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European integration: conditions and challenges for libraries, 3 au 7 juillet 2007  
36<sup>e</sup> congrès LIBER

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### **How much does it cost? The LIFE Project**

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LIFE<sup>2</sup> Project Manager – The British Library

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# How much does it cost?

## The LIFE Project

**LIBER 2007**



**Richard Davies**  
LIFE<sup>2</sup> Project Manager  
The British Library

*5<sup>th</sup> July 2007*

# LIFE: Lifecycle Information for E-literature

- ▶ JISC funded joint project between UCL and BL

JISC

UCL

LIBRARY  
HSILIRB

## Project phases:

- ▶ LIFE<sup>1</sup> (12 months)
- ▶ LIFE<sup>2</sup> (18 months)



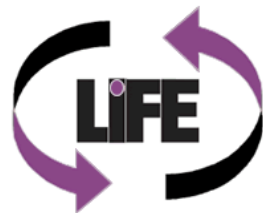
# What is LIFE?

- ▶ “This is the tool that everyone wants but nobody has”  
Lee Dirks, Microsoft (2007)
- ▶ LIFE has developed a Lifecycle model specifically to estimate the cost for digital preservation activities.
- ▶ LIFE can calculate the costs of preserving digital information for the next 5, 10 or 100 years



LIFE answers the question:

What is the long term cost  
of preserving digital material?



# LIFE<sup>1</sup> project

1. Comprehensive Literature Review
2. Development of an economic Lifecycle Model
3. Generic Preservation Model
4. Diverse Case Studies
5. International Conference and Report

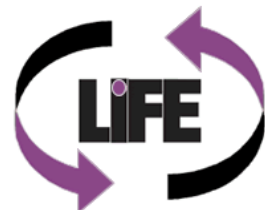
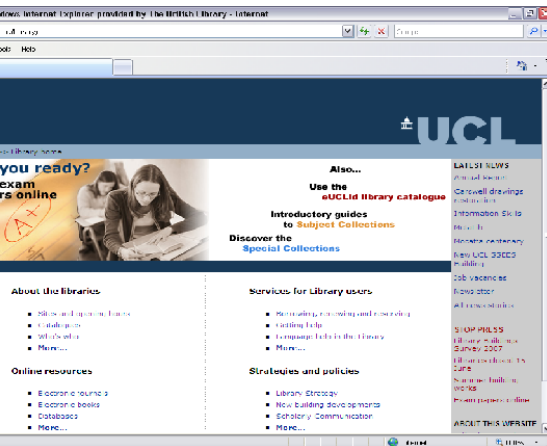


# LIFE<sup>1</sup> Case Studies

Web  
Archiving

eJournals

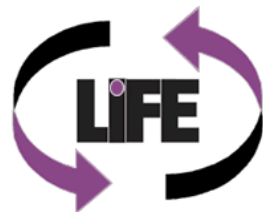
Voluntary  
deposit



# What is the LIFE Model?



= the complete Lifecycle cost over time T





# The LIFE Model - Acquisition



Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph

**£0.00**

- ▶ **Aq1**      **Selection**
- ▶ **Aq2**      **IPR**
- ▶ **Aq3**      **Licensing**
- ▶ **Aq4**      **Ordering & Invoicing**
- ▶ **Aq5**      **Obtaining**
- ▶ **Aq6**      **Check-in**



# The LIFE Model - Ingest

$$L_T = Aq + I_T$$



Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph

**£4.50**



# The LIFE Model - Metadata

$$L_T = Aq + I_T + M_T$$

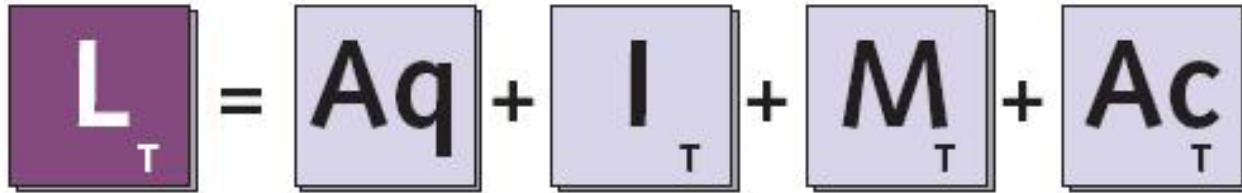


Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph

**£2.25**



# The LIFE Model - Access



	Example (Year 5): Hand-held Monograph	<b>£0.00</b>
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# The LIFE Model - Storage

