in this definition. However, it has been one of the repository functions that has gathered less interest by the community.

The efforts of repository managers have been concentrated on demonstrating their usefulness and persuading academics to upload their publications. This has led to a relaxation in the basic requirements regarding digital preservation. The priority on contents recruitment has prevailed over quality concerns.

Even when IRs make clear their commitment to guarantee the availability of contents over the long term, a quick review of the literature shows that there are few evidences about how are they satisfying such purpose.

The main objective of this paper is to fill this gap, carrying out a systematic literature review on the issue of digital preservation in institutional repositories. We try to learn, out of the published experiences, at what degree IRs are fulfilling the function of assuring the long term availability of the deposited resources. Our practical purpose is to find out evidences in the literature about how repositories are actually implementing long-term preservation. The ultimate goal is to

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2  
3 provide useful information to researchers and practitioners to help them to develop a picture of  
4 the current situation in order to set up research priorities and action plans for the future.  
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## 8 **Literature review**

9  
10 The research interest regarding IRs has evolved considerably over the last two decades.  
11 (Stevenson and Zhang, 2015) differentiate several time periods in the evolution of repository  
12 research. The initial phase was focused on introducing concepts, metadata management and  
13 potential design structures and frameworks. This is consistent with (Cho, 2014), who concluded  
14 that the main focus of interest of research in the early stages of repository development was  
15 interoperability of metadata and quality improvement. Secondly, the research moved towards the  
16 case studies, specifically related to the different user perspectives. The latest period culminated  
17 the expansion and development of IRs, with evaluation and business models as the main areas of  
18 attention.  
19

20  
21 A great deal of authors have agreed on the importance of digital preservation for IRs. Just as an  
22 example, (Hockx-Yu, 2006), (Li and Banach, 2011), (da Silva Júnior and Borges, 2017), (Francke  
23 et al., 2017), quote the already mentioned Lynch's paper and admit that preservation activities  
24 should be implemented by repositories.  
25

26 Nevertheless, it seems that repository managers have paid little attention to this function. Authors  
27 like (Stevenson and Zhang, 2015) and (Cho, 2014) have shown that digital preservation is not one  
28 of the most frequent subject terms in the technical literature on IRs. It is more an independent  
29 research domain than something connected to the repositories practical activities.  
30

31 Back in 2008, (McGovern and McKay, 2008) already concluded that repository managers had been  
32 concentrated in enlarging the amount and quality of contents, persuading researchers about the  
33 usefulness of open access dissemination of research, or improving the interoperability and  
34 discovery of research outputs.  
35

36 Recently, (Saini, 2018) published a literature review on the topic of digital preservation and IRs.  
37 From this paper we can conclude that, unfortunately, the situation has not changed over time. This  
38 work has two weaknesses in our opinion. Firstly, it is a narrative review, with not defined  
39 procedures for identification of reviewed studies. Furthermore, all the works analysed were  
40 published before 2015. In this sense, our research complements and goes a step forward by  
41 applying a scientific methodology to the literature survey.  
42  
43

## 44 **Methodology**

45 (Boell and Cecez-Kecmanovic, 2014) characterize the literature review as the process in which  
46 authors identify, analyse, assess and synthesize earlier research on the issues they attempt to  
47 explore. For the purpose of this paper, we have chosen the systematic literature review (SLR)  
48 approach and followed the methodology proposed by (Denyer and Tranfield, 2009). The phases  
49 they differentiate could be summarized in four: research question(s) formulation, locating studies  
50 through a bibliographic search, study selection and evaluation and analysis and synthesis.  
51  
52

## 53 ***Research Questions Formulation***

54  
55 Our research questions have been articulated around the three elements the ALA (American  
56 Library Association, 2007) enumerates as essential constituents of digital preservation: policies,  
57 strategies and actions. Policies prove the institution's commitment to preserve digital content for  
58 future use. Strategies and actions show how the institution is actually implementing the policies  
59 in the daily workflows of the repository. Furthermore, we consider one more element: certification  
60

as trusted repositories. Certification is reached when the accomplishment of the previous elements is verified in the light of some international standard.

Building on these properties and the considerations pointed out in the introduction of this paper, our aim is to answer the following questions:

RQ1 Policies: To what extent do the IRs have preservation policies and plans?

