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Collection management collaborations in Sweden

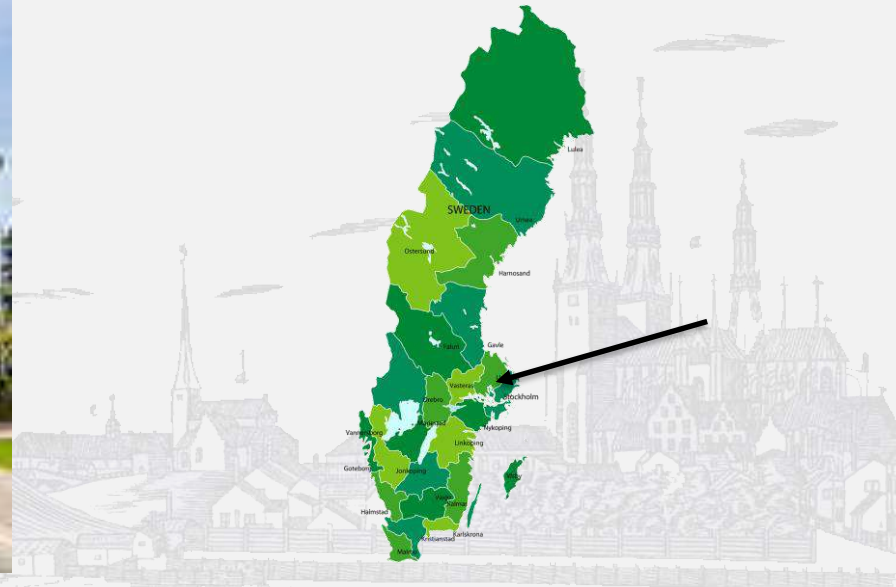
Digitization and print collections

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Uppsala university library

- University founded in 1477, all faculties and subjects
- Library founded in 1621, 170 employees
- Large collections: old, new, licenced and OA publishing
- Part of many national collaborations



Two large national collaborations

- Digitization of Swedish print
- Collaboration on weeding and preserving print collections



Common goal: easier access for users

→ Increase digital access

→ Secure print copies

Resource sharing / sharing the burden

- collections
- competencies and staff
- systems
- standards





Digitization of Swedish print



Current state

Many libraries digitize their collections and have high competence and advanced technology

Libraries collaborate with researchers

But...

Not much of Swedish print cultural heritage is digitized – only about 5-10 %.

No joint infrastructure or user interface for digitized material

No government funding for digitization

National collaboration

The National library and the five largest university libraries: Stockholm, Uppsala, Lund, Göteborg and Umeå

Focus areas:

- Digitization, infrastructure and development
- Joint standards and strategies
- Raise the need for additional funding



Problems to solve

More material

- Only about 5-10 % of copyright-free Swedish print is digitized – will take 300 years at current pace 😊

Easier to use

- Many different publishing platforms – local focus
- Not possible to search among all digitized material

Meet research needs - new research methods

- Read, analyse, search in fulltext, good quality images
- Text and Data Mining (TDM), automatic analysis of images and texts, machine learning algorithms

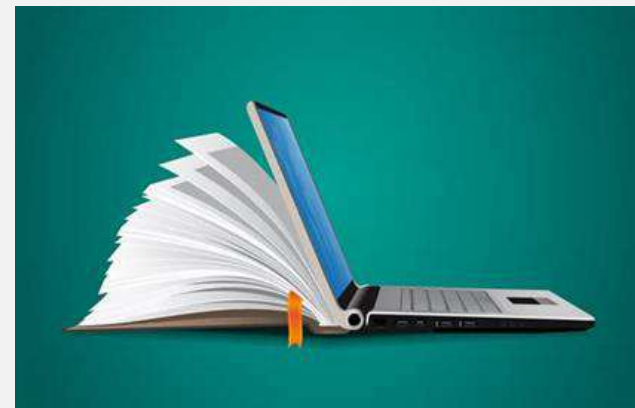
Digitized material = data for research

Texts becomes data

Interoperability – open and connected with other digital collections and dataset

Need for national infrastructure for access and use

- Standards for metadata and datafiles
- Open linked data
- APIs for automatic transfer of data



Where do you start?

What is the "Swedish" print? How much is it?

How much would it cost to digitize it all? How could we get funding?

How do users want to access and use digitized material?

Can we digitize more at our libraries or should we outsource? What common standards do we need?

