



Norwegian University of
Science and Technology

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT IN TRANSITION

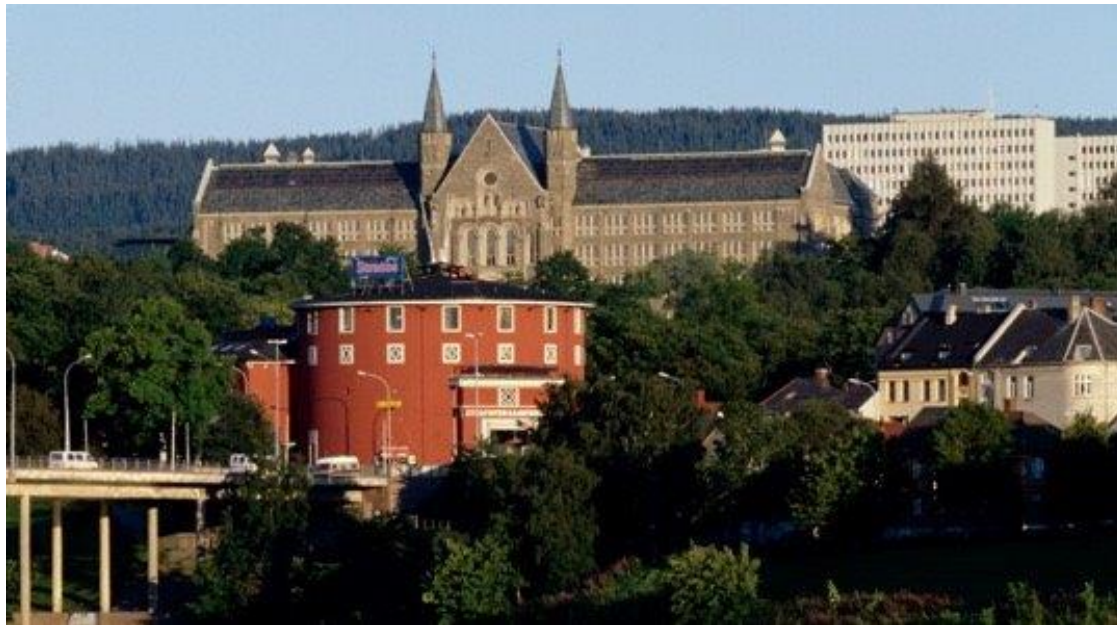
Gro-Anita Mortensen, head of section of
library, inspiration and knowledge at the
NTNU University library



Knowledge for a better world



NTNU has a main profile in science and technology, but it also offers a variety of professional studies and programs



NTNU University Library

- Employees at the University Library: 118

Our users

- Students: 43.000
- Academic staff: 8000
- Central Norway Regional Health Authority: 14 000

Literature and resources

- Physical book loans: 84.000
- Article downloads: 4.790.000
- Number of scientific articles: 5900

Courses, teaching, and outreach

- Number of course participants: 11.000
- Number of courses conducted: 380
- Number of teaching lessons: 980

A changing library landscape - Campus development

5.3.1 Modell 0 – Dagens modell



Figur 12: Modell 0, tilsvarer dagens modell.

5.3.3 Modell B



Figur 14: Modell B

Denne modellen er en campusmodell.



What about our valuable collections?

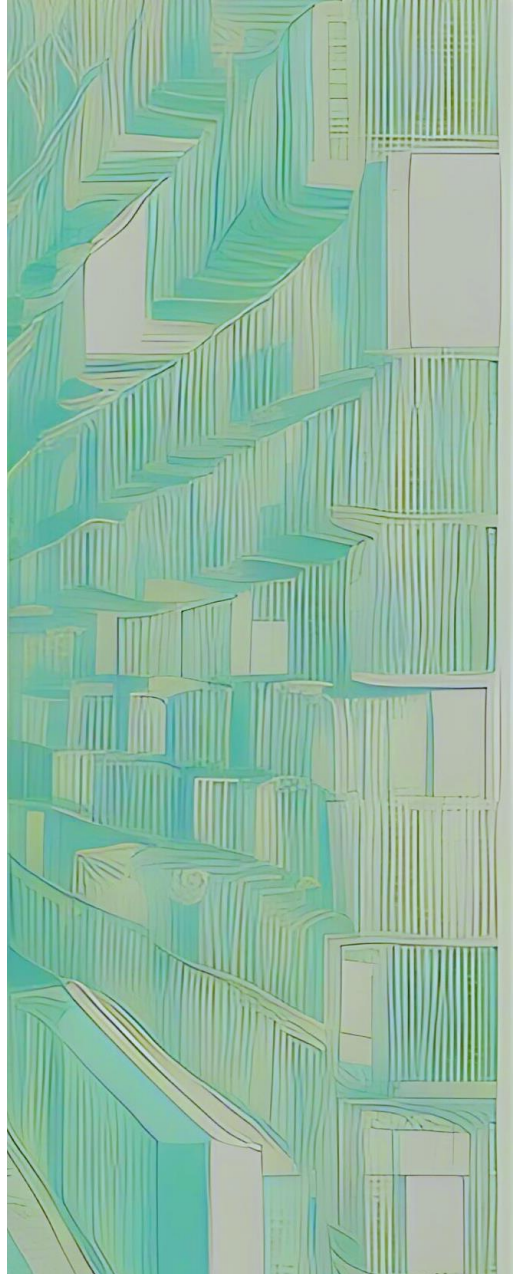
- Library space is being reduced due to more efficient use of campus areas and multifunctional spaces. This means less room for physical collections and storage.
- We must rethink how to ensure access to physical material



Illustrasjon: Hovedbygningen sett fra campusplenen, sett fra sør.