The repository preservation policy must be more than a simple statement of commitment to make contents available in the future. It should be reflected in a document where at least the following elements need to be defined: the purpose of the policy, its scope, staff roles and responsibilities (Beagrie, et al., 2008).

RQ2 Strategies and actions: How are IRs implementing digital preservation?

Strategies and actions should be based on proactive digital preservation as defined by (Bountouri, 2017). This means, far from preservation being just a task for the end-of-life of a digital object, to span to the whole content life cycle. Such strategies start from the early creation stages of a digital resource, engaging the producers of the digital material and raising awareness on the importance of preservation.

Taking this in consideration, we have focused on:

- RQ2a Preservation metadata. There is a need to preserve metadata about the technological and other contexts of a digital object's creation and use (Day, 2001). Are there evidences of IRs producing and storing good quality and complete metadata to be able to resolve future issues in rendering their assets?
- RQ2b File formats. File format obsolescence has been recognized as one of the major threats to preservation. Do IRs have clear indications or policies on which formats are accepted for ingestion? Do they perform any subsequent activities after ingest of files concerning file checking, migration and so on?
- RQ2c Systems and technology. Digital preservation activities should not be limited by the technologies available. They need to be carried out in an independent mode, without being constrained by proprietary solutions. What are the technical solutions available which are being implemented by IRs?

RQ3 Certification: Are IRs being certificated as trusted repositories following international standards?

Trustworthiness is a fundamental issue for any digital repository (Corrado, 2019) (Becker, et al., 2009). Establishing a trusted and reliable archive should increase the confidence of authors and will foster their disposition to upload contents.

Checklists and criteria catalogues have been developed to be used in trustworthiness certification of digital archives. We have looked for instances in which repositories have carried out certification processes following international standards like TRAC (Trustworthy Repositories Audit & Certification: Criteria and Checklist); ISO 16363: Audit and certification of trustworthy digital repositories; Catalogue of Criteria for Trusted Digital Repositories. Version 2 (nestor, 2009), CoreTrustSeal ...

### ***Locating studies***

The source data for this literature review was collected from four of the most comprehensive bibliographic databases available: Web of Science, Scopus, LISA (Library and Information Science Abstracts) and LISTA (Library, Information Science and Tehnology Abstracts).

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2  
3 The search was restricted to peer reviewed articles published in English language in the period  
4 2000-2020. The limitation by publication date was based on (Cho, 2014). In this study on the  
5 structure of the institutional repository field, the author dated the first published article on the  
6 subject in 2001.  
7

8 In order to have as many source articles as possible, we took a broad approach in our database  
9 search strategy. General concepts were used in order to gain exhaustive results and to not miss  
10 relevant papers in the first stage of the review. We rather preferred to deal with non-relevant  
11 articles in the search output, than missing relevant ones due to the use of a narrower search  
12 strategy.  
13

14 According to this principles, we used the broad search strategy: "institutional repositories" and  
15 preservation. Searches were executed in early December, 2020, with the results shown in Table  
16 1.  
17

#### 18 TABLE1 19

20 The initial results set (386 records) was exported to a bibliographic database using RefWorks as  
21 reference manager. Duplicated records were deleted using the deduplicate function of RefWorks,  
22 followed by manual checking to assure the correctness of the process. The final data set to be  
23 reviewed was made up of 262 different records and it is available, as bibtex format, at:  
24 <https://bit.ly/3a9I8Nn>  
25

26 In an initial assessment of the results, we realized that the keywords selected for the bibliographic  
27 search were used quite often without a clear and actual relation to the content of the paper they  
28 described. For such reason, it was necessary to apply well defined exclusion and inclusion criteria  
29 in order that only the most relevant documents would be chosen. These were to conform the data  
30 set object of the review.  
31

#### 32 ***Study selection and evaluation*** 33

34 The main inclusion criteria, as mentioned earlier, was: peer reviewed articles published in English  
35 language over the period 2000-2020. Additionally, we defined one more criteria:  
36

- 37 • IC2: Selected articles must directly or indirectly address, at least, one of the research  
38 questions.  
39

