

Leonhard Dobusch: "There is only what is digitally Found"

7 April 2014, 11:44



What can not be found using search engines, will soon be virtually no longer exist, says Leonhard Dobusch

Online did not yield any brave new world of knowledge and not more trash than there was before, says Webexperte Leonhard Dobusch

STANDARD : worth a look in the future: How important are search engines have digital future for knowledge discovery?

Dobusch : What can not be found on digital search engines will soon not exist virtually. This does not mean that all books must be available online. You must be listed only in online catalogs, otherwise they are no longer referred to in the future.

STANDARD : So that means that Google and Co will determine even more in the future, what is knowledge?

Dobusch : If the digital findability decides what knowledge is, and at the same time quite a few search algorithms decide about what is found, then the monopoly is obvious. That which was found previously only in books and encyclopedias, has become much so confusing. You need someone to organize.

STANDARD : This is also a lot of seemingly listed fleeting knowledge. How can you preserve it for future generations?

Dobusch : The duration of availability, the paper has indeed relatively well attempt it is, with digitally stored knowledge always a challenge. The platform archive.org, founded in the mid-1990s, texts, video files and several billion websites archived in various stages of development. At the library at Stanford University, there is another initiative: Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe. Your goal is to have as many libraries as many copies of digital content preserved, but also check the integrity of this mostly coming from scientists knowledge. The logo shows a turtle. It is meant to symbolize the slow, painstaking process of this work. In the past, has proved that knowledge should not be lifted in one but in many libraries. Thus, it is not lost if one burns down or crash a server in the current case.

STANDARD : You give yourself a science magazine online out: "Momentum Quarterly". How do you solve those issues after long-term availability?

Dobusch : Of course, we ask the question because it really gives the lyrics in any print version. We do not want that they can get located in ten years. One possibility would be unique to them on Digital Object Identifier. Should one change the url, then you could find our content anyway.

STANDARD : Who decides, however, that digital content will be available in the future? And who separates quality of waste that is produced on the Web so many of them?

Dobusch : It's true. Most of the videos on Youtube are garbage, most tweets on Twitter are uninteresting. But is not at all like that? I like to refer to the opportunity to Sturgeon's Law. Theodore Sturgeon was science-fiction author. Whenever he told them, came the answer: "Is that good literature Ninety percent of it is still total garbage?". Then he answered: "Ninety percent of everything is garbage." That was probably in the period before the World Wide Web that. Ninety percent of the printed books I never want to read in a lifetime. The question is: What do you choose? It relies on filter. The filters are the arts pages of newspapers, the filters are recommendations from friends you trust. If they recommend me stupid books, then I will not ask again next time. And in reality it works very similar to the net.

STANDARD : What does "quite similar"?

Dobusch : Relevant is what other people are relevant, what is quoted on blogs, what is tweeted what is mentioned in newspapers. This is also in scientific work as: Ninety percent of the papers are rarely cited. That is not to say that what is quoted, the best research is, but I would say that the logic of the web has not changed radically.

STANDARD : The Web is therefore not evil and does not make us stupid?

Dobusch : Would I say that. The Web does not lead to a brave new world of knowledge, but I see very great advantages. The largest is the wide access. The historian Monika Domann has meant in an interview with Time, the New never arises there where you expect it. Therefore, it may make sense to make knowledge more easily accessible. Thus, the probability that new is created, a much larger than when I only elitist available knowledge.

STANDARD : The policy of some major scientific publishers to sell their magazines about high subscription prices at university libraries since then but counterproductive?

Dobusch : Yes, publishers such as Taylor Francis or Elsevier demand absurdly high prices for Fachzeitschriftenabos. Since we are talking of up to 20,000 euros per year. They force the libraries to senseless Paketabos. In contrast, one has to defend himself. The vast majority of articles in these journals come from publicly funded research, and the quality is publicly financed. The Company has, if they financed it, but also a right to see the results. Since it needed a stronger mandate to enforce by-these many requests too. (Peter Illetschko, THE STANDARD, 07/04/2014)



Leonhard Dobusch (33) studied economics and law at the Kepler University in Linz. He was at the Center for Internet & Society at Stanford Law School and at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne. He currently teaches as an assistant professor of organizational theory at the Free University of Berlin.

SITE LINK



Tanke hydropower!

Sign up for COMPOSITE and fill up with your home with clean power on.