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT IN TRANSITION

- ✓ Joint project of the university libraries in Bergen, Oslo, Tromsø, and Trondheim, supported by the National Library.
- ✓ Explored sustainable strategies for managing legacy print collections: shared responsibility, interlibrary loans, improved metadata, and national coordination.
- ✓ Developed tools and a scalable model for collaboration and services.
- ✓ Work continues building on findings, addressing dilemmas, and—together with Sikt—pushing for changes in library systems and new requirements for vendors.



UNIVERSITETET
I BERGEN



UiT Norges
arktiske universitet



UNIVERSITETET
I OSLO



NTNU

Kunnskap for en bedre verden



Nasjonalbiblioteket

VISION | GOALS



VISION

Ensure access to (foreign) journals and books

GOALS

- Provide unified services to users
- Collaborate on depositing, sharing, and making resources accessible

SUB-GOALS

- Shared basis for decision-making and responsibility
- Joint collection management policy

FRAME | RISK
| OPTIONS



USERS



VALUE PROPOSITION



ACTIONS



SERVICES



- ✓ Users shall have access to knowledge resources regardless of institution or location, through good and user-friendly services.
- ✓ The higher education sector, the library sector, and library employees shall be able to trust that the knowledge heritage is managed in a sustainable and future-oriented way.

VALUE PROPOSITION



FRAME | RISIK
| OPTIONS



VISION | GOALS



USERS



ACTION



SERVICES



Collection Mapping and Analysis in the BOTT Libraries

- ✓ Comprehensive analysis of foreign journals and books across BOTT libraries
- ✓ Strong collaboration with Sikt

Formed the basis for local analyses of:

- ✓ Unique titles
- ✓ Titles held by multiple libraries
- ✓ Distribution by language, year, and subject

Key Findings

- ✓ **Journals:** 70.4% are unique to one BOTT library
- ✓ **Monographs:** 74.2% are unique to one BOTT library
- ✓ → **Around 25% of the collections are shared across libraries**

Action



Inspiration: EPICo - European Print Initiatives Collaboration



OUR JOINT RECOMANDATIONS

Plan for Securing and Accessing Foreign Collections

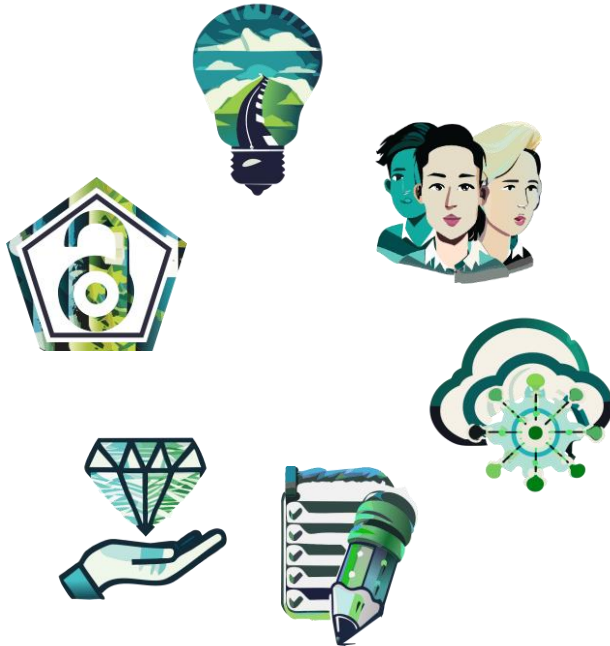
- ✓ Unique journal and book titles are stored at the owning library
- ✓ Shared titles are assigned to one library for long-term storage
- ✓ Only one copy is marked as the preservation copy
- ✓ Printed foreign literature is preserved even if digital access exists

To do this we need to:

- ✓ Establish a cross-institutional forum for collection management to ensure continued collaboration and long-term coordination
- ✓ Metadata quality needs improvement

Knowledge base for decision-making:

- <https://hdl.handle.net/11250/3184509>
- In Norwegian only – but you know what to do



What now?

- The project explores how shared responsibility, interlibrary loans, and improved metadata can enhance access, reduce redundancy, and strengthen national coordination—while respecting institutional autonomy.
- Under tight budgets, avoiding new storage investments, making better use of existing space, and improving preservation help reduce procurement costs.
- And now, Asbjørn Risan will share how we have worked together to align the system with these goals.