40 The following rejection criteria were applied:  
41

- 42 • EC0: We excluded non relevant articles. Frequently, even when keywords were included  
43 in the abstract or subject terms, they were not descriptive of the content of the documents.  
44 For instance, digital preservation is mentioned often as one of the principal repository  
45 functions. Typically, authors include the concept in keywords and abstract, however then  
46 they go on describing the importance, usefulness and requirements of such function, but  
47 not going any further in describing practical implications. This led to a substantial  
48 reduction of 121 documents in the initial results set.  
49
- 50 • EC1: We excluded articles where non-scientific methodology was applied or no evidence  
51 of the actual situation in IRs was provided. Under these circumstances there are two types  
52 of studies. First, we categorized the articles following the classification of research  
53 methods described by (Palvia and Sibley, 2007). Only case studies, field studies or  
54 qualitative research were taken in consideration. Secondly, we excluded surveys when  
55 the object of study was not directly related to preservation. Frequently, surveys are  
56 intended to describe usage pattern, perception of the usefulness, authors motivation to  
57 contribute, attitudes of academia, success factors... In this kind of studies, preservation is  
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addressed as a marginal issue. Overall, articles in this exclusion category accounted for 59 items.

- EC2: Articles focused on heritage digital repositories were also excluded. By heritage repositories we mean those that mainly handle digital surrogates of analog resources. Usually, they deal with digital rendering of special collections in libraries. Digital repositories and IRs are differentiated by type and origin of resources, document life cycles, metadata creation, and methods of arrangement (Kutay, 2014). Content in digital repositories is fairly homogeneous because it has been created following well established international standards on file formats and digitization procedures. It is made up of good quality metadata produced by curators and standardized file formats. It is ingested by the repository staff in a controlled environment and following detailed work flows. This picture differs considerably of the IRs, characterized by the heterogeneity and complexity of the digital resources, usually digital born assets, with metadata being created by non-specialized contributors. 47 articles were excluded.
- EC3: Finally, we excluded articles reporting ongoing research projects. Many of such projects are now long time finished. Probably the results were, or are going to be, incorporated into the management work flows of the IRs. Nevertheless, they clearly do not add any practical insight into the current situation. Under this category 16 articles were excluded.

We obtained the full text of all articles in the results set and read introduction, methodology and conclusions in order to apply the inclusion and exclusion criteria. From the original set, 243 articles were excluded and 19 passed the initial test.

The last step in the process of article selection was quality assessment. The purpose was to make a selection decision based on the overall quality of the candidate papers. We used two methods to carry out the process: quality criteria and citations count.

The following quality assessment criteria were set up to evaluate the selected papers.

- QA1: How relevant is the topic addressed in the research paper to our SLR?
- QA2: To what extent are IRs the main target of the study?
- QA3: Is the research methodology clearly specified in the paper?
- QA4: To what extent are the results of the research paper relevant for our SLR?

We rated each criterion with 1, 0.5 or 0 if the article satisfies fully, partially or not at all the criteria respectively. The final score of the paper was the sum of all criteria. We considered the paper's quality as low if it scored below 2. The result of applying the quality assessment criteria is given in table 2. No article was rated as low quality so no further documents were excluded from the data set.

#### TABLE2

The number of citations an article has received is commonly considered an indicator of its research quality. We have performed citation counts for all the initially selected papers. Table 2 shows the number of citations for each document in three citations indexes. Almost all articles in our set have been cited at least once. Only three articles had no citations. They have been published recently, in the last three years. Since a work to be cited requires a certain period of time to pass, we decided not to exclude these articles based only on the number of citations criteria.

To summarize, once the exclusion criteria and quality assessment steps were applied, the dataset of selected articles for review was reduced to those 19 which match all criteria.

1  
2  
3 In order to complete the source data, we performed reference searches. This involves examining  
4 the references and works cited in each article following the principle that one paper relevant for  
5 our research should cite and be cited by other papers that could also be of interest for our study.  
6

7 With this purpose, we reviewed the references of the source papers (backward) and the citations  
8 (forward) identified in the mentioned citation indexes. For each reference and citation, we decided  
9 if the article could be of interest for our study. In such case, we downloaded the full text and  
10 applied the inclusion and exclusion criteria in the same way that we did with the bibliographic  
11 search results. This step led to the addition of 2 new articles, increasing the total set of works to  
12 be reviewed to 21. They are listed in the Appendix and constitute the object of study for this  
13 review.  
14