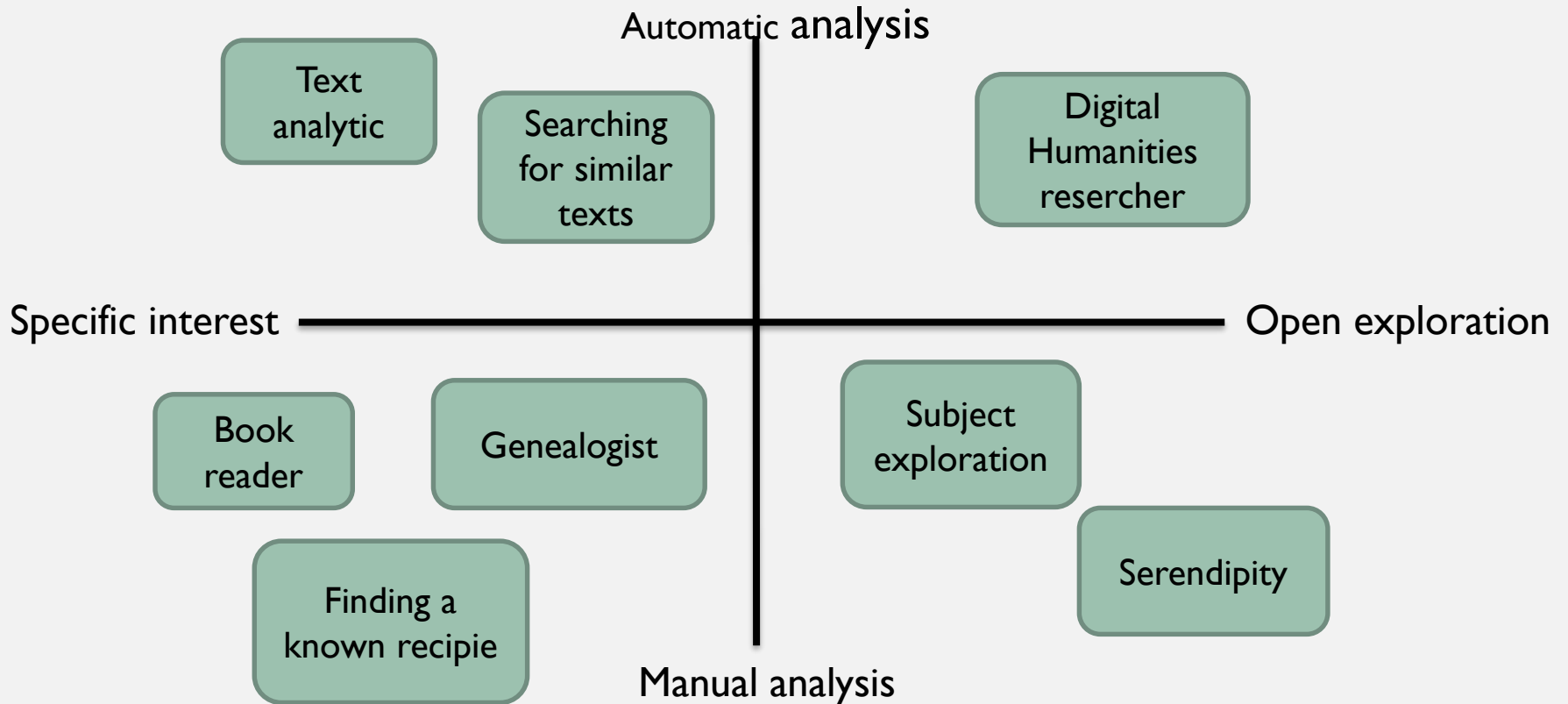
What other GLAM institutions should we collaborate with?

How can we organize for a longterm collaboration?