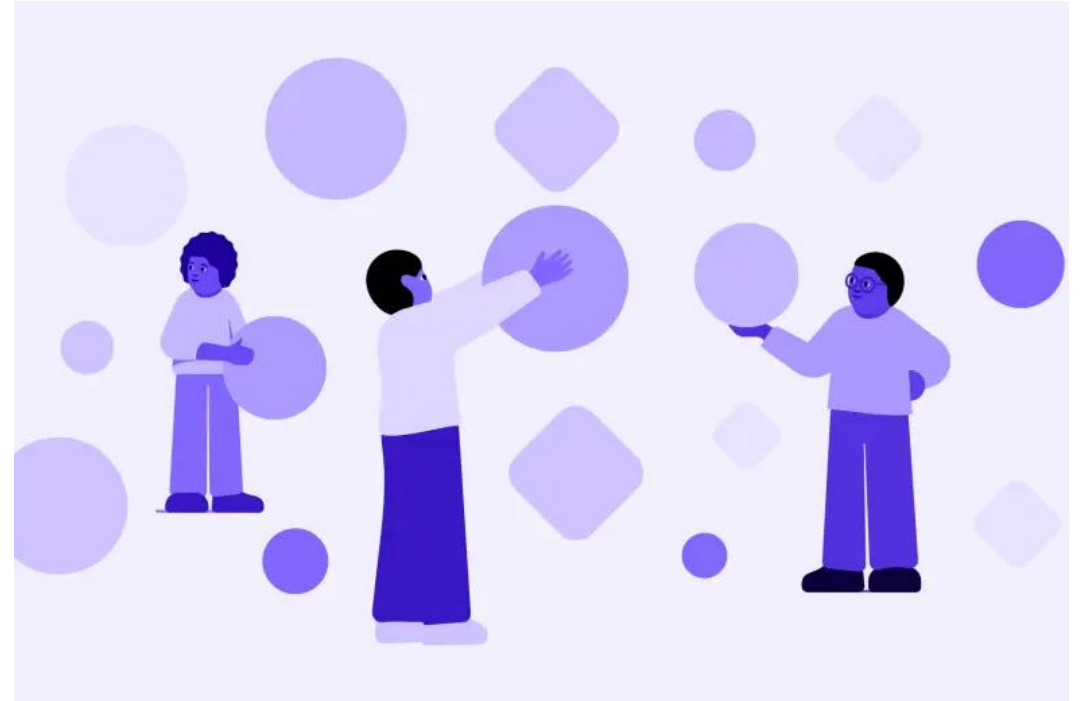
Collection Management in Transition

Asbjørn Risan, Sikt, Head of Library Services

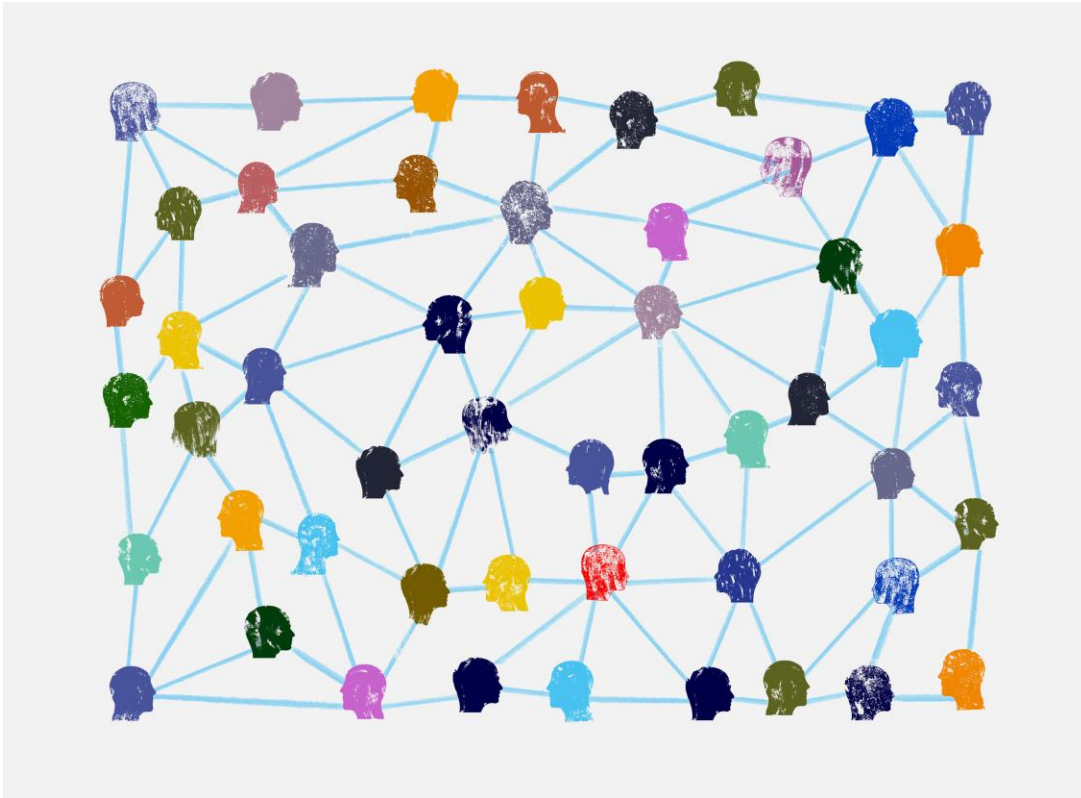
16th of September 2025

Agenda

- Background of the consortia and the challenge
- Steps to overcome the challenge

