

# Collection policy in a university library

Ari Muhonen  
Helsinki University of Technology  
Library  
15.8.2007

# Helsinki University of Technology

- Students 15 200 (MSc 12 400, PhD 2 800)
- Staff 3 200
- Organisation
  - 12 departments -> 110 laboratories
  - 9 special units
- Locations
  - Otaniemi campus
  - Kirkkonummi
  - Lahti

# Libraries of TKK

- Main library
  - monograph collections 250 000
  - serials collections 11 400 titles
  - subscribed printed journals 872
  - electronic journals 15 000
- Department libraries 10
- Special unit libraries ~5
- Laboratory libraries 20-30
- Numerous laboratory/professor "collections"

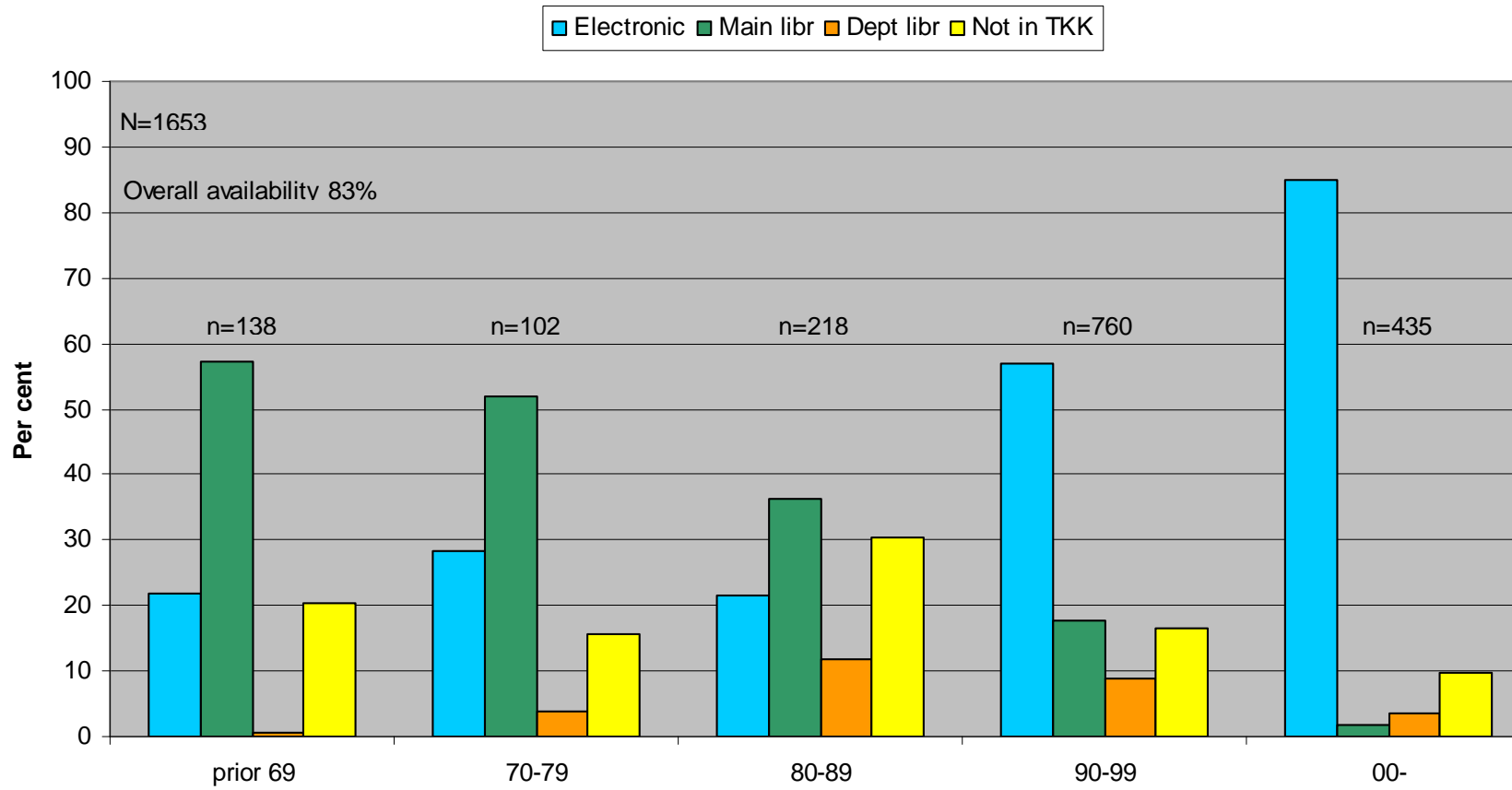
# Collection management, actions so far

- Dissertation reference analysis, 2004
- Written collection policy, 2005
  - Reapproved 2007
- Top journal analysis, 2005
- Collection mapping, 2005-06

# Dissertation reference analysis, 2004

- Journals referenced in 22 TKK dissertations
- Reported in Signum  
Viitetiedolla vaikutusten jäljille. Signum 38(2005)2,  
s. 10-15.
- Main result: Collections of TKK libraries included 83% of the journals used by the dissertation students

### Availability of journal references of 22 TKK dissertations



# Collection policy

- Study, results in report

*Marvia, Jaana*

**Kirjoitetun kokoelmapolitiikan laatimisesta.**

Espoo: Teknillisen korkeakoulun kirjasto, 2005. 24 s. (OTA-kirjasto E 4).

