Designing for Privacy:
A Decentralized Future for Digital Libraries

eBooks & Public Libraries

Vertically Integrated

- Ebook distribution

- Discovery layer (Web or app)

- … tied to authentication

- Reading application (native) or reading environment (Web)

These solutions are generally…

- Never hosted by the library

- … or truly integrated in their ILS/portal

- Not using SSL in their discovery layer (webpage or API)

- Dependent on third party DRM technology

Discovery Layer

- Can collect information on what patrons browse, borrow, add to list etc.

- Usually knows at least the patron's email address along with library credentials

- Stores information over time to provide various metrics

Reading System

- Knows what the user reads
- Knows how they read (when, how long, how often)
- Knows the patron's position in a book along with their annotations
- Usually knows email and library credentials too

Adobe ACS

Protected
EPUB →
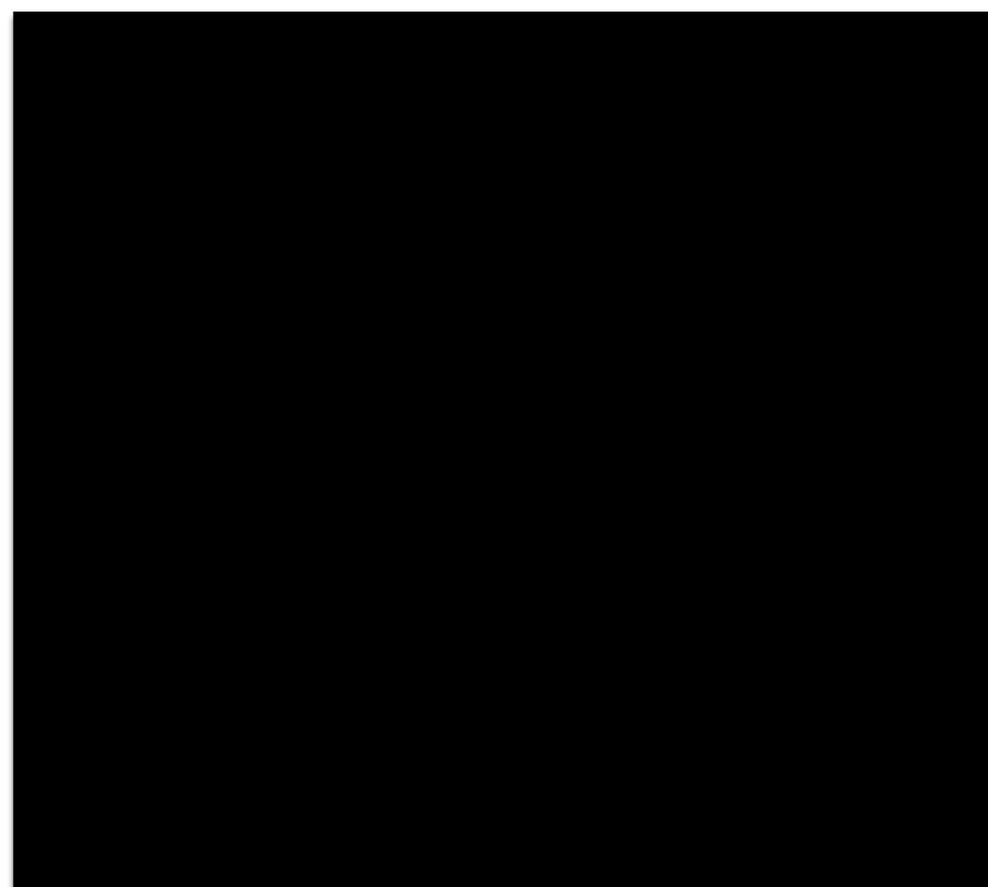
Image →

Adobe ACS

- Knows who the user is (email tied to an Adobe ID)

- Recent version of Adobe Digital Editions (4.0) collected what and how people read and sent it in plain text

- … continues to do so but not in plain text

- Could affect other apps in the future

Send to Kindle

- One vendor has an agreement with Amazon to send loans to Kindle apps or devices

- … which means that Amazon can collect a lot of info

- Amazon targets readers based on what they borrow

What's the alternative?

Decentralized

- Less dependency on a single vendor
- Loosely coupled
- Standards to foster interoperability & privacy
- Anonymize data between services
- At least some parts of the service hosted by libraries?

pretnumerique.ca

PRETNUMERIQUE.CA est une plateforme qui permet aux lecteurs québécois d'emprunter des livres numériques en se branchant au site Web de leur bibliothèque. Ces emprunts sont chronodégradables, c'est-à-dire qu'ils s'effaceront automatiquement à la fin de la période de prêt. Les livres ainsi téléchargés pourront ensuite être lus sur différents supports : liseuses, tablettes, ordinateurs, téléphones intelligents, etc.

Consulter le Guide de démarrage afin d'en apprendre plus sur le fonctionnement de la plateforme et les procédures à suivre pour emprunter un livre numérique.

LISTE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES PARTICIPANTES

VOUS ÊTES UNE BIBLIOTHÈQUE PUBLIQUE

Vous désirez en savoir plus sur PRETNUMERIQUE.CA? Contactez votre bibliothèque.

LISTE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES PARTICIPANTES :

BIBLIOTHÈQUE	VILLE/RÉGION	TÉLÉPHONE	SITE WEB
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec	Pour tous les citoyens du Québec	1 800 363-9028	Site Web

Québec

- Library centric (created by Bibliopresto)
- Multiple distributors, multiple retailers
- Libraries buy books from local retailers
- A shared discovery layer (pretnumerique.ca)
- Use EPUB + Adobe ACS compatible apps

Improve Distribution:
Open Distribution to Libraries

Features

- Harvest metadata (acquisitions)

- Standard way to describe terms of a license

- Ability to check status of a copy anytime

- Interactions with ebook distributor can be anonymized (UUID for loan and patron)

Make DRM Less Intrusive:
Readium LCP

A More Library-Friendly Take on DRM

- Hosted by an open-source foundation

- Decentralized

- Ability to anonymize each DRM license

- Extend a loan

Questions?