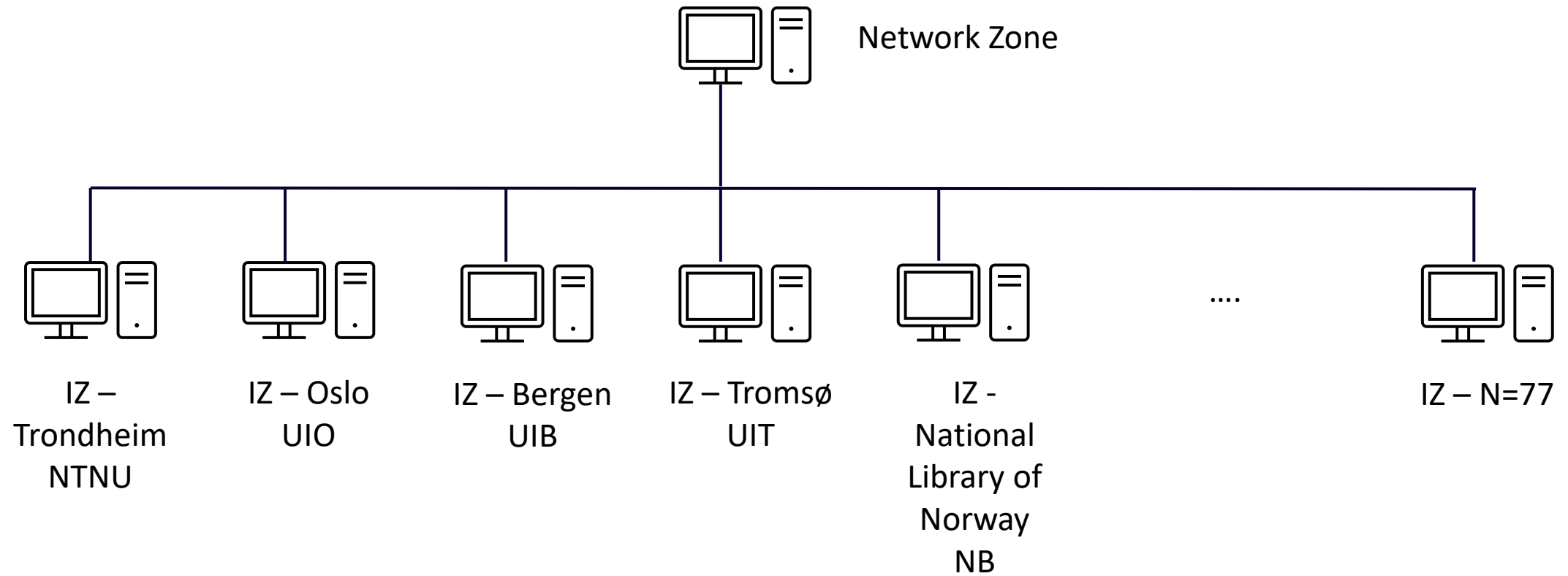


The BIBSYS Consortia



- Consortium of 77 institutions
- Joint catalog in Network Zone
- Each institution has their own Alma instance (IZ)

Topology



Joint data/catalog

- A joint catalog makes it possible to analyze and make reports across institutions in an easy way – huge benefit (cornerstone of the consortium)
 - Analytics on network level enables drilling down on institutions
- Ca 10.820.000 unique titles in the catalog
- Ca 19.230.000 physical items in the catalog
- Trondheim, Oslo, Bergen and Tromsø has combined 4.123.000 unique titles (ca 40 % av the catalog)

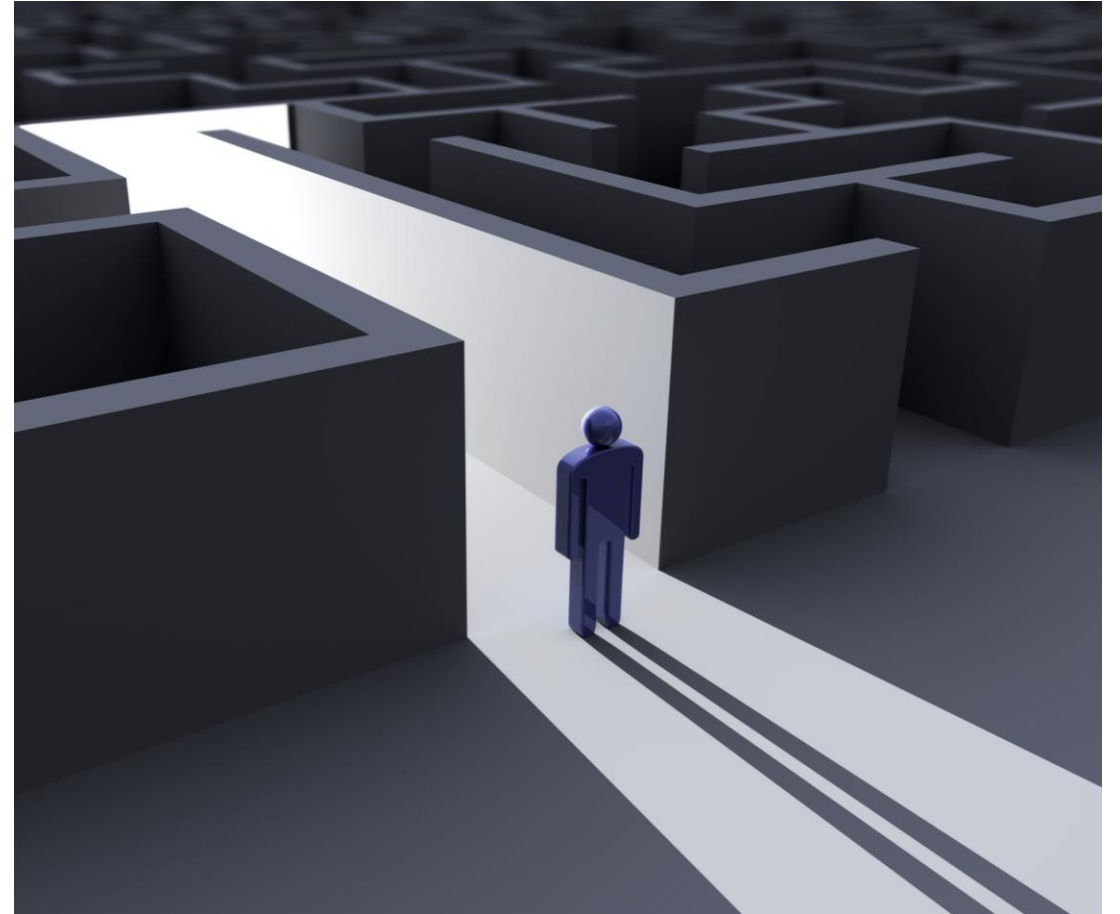
The Big Hurdle



The four largest universities must reduce their physical collections by 25% while ensuring users maintain full access to the same materials