### 15 *Analysis and synthesis*

16 For analysis and synthesis, the basic metadata of each source article was exported to a spreadsheet.  
17 In addition, we defined several facets in order to further characterize the scope of each paper:  
18 country and geographic region under study, publication journal, publication date and research  
19 question addressed. The resulting dataset is available at <https://bit.ly/2LtEYLY>. Each item in the  
20 dataset is identified with a code made up of a letter stating the phase in which the article was  
21 chosen (S = bibliographic search, C = citations search) plus the id of the article in the RefWorks  
22 database  
23  
24  
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26 The distribution of selected articles by publication year shows that the first studies were published  
27 in 2009. Since then, the number of new publications has been stable, with a peak in 2017. The  
28 late appearance of studies does not mean that the interest for digital preservation only arises one  
29 decade after the first IRs were born. Interest was clear since the beginning of the field  
30 development, but only after 2010 such interest crystallized in concrete policies, strategies and  
31 activities. It is worth noting that half of the studies have been published over the last three years.  
32 This fact proves that the interest in preservation is increasing as the repositories become mature  
33 tools.  
34  
35

36 Having only 21 studies published over a time span of 20 years gives us a very small average of  
37 one single article per year. This quite limited research production confirms the scarce interest in  
38 the issue by repository managers as we already pointed out in the introduction of our work.  
39

40 As for the geographic scope of research, the largest number of publications cover initiatives from  
41 North America (6 USA, 1 Canada and 5 both of them). They include case studies from large  
42 universities as well as several analyses of the general situation in the Association of Research  
43 Libraries (ARL). Europe and Africa, with three case studies each one, are in the next level due to  
44 number of publications.  
45

46 It is noteworthy the small number of publications reporting on European experiences (3 papers).  
47 In our opinion, this lack of studies may be related to the role played by the European Union in the  
48 development of IRs. The interest has been driven by policies regarding open access. Such policies  
49 have fostered the promotion of mandates to make the research results resulting of projects funded  
50 by the EU available in IRs. However, they have paid little attention to digital preservation issues.  
51

52 Asia and Latin America with 1 article each one and Africa with 3 complete the list.  
53

54 We lack studies with broader geographic coverage, involving different countries and continents.  
55 This would allow us to draw parallels and comparison between implementations of digital  
56 preservation at different levels.  
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1  
2  
3 As for the distribution of articles by publication source, Digital Library Perspectives is the journal  
4 with the largest production on the issue (5 articles). The second one is D-Lib Magazine even when  
5 it was closed down in 2017 (2 articles).  
6

#### 7 RQ1: Preservation Policies and Plans 8

9 Seven articles covered the topic of digital preservation policies and plans. Two of them, C4493  
10 and S7142, went over preservation policies within the ARL libraries. Back in 2011, S7142  
11 confirmed that an increasing number of research libraries had started to move digital preservation  
12 programs ahead by developing preservation policies.  
13

14 This study was followed in 2017 by C4493, which is the most exhaustive survey on the topic of  
15 preservation policies we have tracked down. The author found a considerable increase in the  
16 number of universities with policies compared to 2011. She goes a step forward by reviewing  
17 both the positive elements and the shortcomings of the policies. Among the top challenges for  
18 libraries listed, there are: the increasing volume of digital content, the rapid evolution of  
19 technologies, staff expertise, economic costs and lack of understanding and education on the  
20 topic.  
21

22 The North America's picture is completed by S7231, a case study about policy development on  
23 the Purdue University Research Repository (PURR).  
24

25 Outside North America, we found studies in Africa and Latin America. Three studies examining  
26 the situation of digital preservation in Africa have differing conclusions. S7196 carried out a  
27 survey on the whole continent and concluded that more than half of respondents had a policy  
28 statement regarding digital preservation. Policy statements are not a proper policy. Statements  
29 only express the commitment to preserve contents. In this sense, we should conclude that while  
30 IRs in Africa declare its intention to preserve contents, it is not clear if they have a true digital  
31 preservation policy.  
32