Available at <http://lib.tkk.fi/Julkaisut/E4.pdf>

- Collection policy, available at

<http://lib.tkk.fi/Neuvonta/Oppaat/kokoelmapolitiikka.pdf>

# Collection policy, contents

## 1. Introduction

- goals, responsibilities

## 2. Aims of TKK and its libraries

## 3. Collections

- history
- present collections
- evaluation

# Collection policy, contents 2

## 4. Policies

- general guidelines
- acquisitions
- OA material
- donations
- archives
- maintenance

# Top journal analysis, 2005

- Three dimensional analysis
  - survey
  - dissertation reference analysis
  - analysis of TKK publications register
- Reported in TietäNet
  - Lehtitilaukset tiukassa syynissä. TietäNet 12(2006)1, p. 10-14. Available at:  
<http://lib.tkk.fi/TietaNet/1.06/a03.html>

# Top journal results

- Different journal names
  - 1987 from survey (availability 81%)
  - 1086 from dissertation reference analysis
  - 1007 from TKK publications register
- Combinations
  - 249 journals mentioned in all three
  - 576 journals mentioned in two of the three

# Collection mapping 2005-06

- Why?
  - Know your collections!
  - National project
- Work done
  - 223 Access queries
  - analysis with own Perl-script
- Reported in TietäNet
  - Kokoelmat entistä tutummiksi. TietäNet 13(2007)1, pp. 3-10.  
Available at:  
<http://lib.tkk.fi/TietaNet/1.07/a01.html>