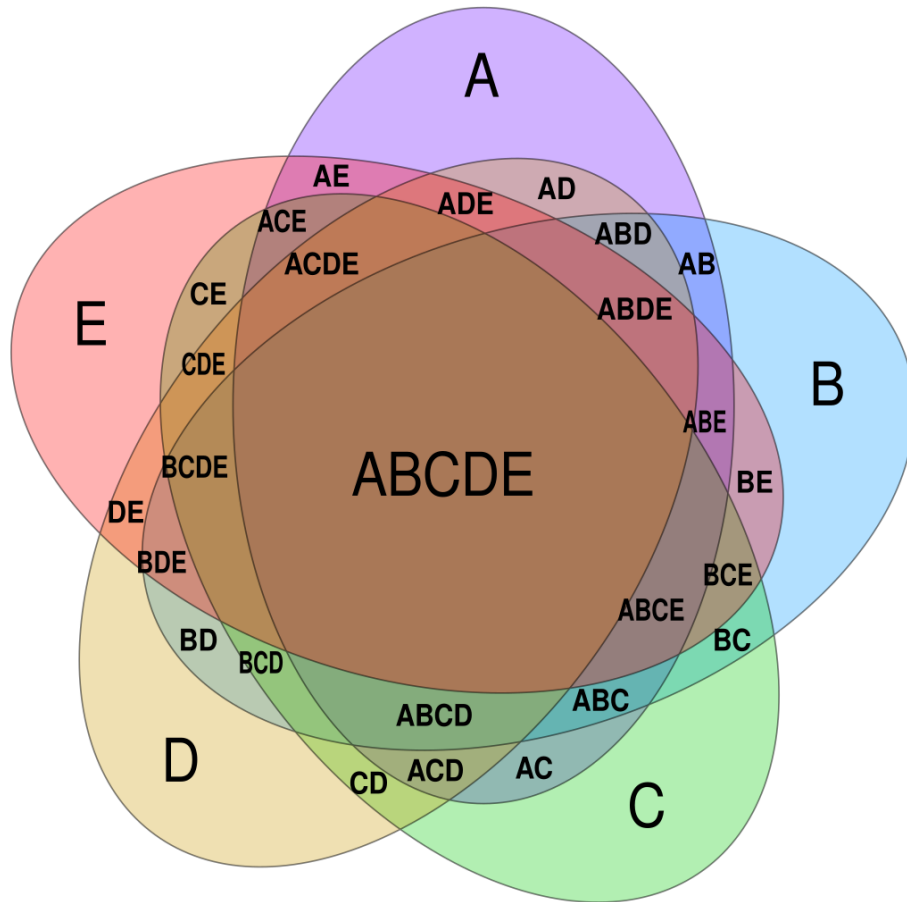
Steps to overcome it

- Determine what to keep at each location and assign responsibility for specific materials
- Establish safeguards to ensure the consortium's last copy of any material is not deleted



Determine what to keep at each location and assign responsibility for specific materials

Overlap analysis



- What materials are unique to a single institution?
- What materials are shared across two or more institutions?
- A = NTNU
- B = UIO
- C = UIB
- D = UIT
- E = NB

Number of titles combined

	NTNU	UiO	UiB	UIT
NTNU	2.059.000	3.444.000	2.681.000	2.537.000
UiO	3.444.000	2.137.000	2.807.000	2.657.000
UiB	2.681.000	2.807.000	1.384.000	1.927.000
UIT	2.537.000	2.657.000	1.927.000	1.128.000

NTNU and UiO has 3.444.000 unique titles among them

Number of unique titler between two institutions (y-axis – x-axis)

	NTNU	UIO	UIB	UIT
NTNU	0	1.307.000	1.297.000	1.409.000
UIO	1.385.000	0	1.423.000	1.529.000
UIB	622.000	670.000	0	799.000
UIT	478.000	520.000	543.000	0

NTNU has 1.307.000 titles UIO does not have
UIO has 1.385.000 titles NTNU does not have

Number of titles in common

	NTNU	UIO	UIB	UIT
NTNU	2.059.000	752.000	762.000	650.000
UIO	752.000	2.137.000	714.000	608.000
UIB	762.000	714.000	1.384.000	585.000
UIT	650.000	608.000	585.000	1.128.000

NTNU and UIO has 752.000 titles in common

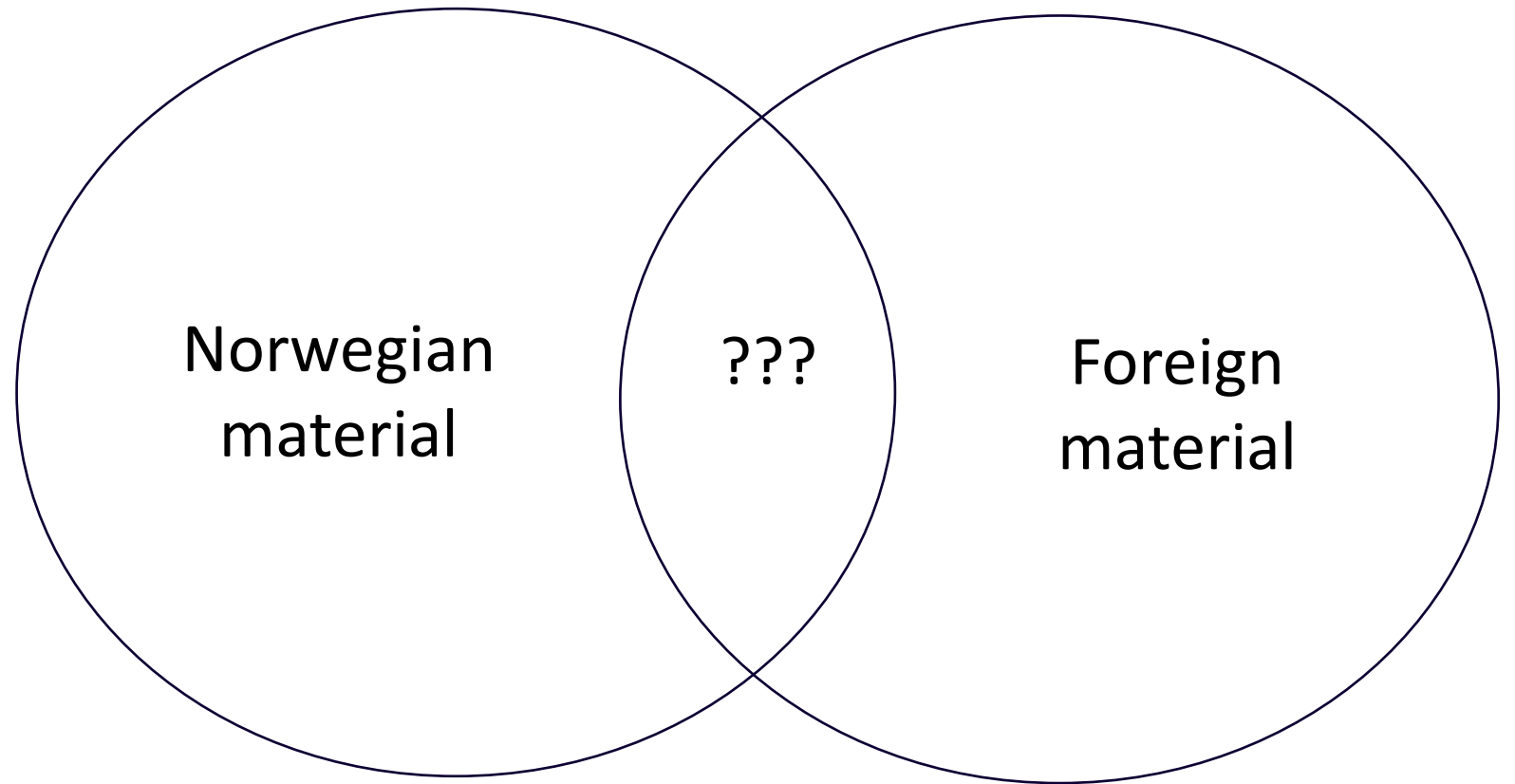
What to keep and by whom?