33 S7360, by the same author, narrowed the scope to Nigeria. Its conclusions were constrained by  
34 the few universities that have an institutional repository in the country, only 11%. The situation  
35 is different to the rest of the continent, because almost no IRs have preservation policy statements.  
36 The same conclusions is reached by S6999 in their survey of IRs in Ghana.  
37

38 Finally, S7208 went over the situation in Brazil: IRs do not have any published digital  
39 preservation policies, even though some repositories state their intention of preserving digital  
40 material in their institutional information policy.  
41

#### 42 RQ2a: Preservation metadata 43

44 There is small evidence about the usage of preservation metadata and most part of the studies  
45 focus on the situation of ARL libraries.  
46

47 S7142 found that 58% of IRs in ARL libraries reported recording preservation metadata: technical  
48 data, rights information, provenance or ownership history, and change tracking of the resource.  
49

50 In a survey focused on the usage of administrative metadata, S7032 concluded that there was no  
51 true consensus of administrative metadata accommodated and collected by the repositories. In her  
52 opinion, the community is not putting enough effort into administrative metadata. She identified  
53 many possible reasons for these "metadata shortfalls": the ingest of digital materials is rapid and  
54 increasing at a rate that may well put their management beyond the means of most institutions;  
55 metadata standards are voluminous and complex; staffing may be an issue too ...  
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57  
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2  
3 The difference between both studies could be attributed to a significant disconnection between  
4 what the community is saying in surveys and what is actually happening on the ground. In this  
5 sense, answers to surveys should be accompanied by the corresponding evidence.  
6

7 Two case studies (S7231 and S7354) with geographic focus on the USA, complete the picture.  
8 They report on the usage of metadata in PURR and Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries  
9 Digital Repository respectively. In both cases, two standards are mentioned, METS and PREMIS.  
10

11 If the previous research drew a daunting situation in North America, much worse is the picture  
12 outside. There is an almost complete lack of studies on the utilization of administrative metadata  
13 by IRs. The only exception is S7072 analysing the case of India. They found a desolate situation:  
14 no trace of administrative metadata used at all.  
15

#### 16 RQ2b: File formats 17

18 Once more, the situation with a better coverage is that of the ARL libraries. S7122 and S7142  
19 examined file format policies. They found out that half of the IRs had one. Even though, many of  
20 them relied on policies associated with particular software, rather than creating policies from  
21 scratch. S7142 found that 90% of policies clearly identified supported or recommended file  
22 formats, while the rest briefly say they are committed to long-term digital preservation of all  
23 materials. Even when restrictions on file formats accepted for ingest seems to be common, S7122  
24 points out that many IRs were willing to accept file formats used by their researchers regardless  
25 of how highly the repository trusted the formats. This is related to the promotion of contents  
26 collection instead of quality constrains.  
27  
28

29 This same situation is described by S7290 in Sweden, where about 70% of the surveyed  
30 repositories stated that they had some form of instructions or policy concerning which file formats  
31 were accepted in the repository.  
32

33 Other studies focus on the preservation activities performed on the files ingested in the system.  
34 S7072 in a study on IRs in India, concluded that the performance of preservation activities on file  
35 formats was extremely low, with less than 20% of IRs performing file validation on ingestion,  
36 file audit or migration. Similarly, S7290 reported that some of the repository managers stated that  
37 they sometimes converted files from one format to another. Nevertheless, it was simply a matter  
38 of conversion from DOC to PDF. Finally, in an interesting study about file formats in two Catalan  
39 repositories, S7344 identified a discrepancy between the preservation statements declared by the  
40 repositories and the actual practice by the managers. Files were ingested in the system without  
41 any subsequent control.  
42  
43

44 Interestingly, when we look at the case studies rather than surveys, the situation seems different.  
45 C4397 reports the opposite situation, with archival file formats widely used and preservation  
46 activities performed on ingested files. In the same line, S7231 enumerates several activities related  
47 to file management included in the PURR preservation plan.  
48

#### 49 RQ2c: Systems and technology 50

51 We could differentiate systems fully oriented towards an integral solution of digital preservation  
52 and specialized software tools addressed to deal with particular activities in the preservation  
53 process.  
54

55 In the first group, we have only found references to Archivematica and Rosetta. Archivematica's  
56 usage by IRs seems to be quite recent. S7122 describes its application in ARL libraries. S7101  
57 undertook a project in 2016 to explore facets of digital accessioning and preservation using this  
58 software. In particular, they tested its capacity to transfer and ingest a selection of text, image,  
59  
60