$$L_T = Aq + I_T + M_T + Ac_T + S_T$$

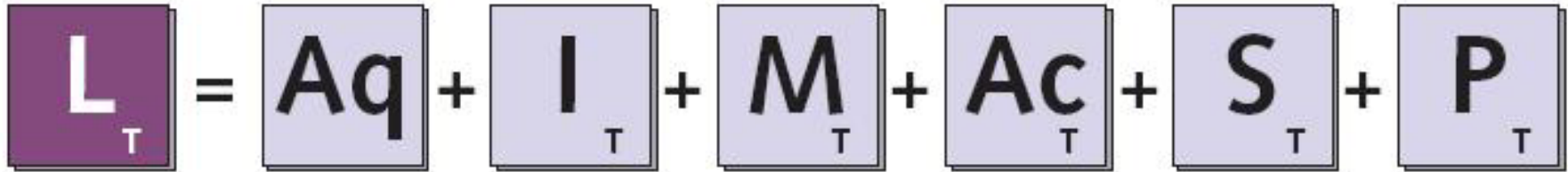


Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph

**£3.15**



# The LIFE Model - Preservation



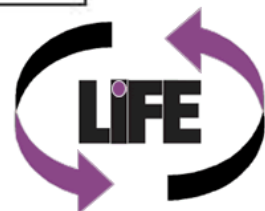
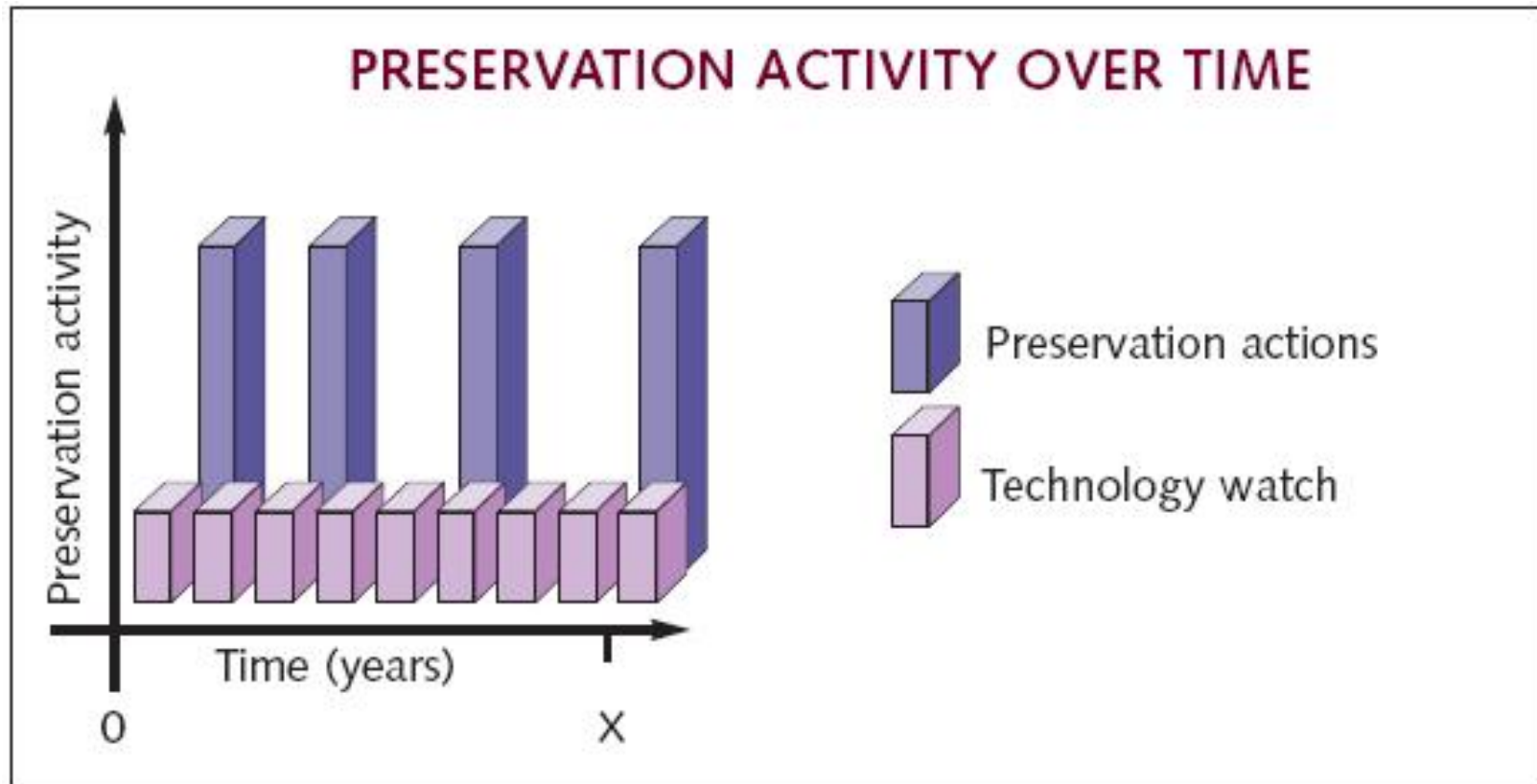
Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph



**£0.33**



# Generic LIFE Preservation Model



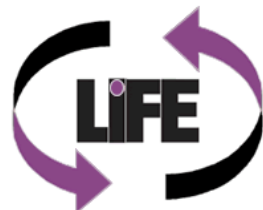
# The LIFE Model

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_T &= Aq + I_T + M_T + Ac_T + S_T + P_T \\
 L_T &= \text{£}0.00 + \text{£}4.50 + \text{£}2.25 + \text{£}0.00 + \text{£}3.15 + \text{£}0.33
 \end{aligned}$$