- We needed to decide what to keep at each institution and assign responsibility for specific materials
- Decided:
 - The National Library will take responsibility for all Norwegian materials
 - The universities will share responsibility for portions of the foreign materials

Norwegian material?

- A lot of records did not have country of publication in 008 pos. 15-17, nor information in 044



Identifying Norwegian material

- Analyzis of data in 260 \$a (Place of publication) and \$b Name of publisher and 773 \$d Place, publisher, and date of publication
- Trying to identify Norwegian places
- Many different variants of location names



Many ways to spell Copenhagen / København

• [Copenhag.]	• [Kbh.]	• [Kjøbenhavn]	flere steder]	• -[København]	Selskabet Bogvennerne	• K[iøben]havn	• Kiøbenahvn	• Kiøbinghaffn	• Kjøbenhavn \$\$
• [Copenhagen	• [Kbh?]	• [Kjøbenhavn?]	• [København#]	• [Köbenhavn]	• [København]	• K benhavn	• Kiøbenh[affn]	• Kiøbinghafn	• Kjøbenhavn & Kristiania
• [Copenhagen Valby]	• [Kbh]	• [Kjøbenhavn]	• [København)	• [København] [1770]	• [København] Sesam	• Kbenhavn	• Kiøbenhaffn	• Kjbh	• Kjøbenhavn & Leipzig
• [Copenhagen?]	• [Kbhn]	• [Kjøbenhavn] :	• [København, Danmark]	• [København] æb Chr. Erichsen	• [København], Krystalgade 3	• Kbh	• Kiöbenhaffn	• Kjbh.	• Kjøbenhavn : Christiania
• [Copenhagen]	• [Kbøbenhavn]	• [Kjøbenhavn] : [Kgl. Hofmusikhandel s Forl.], [1891]	• [København, K]	• [København] Bibliotekscentral en	• [København]>	• Kbh. [i.e. København]	• Kiøbenhafn	• Kjobenhavn	• Kjøbenhavn : Christiania
• [Copenhagen] The Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	• [Keypmannahav n]	• [Købebehavn]	• [København, Århus]	• [København] Danmarks Evalueringsinstitut	• [København>@	• Kbh.K.	• Kiöbenhavn	• Kjøbehavn	• Kjøbenhavn :
• [Copenhagen>	• [Kiøbenhaffn?]	• [Købehavn]	• [Köbenhavn.]	• [København] Danmarks Evalueringsinstitut	• [Københvan]	• Kbh; Munksgaard	• Kiöbenhavn ; Christiania	• Kjøbemhavn	
• [Copenhagenn]	• [Kiøbenhaffn]	• [Købehavn>@	• [København?]	• [København] Danmarks Evalueringsinstitut	• [Københvn]	• Kbh; Nyt Nordisk forlag/Arnold Busck	• Kiöbenhavn ; Kristiania	• Kjøbenhavn	
• [Copenhagenn]	• [Kiøbenhafn]	• [Købenavn]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København] Gyldendal	• [Købenmahvn]	• Kbh; Nyt Nordisk forlag/Arnold Busck	• Kiöbenhavn 1773	• Kjøbenhanv	
• [Copenhague]	• [Kiøbenhavn]	• [Københafn]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København?].	• [København]	• Kbhvn	• Kiöbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn	
• [Haffnie]	• [Kiøbenhavn?]	• [Københanvn]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København?>	• [København] Lindhardt og Ringhof	• Kbhvn.	• Kiøbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn : Kristiania	
• [Hafniae]	• [Kiøbenhavn]	• [København]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København@ >	• [København] Nordisk Ministerråd	• Kbhvn.	• Kiøbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn	
• [Hafniæ]	• [Kiöbenhavn]	• [København]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København@]	• [København] Nordisk Ministerråd	• Kbhvn.	• Kiøbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn	
• [Kbenhavn]	• [Kiøpenhafn]	• [København]	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København@]	• [København] Nordisk Ministerråd	• Kbhvn.	• Kiøbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn	
• [Kbh.?)	• [Kjøbenhavn]	• [København og	• [Köbenhavn?]	• [København@]	• [København] Nordisk Ministerråd	• Kbhvn.	• Kiøbenhavn 1782	• Kjøbenhavn	