1  
2  
3 audio and video formats. Furthermore, they measured its potential for migrating objects across  
4 content management systems like DSpace, CONTENTdm ...  
5

6 The unique reference to Rosetta by Ex-Libris is C4397. The author limits herself to point out that  
7 the institution is considering to adopt the system without any further detail.  
8

9 In the second group, specialized software tools, we include the usage of applications addressed to  
10 deal with particular preservation activities as for instance: DROID file format identification or  
11 JHOVE an application that performs format identification, validation and characterization.  
12

13 C4406 concludes that few of the existing digital preservation tools and services have addressed  
14 the specific needs of IRs; in practical terms they have necessitated action that is additional rather  
15 than integral to repository workflow and describes the case of the EPrints software plugin tools.  
16 S7246 also describes the use of EPrints preservation toolkit and other additional tools in order to  
17 monitor file formats.  
18

19 RQ3: Certification  
20

21 S7138 reported, as early as 2011, that two repositories, at the University of the Arts London and  
22 the London School of Economics, used DRAMBORA (Digital Repository Audit Method Based  
23 on Risk Assessment). Both initiatives took a lightweight approach with the tool. While UAL  
24 failed to complete the process, at the LSE the team identified ten risks which were representative  
25 of concerns in different organizational, technical and other locally relevant areas.  
26

27 S7354, S7231 and S7358 reported on the usage of TRAC and its continuation as ISO 16363 in  
28 PURR, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries Digital Repository and Scholars Portal  
29 respectively.  
30

### 31 **Conclusions and further work** 32

33 We have carried out a structured literature review on the issue of actual implementation of digital  
34 preservation in institutional repositories. After reviewing articles referenced in four of the most  
35 comprehensive bibliographic databases, the primary conclusion is that the research production on  
36 this area is very limited. The scarce number of articles published confirms that the interest of  
37 repository managers has been focused on issues other than to assure the long term availability of  
38 the assets they store.  
39

40 Furthermore, the literature available in form of surveys and case studies concentrates in describing  
41 the situation in North America with insufficient reports focused elsewhere. In particular, is  
42 striking the lack of works on the situation in Europe.  
43

44 The reduced number of articles dealing with each of the research questions make hard to extract  
45 accurate conclusions. This is one limitation of our work. The constrain in our review to articles  
46 published in journals ensures the quality of the source documents but it could exclude cases  
47 published in different media like conferences, research reports or working papers.  
48

49 Bearing this limitation in mind, we can draw the following conclusions:  
50

- 51 • RQ1: Our review shows that the interest for developing preservation policies and plans  
52 has been increasing in North America while it is almost missing in IRs elsewhere, where  
53 preservation is mentioned as a commitment, more a promise than a real concern for  
54 repository managers.
- 55 • RQ2a: A similar situation is found when we look to the usage of administrative metadata.  
56 IRs in North America show a high degree of application of this kind of metadata, which  
57 is needed to implement any activity related to digital preservation. There is no evidence  
58 of usage of administrative metadata in repositories in the rest of the world.  
59  
60

- RQ2b: With regards to file formats, we can conclude that IRs have policies to determine which formats are accepted for ingestion. Frequently, policies are driven by the requirements of the management systems. Nevertheless, digital preservation should be more than policies, and repository administrators seems to forget any further processes on file formats after ingestion. Studies show a lack of activity related to migration, checking, etc.
- RQ2c: There are few cases of software applications used to carry out integrated management of preservation activities. We come across only one software in the literature: Archivematica, but with very limited detail about how it is being implemented.
- RQ3: There is almost no proof in the literature about cases of trustworthy certification of IRs. Only two direct mentions of check lists usage for self-auditing or indirect mentions to certification processes.

Finally, our review has not found clear evidences on how IRs are implementing digital preservation at any of the research questions proposed. From this assertion, we cannot derive that IRs are not carrying out this kind of activities. On the contrary, we can only conclude that such activities are not being described in the research literature. Clearly, more work is needed on the issue. In particular, it would be necessary a study at European level and other regions to gather detailed data on digital preservation policies, strategies and activities that will allow to draw a portrait of the current situation and to extract conclusions and produce best practices to help managers and practitioners to improve or develop preservation strategies.

