Chapter 7
# Online Journals:
## Access and Delivery Models

**Prakash Dongardive**
*University of Mekelle, Ethiopia*

## ABSTRACT

*Electronic information is gaining more importance in academic activities with the extreme change in the pattern of dissemination of knowledge. Web technology provides dynamism to the electronic documents that were not possible in essentially sequential style of presentation of printed documents. Interactive hyperlinks to related resources, links to full range of multimedia, links to traditional indexing and abstracting services, etc. are some of the novelties that are common place in a Web document and that were not possible in a traditional printed document. Web publishers or e-journal publishers claim heavy investments. Publishers create not only bit-map page image but also HTML and PDF formats to provide added advantages for their electronic journals. Electronic journals can provide linking citations and references to bibliographic databases or to full-text articles (where possible), links to graphics/photographs, video or audio clippings not included in the paper, links to corrections or to articles cited in the paper, access to more detailed data or to multimedia information provided by the author, links to external databases, links to reader comments or discussion forums related to the paper, "dual publishing" in more than one electronic journal (e.g. a chemistry article of interest to biologists could appear both in a chemistry and a biology journal), a "living article" where the user could log in at any time and see an experiment on an ongoing basis showing data collected that day, embedded software programs allowing users to mirror the authors' work by manipulating data or running simulations based on their own input.*

## INTRODUCTION

Principally, online journals are known as electronic journals 'interchangeably' because all aspects of preparation, referring, assembly, and distribution are carried out electronically. On the other hand, online journals are electronic journals, but

every electronic journal is not an online journals. Online journals are published only on the Web. There is no parallel publishing such as 'CD ROM and Paper Print' counterpart. In the context of maintaining the scientific communication among the faculties and researcher, online journals are playing major role through his developed topology, but the concept of online journals does not refer to a homogeneous category. Online journals are divided into in the four basic categories accord-

ing to their distribution types: a) pure electronic journals: these journals are distributed only in digital form, and there is no print counterpart available with this type of journal; b) electronic-printed journals: distributed electronically but also distributed in printed form in limited numbers; c) printed-electronic journals: distributed in printed media but also made available electronically; d) printed + electronic journals: those journals whose printed and electronic versions started in parallel distribution criteria (Sathyanarayana, 2007).

Information, which can be accessed, processed, stored, retrieved, and transmitted through electronic gadgets is called electronic information resource. The term 'electronic' is referred to the media in which information is stored and retrieved. Most information is available in electronic formats such as floppy, diskettes, CD-ROMs, magnetic tapes, OPAC of a library collection, online databases, other networked information resources, and World Wide Web. Library and Information systems have developed in the last two decades. The advantage and spread of electronic Information sources and services is a result of development in Information and Communication technology. The price and variety of electronic information contents are growing and expanding, because most information have been accessing electronically. In the context of the popularity of the transition to the electronic information environment any reading of the world press, let alone of Library and information sources, makes it clear that the transition from traditional communication channels to digital channels dominates current discussion of Information.

## DEFINITIONS

## Electronic Journal

"Electronic Journal" as strictly a journal in which all aspects of preparation, referring, assembly, and distribution are carried out electronically. In other words, an electronic journal is one where writing, editing, referring, and distribution of items are carried out electronically without any paper intermediaries.

## Online Journal

A journal that is published electronically (on the Web) rather than printed on the paper. Some online journals are available in either print or electronic format, others are published only on the Web.

## Virtual Journal

In several scientific sub-disciplines now there are 'multi-journal compilations' of articles from several journals in the field. To the casual browser, the virtual journal may appear to be an "actual journal." These types of journals are not considered electronic journals. Virtual journal do not have ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) and these types of (VJ) journals are more like databases or alerting services. User can sign up for 'contents alerts' to receive virtual journal freely. Users can have (VJ) in the form of the table of contents of upcoming virtual journal issue. (VJ) Virtual journals are semi monthly publications and contains articles that have appeared in one of the participating source journals that fall within a number of contemporary topical areas. The articles are primarily those that have been published in the previous month; however, the direction of the editors' older articles can also appear, particularly review articles and links to other useful Web resources.

### Examples of Virtual Journals

- Virtual journal of applications of super-conductivity (www.vjsuper.org).
- Virtual journal of nano scale science and technology (www.vjnano.org).
- Virtual journal of quantum information (www.quantuminfo.org).

9 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage:
www.igi-global.com/chapter/online-journals-access-delivery-models/77974

# Related Content

A User-Driven Approach to Developing Ambient Assisted Living Systems for Older People: The SOPRANO Project
Andrew Sixsmith, Sonja Mueller, Felicitas Lull, Michael Klein, Ilse Bierhoff, Sarah Delaney, Paula Byrne, Sandra Sproll, Robert Savageand Elena Avatangelou (2011). *Intelligent Technologies for Bridging the Grey Digital Divide (pp. 30-45).*
www.irma-international.org/chapter/user-driven-approach-developing-ambient/46725

A Conceptual Framework of RFID Adoption in Retail Using TOE Framework
Mithu Bhattacharyaand Samuel Fosso Wamba (2015). *International Journal of Technology Diffusion (pp. 1-32).*
www.irma-international.org/article/a-conceptual-framework-of-rfid-adoption-in-retail-using-toe-framework/125592

Regions and Cities as Stimulators Towards Green and Digital Economy
Louis Delcartand Nelu Neacsu (2018). *International Journal of Innovation in the Digital Economy (pp. 1-10).*
www.irma-international.org/article/regions-and-cities-as-stimulators-towards-green-and-digital-economy/210613

Competition on the Web Market Both Against Other Web Based Market Companies and Against Their Real Market Analogues
Iulian Caraganciu (2014). *International Journal of Innovation in the Digital Economy (pp. 47-54).*
www.irma-international.org/article/competition-on-the-web-market-both-against-other-web-based-market-companies-and-against-their-real-market-analogues/114971

What Does it Mean to Bridge the Divide?: Learning from Spontaneous Practices towards ICTs
Suely Fragoso, Denise Cogoand Liliane Dutra Brignol (2011). *ICTs and Sustainable Solutions for the Digital Divide: Theory and Perspectives (pp. 151-170).*
www.irma-international.org/chapter/does-mean-bridge-divide/46715