Even more ways to spell Copenhagen / København

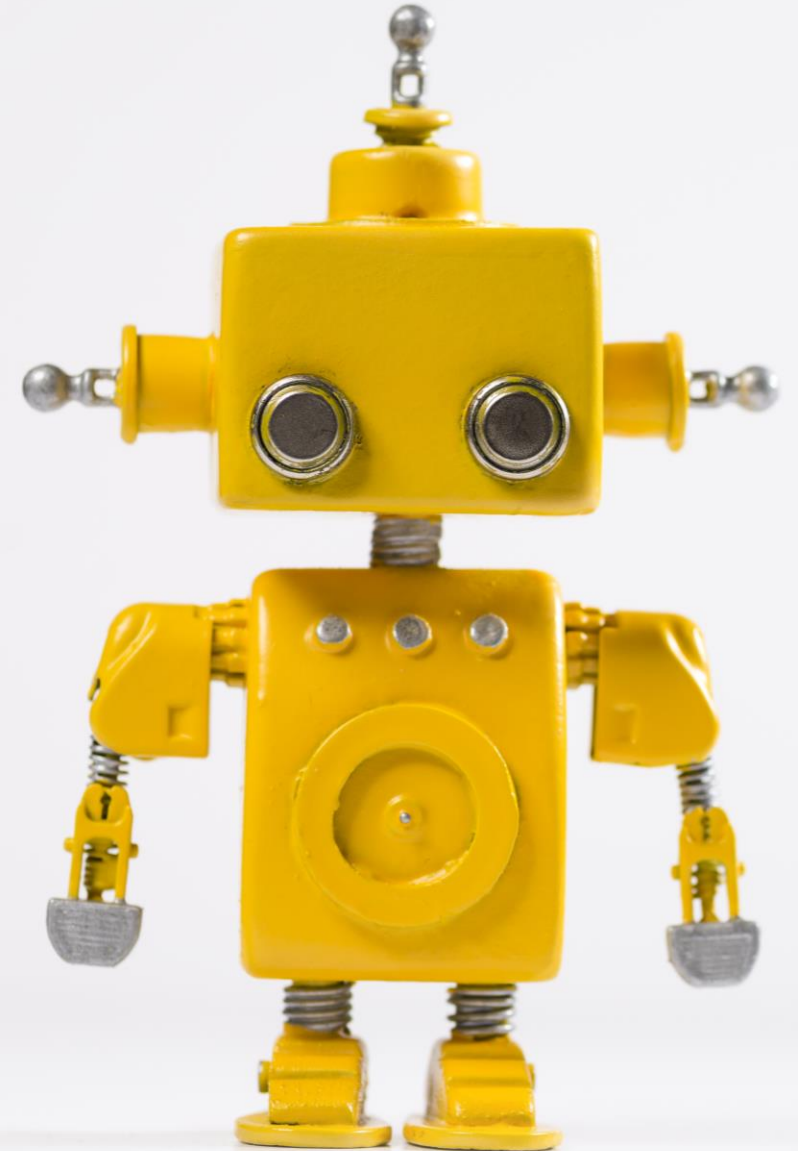
• KøbKristiania	Schou	• Kjøbenhavn	• Københav	• København : Kristiania	• Köbenhavn ; Kristiania	• København N	Rhodos	• Købennhavn
• Kjøbenhavn : Nyt Nordisk Forl. ; Oslo	• Kjøbenhavn Gyldendal	• Købeenhavn	• Københaven	• København : Levin & Munksgaard ; Kristiania : Mittag & Co.	• København ; Oslo	• København N.	• København, V.	• Købnehavn
• Kjøbenhavn : Oslo	• Kjøbenhavn J.H. Schultz	• Købehavn	• Københavh	• København : Lund ; Kristiania : Cammermeyer	• København ; Rkistania [i.e. Kristiania]	• København og Bergen	• København.	• Købnhavn
• Kjøbenhavn ; Bergen	• Kjøbenhavn Kristiania	• Købehavn	• København	• København : NEFA	• Köbenhavn [1800?]	• København og Kristiania	• København/Helsingfors	• Køhenhavn
• Kjøbenhavn ; Kristiania	• Kjøbenhavn Leipzig	• Købemhavn	• Köbenhavn	• København : Schønberg ; Kristiania	• København [s.n.]	• København Schubothske Forl.	• København/Kristiania	• Køpmannahøfn
• Kjøbenhavn ; Kristiania ; Berlin ; London	• Kjøbenhavn og flere steder	• Købenahvn	• København Gad	• København & Kristiania	• København]	• København V. Sekretariatet	• København/Stockholm	• Køvenhavn
• Kjøbenhavn ; Kristiania [etc.]	• Kjøbenhavn og Kristiania	• Købenavn	• København & Leipzig	• København ; Christiania	• København 1843-1865	• København Valby	• København; Kristiania	• Kööpenhamina
• Kjøbenhavn [1807?]	• Kjøbenhavn, Kristiania	• Købenchavn	• København (Øster Voldgade 4 A, 1350 K)	• København ; Hirtshals	• København 1952-1954	• København Ø	• København?	• Kööpenhamina [København]
• Kjøbenhavn [P.F. Friis]	• Kjøbenhavn: Gyldendalske boghandels forlag	• Købengavn	• København :	• København ;	• København 1971	• København, Danmark	• København>	
• Kjøbenhavn [s.n.]	• Kjøbenhavn; Kristiania	• Københaffn	• København : Ejlers ; Oslo	• København ; Kjøbenhavn ; Københavns Vejviser	• København G. E. C. Gad	• København, K	• Københavner	
• Kjøbenhavn 1866	• Kjøbenhavn]	• Københafn	• København : Gyldendal ; Kristiania : Nordisk forlag	• København ; Kjøbenhavn ; Kjøbenhavns Vejviser	• København 1843-1865	• København, K	• Københavnime	
• Kjøbenhavn 1882-1896	• Kjøbenhvn	• Københamn	• Köbenhamn	• København : Gyldendal ; Kristiania : Nordisk forlag	• København Gyldendals pædagogiske bibliotek	• København, Kristiania	• Københavns Socialpædagogiske seminarium	
• Kjøbenhavn 1903	• Kjøbinghaffn	• Københan	• København	• København : Helsingki	• København ; Kriatiania	• København, Munksgaard	• København?	
• Kjøbenhavn b	• Kjøbvenhavn	• Københavv	• København : Helsingki	• København ; Kristiania	• København K	• København, Oslo	• København	
					• København K.	• København,		