Example (Year 5):  
Hand-held Monograph

**Total Cost in Year 5 = £10.23**

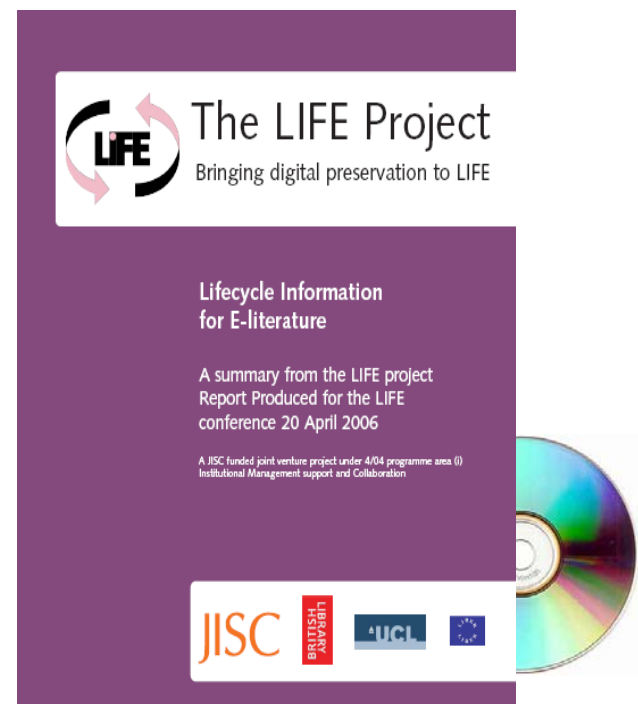




# However....

## Future development needed:

1. Further testing of the model
2. Wider collaborative work





## LIFE – Phase 2

LIFE<sup>2</sup>

# LIFE<sup>2</sup> Overview

- ▶ Funded by the JISC under the Digital Repositories Programme 06
- ▶ 18 month project (Feb 2007 to Aug 2008)
- ▶ Expand and review LIFE<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ 5 Work Packages



# LIFE<sup>2</sup> Work Packages

- ▶ WP1: Validation of the models
- ▶ WP2: Repository Case Studies
- ▶ WP3: Primary data
- ▶ WP4: Digitisation
- ▶ WP5: Pulling together the threads



# LIFE<sup>2</sup> Work Packages

- ▶ WP1: Validation of the models
- ▶ WP2: Repository Case Studies
- ▶ WP3: Primary data
- ▶ WP4: Digitisation
- ▶ WP5: Pulling together the threads



# LIFE<sup>2</sup> Case Studies

SHERPA-  
LEAP

WP2

SHERPA-  
DP

WP2

Medical  
Research  
Council

WP3

Burney  
Collection

WP4



# LIFE<sup>2</sup> Work Packages

- ▶ WP1: Validation of the models
- ▶ WP2: Repository Case Studies
- ▶ WP3: Primary data
- ▶ WP4: Digitisation
- ▶ WP5: Pulling together the threads



# Benefits of LIFE

- ▶ More effective planning for future preservation activities
- ▶ Comparison of digital lifecycles across or between organisations
- ▶ Funding bodies can better address what would most benefit from investment
- ▶ Predictive future cost of digital preservation





# Who benefits?

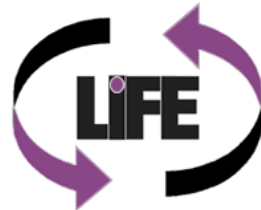
▶ Government



▶ National Libraries & Archives



▶ HE Institutions



# Why is LIFE important?

- ▶ The cost of digital preservation has never been tackled fully and yet has a massive impact
- ▶ No-one is focusing on the impact of both traditional and digital lifecycles
- ▶ LIFE has already started to be embedded, moving from research to implementation



## ▶ LIFE International Conference

- Project Summary
- Project Report

## ▶ LIFE Website

- All project data available
- Over 3000 downloads

Thursday

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10100100101100101100100 1

...helping to bring digital preservation

Location: LIFE homepage >>

**Menu**

- ▶ Home
- What is LIFE?
- LIFE Team
- LIFE<sup>1</sup>
- Documentation
- Conference
- LIFE<sup>2</sup>
- LIFE Cycles
- Glossary

**Welcome to the LIFE Website**

LIFE is a collaboration between University College London (UCL) and the British Library.

The LIFE Project has developed a methodology to model the digital lifecycle and calculate the costs of preserving digital information for the next 5, 10 or 100 years. For the first time, organisations can apply this process and plan effectively for the preservation of their digital collections.

Currently the LIFE Project is in its second phase ("LIFE<sup>2n</sup>"), an 18 month project running from March 2007 to August 2008.



# Further Information: LIFE Website

[www.life.ac.uk](http://www.life.ac.uk)

Literature  
Review

LIFE<sup>1</sup>  
Project  
Report

Latest  
LIFE<sup>2</sup>  
News

Slides

[richard.davies@bl.uk](mailto:richard.davies@bl.uk)





**Thank you.**

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**e** [richard.davies@bl.uk](mailto:richard.davies@bl.uk)