## Appendix

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Digital Library Perspectives

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<b>Table 1: Search strategies and records found</b>			
Database	Provider	Search strategy	Records
WoS	Clarivate	TOPIC: ("institutional repositories" and preservation) Refined by: DOCUMENT TYPES: ( ARTICLE ) AND LANGUAGES: ( ENGLISH ) Timespan: 2000-2020. Databases: WOS, CCC, DIIDW, KJD, MEDLINE, RSCI, SCIELO	69
Scopus	Elsevier	TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "institutional repositories" AND preservation ) AND PUBYEAR > 1999 AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE , "English" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE , "ar" ) )	115
LISA	ProQuest	su("institutional repositories" AND preservation. Limit to, publication date 1999 and scholarly journals and language English and Peer review articles	94
LISTA	EBSCO	SU "institutional repositories" AND SU preservation. Publication date: 20000101-20201231. Language: English.	108
		Total records found	386
		<b>Total records after deduplication</b>	<b>262</b>

**Table 2.** Quality assessment results for selected articles

Id	Quality Assessment					Citations Count		
	QA1	QA2	QA3	QA4	QAT	GS	Scopus	WoS
S6999	1	1	1	1	4,00	2	2	2
S7032	1	1	1	1	4,00	6	4	4
S7072	1	1	1	1	4,00	0	0	0
S7085	0,5	1	1	1	3,50	0	0	nd
S7101	1	0,5	0,5	1	3,00	6	2	2
S7122	1	1	1	1	4,00	31	9	nd
S7138	1	0,5	0,5	1	3,00	11	1	nd
S7142	1	1	1	1	4,00	77	31	nd
S7187	0,5	1	1	0,5	3,00	0	0	0
S7196	1	1	1	1	4,00	2	9	9
S7203	1	1	0,5	1	3,50	4	2	2
S7208	1	1	1	1	4,00	6	5	5
S7231	1	1	1	1	4,00	15	3	nd
S7246	0,5	1	0,5	0,5	2,50	7	nd	nd
S7290	1	1	1	1	4,00	8	4	1
S7344	1	1	1	1	4,00	9	5	4
S7354	1	1	0,5	0,5	3,00	4	3	2
S7358	1	0,5	0	0,5	2,00	7	2	nd
S7360	1	1	1	1	4,00	12	5	nd
C4397	1	1	1	1	4,00	34	12	6
C4493	1	1	1	1	4,00	7	2	3