Identifying Norwegian material

- Machine processing against Wikidata, Norwegian Statistical Bureau and others
- Manual processing on the larger groups of places
- The National Library was able to identify country code for $\approx 1.000.000$ records in the catalog
 - The records are updated accordingly, enabling us to differentiate between Norwegian records and foreign materials

Matching using AI?

- Could AI be used to improve and ensure the quality of the material matching process?
- Other metadata improvements that could enrich the metadata?
 - Language of publication
 - Material type
 - Subject headings
- Basis for future projects



Foreign materials

- Universities will coordinate to determine responsibility for specific materials
- Not required to keep everything, but committed to retaining materials they have agreed to preserve
 - So that other institutions safely can delete their own copy
- Key requirement: Needs system support to track and safeguard items designated for retention

Establish safeguards to ensure the consortium's last copy of any material is not deleted

How to ensure the last copy in the consortium is not deleted?

- Answer: Retention policy
- Alma supports retention at both the bibliographic and item levels
- This works well for books, which always have associated item records
- However, a challenge arises with journals, as they often (at least in our case) have holdings records but no item records



Bibliographic level

Bibliographic

Holdings

Item

- Alma supports creating a table where you can define either a specific field and subfield or field and subfield + value for retention
- Bibliographic records that match any row in the table will be prevented from deletion.

< Bibliographic Collection Retention definition Cancel Customize

Values Notes

1 - 1 of 1 Field ▾ 🔍 Import + Add Row ▾ 📄 ⚙️

	Enabled	Field	Subfield	Value	Updated By	Last Updated	
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	613	a		AliciaC613	20/12/2023	...

Bibliographic level – Marc21

- 583 Action Note:

- \$a Action
- \$c Time/date of action
- \$d Action interval (for how long/when consider again/renewal)
- \$f Authorization
- \$2 Source of term (code from: [Resource Action Term Source Codes](#))
- \$5 Institution to which field applies

- 583 Action Note:

- \$a Retained
- \$c 20260801
- \$d Permanent
- \$f BOTT
- \$2 Sikt
- \$5 NB

Item level

Bibliographic

Holdings

Item

- Items can be marked for retention
- It is also possible to add a “Retention Reason” and a “Retention Note”
- This is also supported in the import, export and API workflows
- Items marked will be prevented from deletion.

Retention Information	
Committed to Retain	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Retention Reason	<input type="text"/>
Retention Note	<input type="text"/>

Holdings level

Bibliographic

Holdings

Item

- There is a need to define retention on the holdings level for journals
 - In many cases, specific issues are not cataloged, and the holdings level is the only source of information about what is available
 - Since the holdings level represents the lowest tier in the hierarchy for some records, retention at the bibliographic level alone is insufficient
- Currently not supported!

Bibliographic

Holdings

~~Item~~

Holdings retention

- Retention at the holdings level was initially planned for H2 2025 but was removed from the roadmap during H1 2025
- There was a belief at Clarivate that bibliographic and item-level retention would suffice
 - Which would be true in an ideal scenario
- This posed a significant challenge for our project, prompting us to engage with Clarivate and provide use cases to demonstrate the importance of this functionality

Holdings retention

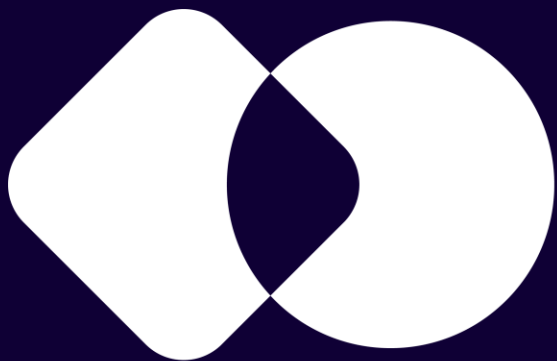
- Clarivate considered our arguments and agreed to revisit the issue
- They proposed a simplified solution for retention at the holdings level, now scheduled for H2 2026
- The solution is similar to the bibliographic-level approach, relying on the presence of specific MARC fields/subfields.
 - However, retention at the holdings level will not prevent the deletion of individual items

Whats next?

- Mark all Norwegian books for retention by the National Library.
- Assign responsibility for specific records to individual universities.
- Begin by updating books to be marked for retention at the bibliographic and item levels.
- Update journal records at the bibliographic, holdings, and item levels.
 - Once holdings-level retention is implemented, all marked records will be protected from deletion.

Source

- https://knowledge.exlibrisgroup.com/Alma/Knowledge_Articles/How_can_we_prevent_our_catalogers_from_deleting_certain_bibliographic_records_and_certain_physical_items%3F



Sikt
Kunnskapssektorens
tjenesteleverandør