## CNI Fall 2024

# Preserving Preprints for the Long Term: Scope and Challenges



Thib Guicherd-Callin (he/him)
Program Manager
LOCKSS Program, Stanford University Libraries

## A Research Record at Risk

"Digital preservation is not keeping up with the growth of scholarly knowledge.

Recognizing its causes is the first step to securing records everywhere for future generations."

Nature 635, 785-786 (2024) doi: https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-024-03842-z "If preprints are first-class research objects...they merit more serious consideration for preservation to ensure long-term access."

Rieger, Oya Y. "Preprints in the Spotlight." (2020) doi: https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.313288.

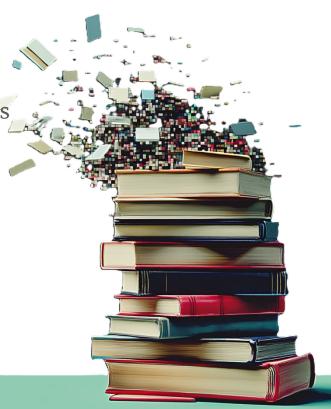
# (R)evolutions in Scholarly Publishing

### 1990s: 1st digital revolution

- Paper publishing → e-journals and books
- Local ownership → remote access
- Authoritative copies → ephemeral formats

### 2010s: 2nd digital revolution

- Dwindling reliance on older publishing models, workflows, and incentives
- Tremendous growth of open access
- Expansion of the scholarly record to include data sets, methods, code, prepublication results, preprints...



## A Collection of Nested Challenges

### Challenges of Web archiving:

• Static vs. dynamic documents; server-side vs. client-side; fragmented Web infrastructure; frequent minor changes; single point of origin/failure, plus...

### Challenges of scholarly Web preservation:

• Fragmentation of components and rich content like slides, video, data sets, code; frequent changes in business partnerships, IP ownership, **plus...** 

### Challenges specific to preprint preservation:

 Version of record/recording of versions; unique affordances like commenting, annotation; expansion of impact factors; emulation, migration, authentic replication; less Website-like, more repository-like

## Call to Action

- What are all the unique challenges of preservation for preprints?
- Who should be tackling the task of their preservation?
- What happens if we don't act?

Join us for breakfast tomorrow to continue the discussion,

**or** share your thoughts online:

https://bit.ly/4gc00HJ