## Appendix

Id	Reference	QAT	RQ
C4397	Oehlerts, Beth. "Digital Preservation Strategies at Colorado State University Libraries." <i>Library Management</i> 13.1/2 (2013): 83-95. <i>10.1108/01435121311298298</i>	4	RQ2
C4493	Dressler, Virginia A. "The State of Affairs with Digital Preservation at ARL Member Libraries A Survey and Analysis of Policy." <i>Digital Library Perspectives</i> 33.2 (2017): 137-55. <i>10.1108/DLP-08-2016-0030</i>	4	RQ1
S6999	Adjei, Emmanuel, Monica Mensah, and Eric Amponsah Amoafu. "The Story so Far-Digital Preservation in Institutional Repositories the Case of Academic Libraries in Ghana." <i>Digital Library Perspectives</i> 35.2 (2019): 80-96. <i>10.1108/DLP-12-2018-0039</i>	4	RQ1 RQ2
S7032	Otto, Jane Johnson. "Administrative Metadata for Long-Term Preservation and Management of Resources A Survey of Current Practices in ARL Libraries." <i>Library Resources &amp; Technical Services</i> 58.1 (2014): 4-32. <i>10.5860/lrts.58n1.4</i>	4	RQ2
S7072	Shajitha, C. "Digital Curation Practices in Institutional Repositories in South India: A Study." <i>Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication</i> 69.8-9 (2020): 557-78. <i>10.1108/GKMC-10-2019-0125</i>	4	RQ2
S7085	Ismail, S. "A Life Well Lived: Looking Backwards and Forwards and Sideways Too: Exploring the Full Lifecycle of Institutional Scholarly Communication at Your Library." <i>Serials Librarian</i> 74.1-4 (2018): 116-8. <i>10.1080/0361526X.2018.1442968</i>	3,5	RQ2
S7101	Trujillo, S., et al. "Archivematica Outside the Box: Piloting a Common Approach to Digital Preservation at the Five College Libraries." <i>Digital Library Perspectives</i> 33.2 (2017): 117-27. <i>10.1108/DLP-08-2016-0037</i>	3	RQ2
S7122	Rimkus, K., et al. "Digital Preservation File Format Policies of ARL Member Libraries: An Analysis." <i>D-Lib Magazine</i> 20.3-4 (2014). <i>10.1045/march2014-rimkus</i>	4	RQ2
S7138	Pickton, M., et al. "Preserving Repository Content: Practical Tools for Repository Managers." <i>Journal of Digital Information</i> 12.2 (2011): 1-14.	3	RQ2 RQ3
S7142	Li, Y., and M. Banach. "Institutional Repositories and Digital Preservation: Assessing Current Practices at Research Libraries." <i>D-Lib Magazine</i> 17.5-6 (2011). <i>10.1045/may2011-yuanli</i>	4	RQ2
S7187	Ayla, Stein Kenfield. "Metadata Documentation Practices at ARL Institutional Repositories." <i>Portal : Libraries and the Academy</i> 19.4 (2019): 667-99. <i>10.1353/pla.2019.0041</i>	3	RQ2
S7196	Anyaku, Ebele N., U. Nwabueze Echedom Anthonia, and Ebikabowei Emmanuel Baro. "Digital Preservation Practices in University Libraries." <i>Digital Library Perspectives</i> 35.1 (2019): 41-64. <i>10.1108/DLP-10-2017-0041</i>	4	RQ2



S7203	Awre, Chris, and Richard Green. "From Hydra to Samvera: An Open Source Community Journey." <i>Insights</i> 30.3 (2017): 82-8. <i>10.1629/uksg.383</i>	3,5	RQ2
S7208	da Silva Júnior, Laerte Pereira, and Maria Manuel Borges. "Digital Preservation Policies of the Institutional Repositories at Brazilian Federal Universities." <i>The Electronic Library</i> 35.2 (2017): 311-21. <i>10.1108/EL-09-2015-0170</i>	4	RQ1
S7231	Dearborn, Carly C., Amy J. Barton, and Neal A. Harmeyer. "The Purdue University Research Repository: HUBzero Customization for Dataset Publication and Digital Preservation." <i>OCLC Systems &amp; Services: International Digital Library Perspectives</i> 30.1 (2014): 15-27. <i>10.1108/OCLC-07-2013-0022</i>	4	RQ2
S7246	Hitchcock, Steve, and David Tarrant. "Characterising and Preserving Digital Repositories: File Format Profiles." <i>Ariadne</i> .66 (2011)	2,5	RQ2
S7290	Francke, Helena, Jonas Gamalielsson, and Bjorn Lundell. "Institutional Repositories as Infrastructures for Long-Term Preservation." <i>Information Research</i> 22.2 (2017): 1-16.	4	RQ2
S7344	Termens, Miquel, Mireia Ribera, and Anita Locher. "An Analysis of File Format Control in Institutional Repositories." <i>Library Hi Tech</i> 33.2 (2015): 162-74. <i>10.1108/LHT-10-2014-0098</i>	4	RQ2
S7354	Colati, Jessica Branco, Robin Dean, and Keith Maull. "Describing Digital Objects: A Tale of Compromise." <i>Cataloging &amp; Classification Quarterly</i> 47.3 (2009): 326-69. <i>10.1080/01639370902737331</i>	3	RQ2 RQ3
S7358	Johnston, Wayne. "Digital Preservation Initiatives in Ontario: Trusted Digital Repositories and Research Data Repositories." <i>Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library &amp; Information Practice &amp; Research</i> 7.2 (2012): 1-8.	2	RQ2 RQ3
S7360	Kari, Kingdom H., and Ebikabowei E. Baro. "Digital Preservation Practices in University Libraries: A Survey of Institutional Repositories in Nigeria." <i>Preservation, Digital Technology &amp; Culture</i> 45.3 (2016): 134-44. <i>10.1515/pdte-2016-0006</i>	4	RQ2