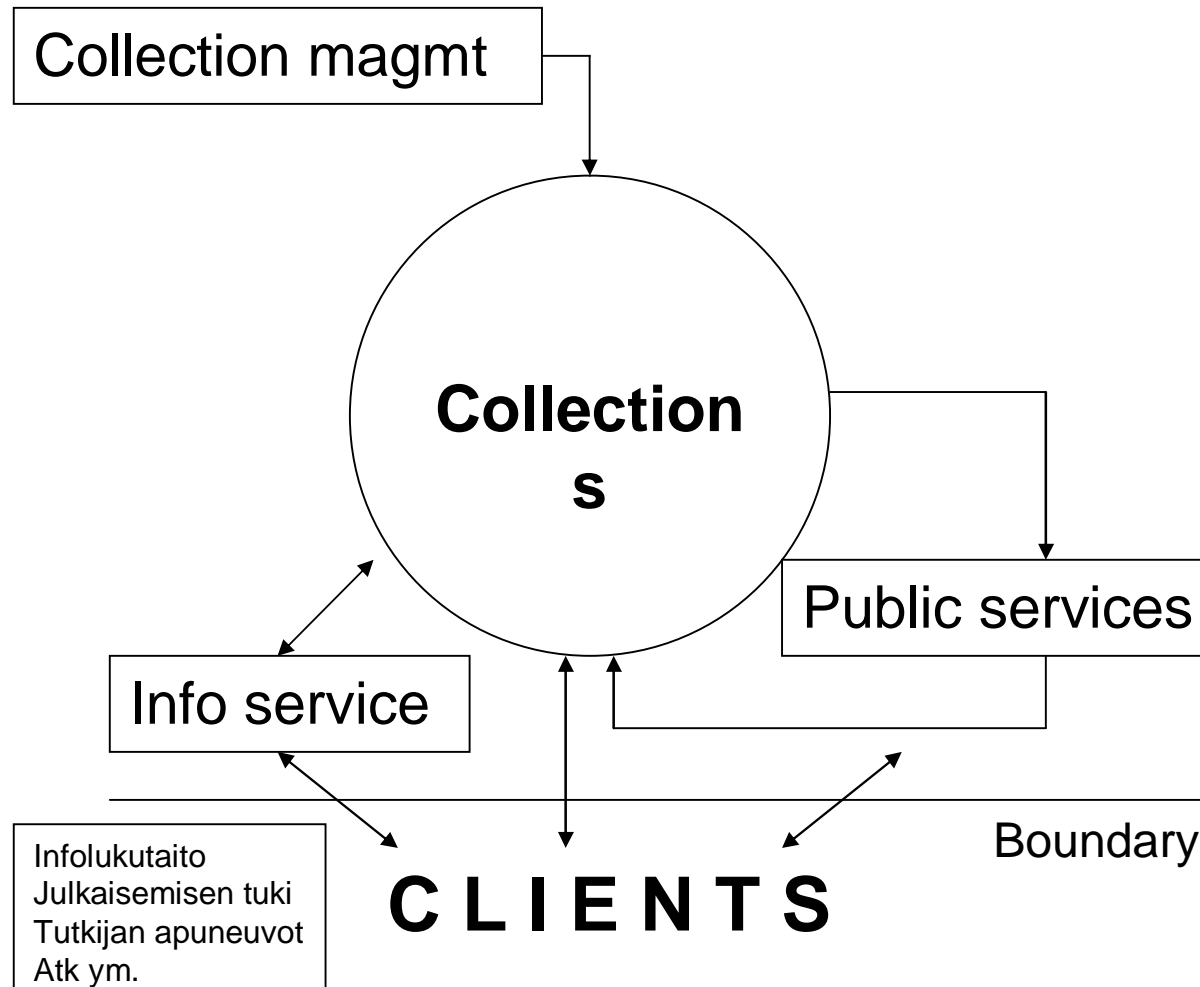
# Some mapping results

- Median age 1980-89
- Main languages English (2/3) and Finnish (1/5)
- Subject areas; science 23%
- Course books
  - median publication year 2001
  - 2% published before 1980

# Electronic journals

- Subject areas (examples)
  - agricultural sciences 4,4%
  - arts and humanities 14,6%
  - business, economy 29,0%
  - chemistry 8%
  - physics 1%
  - engineering 9,5%
  - health sciences 13,2%

# Duties of a library



# Electronic journals

- Subject areas (examples)
  - agricultural sciences 4,4%
  - arts and humanities 14,6%
  - business, economy 29,0%
  - chemistry 8%
  - physics 1%
  - engineering 9,5%
  - health sciences 13,2%

# Change of paradigm

- 1970's: just in case
- 2000's just in time
- > we need to optimize our collections
- **HOWEVER:**
  - Is anything else fast enough for a researcher but his/her own book shelf (or computer)?
  - do researchers agree about the change of the paradigm?

# Conclusions

- It's better to be roughly right than exactly wrong
- Determination, resources!
- Future planning needs facts
  - so do the ones who give us our money
- I recommend everybody collection management and collection mapping