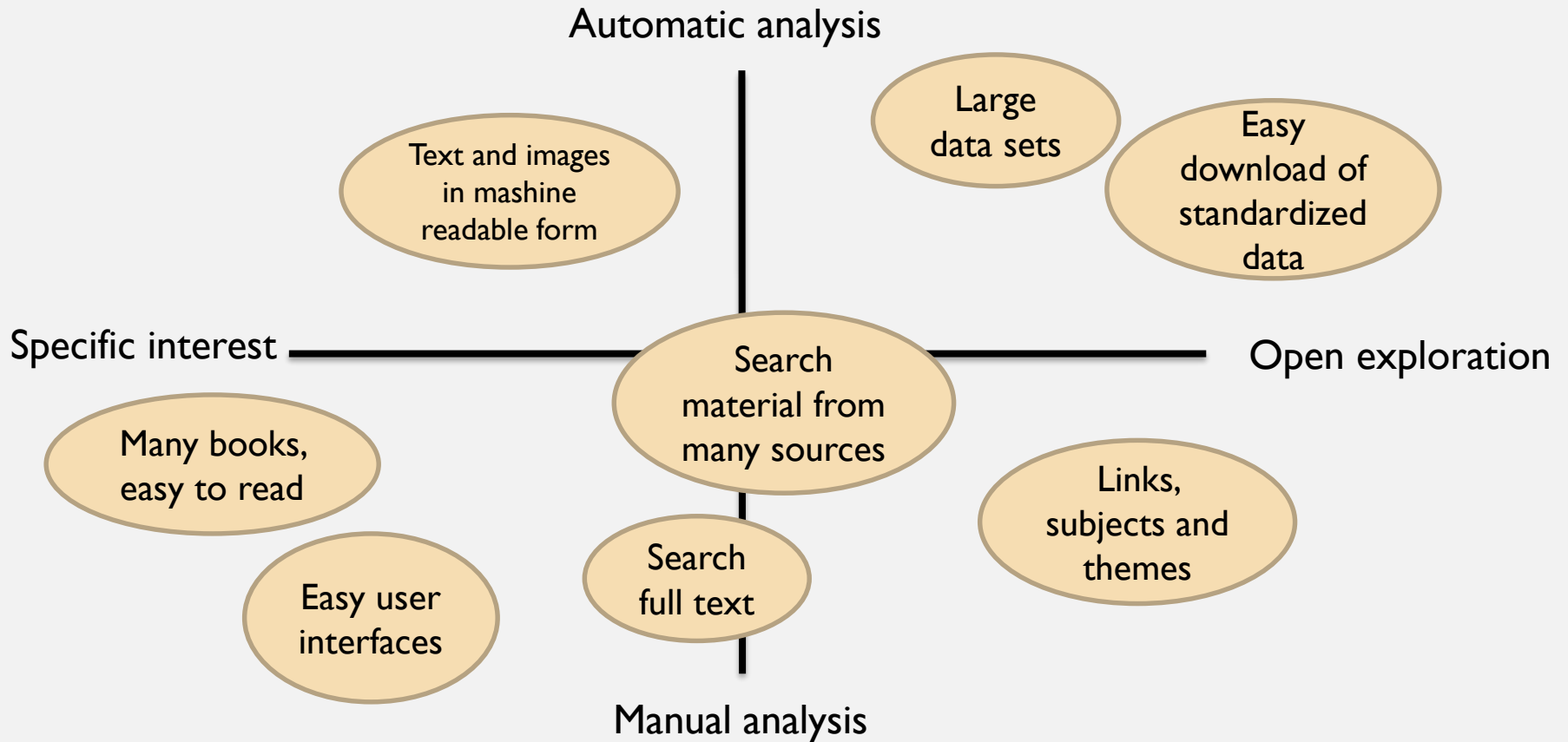
Starting the collaboration

- Defining "Swedish print"
- Setting a technical standard for photo/scanning
- Joint selection prioritization
 - Journals 1850-1900, dissertations and the oldest material
- Setting up a specific search in the national catalog for Swedish digitized print material
- Informing about the collaboration
 - Webpage, newspaper article, radio interview, webinar

Focus on the user perspective



Focus on the user perspective



Meeting user needs

Prioritized needs

- Single user interface for material from all libraries
- Full text search in digitized material
- Options for automatic download and analysis

→ Investigating options for a national data platform and a joint user interface

Ongoing work



Developing the collaboration

- Networking and knowledge exchange
- Digitization of journals



Deepened Library-Museum-Archive collaboration

- National Archives



Developing a national infrastructure and additional funding

- National data platform and user interface
- Discussions with research funders

Digitization is up on the table

- Discussion among research funders, politicians and LAM-sector
- Working towards longterm national solutions for funding and infrastructure
- Libraries are being proactive and creating value - and we are ready to scale up!



Collaboration on weeding and preserving print collections



Collections and collection building

The image shows two book covers. The top cover is dark blue with white text. The bottom cover is a lighter blue with a pattern of open books and a gold ribbon graphic. Both covers are tilted.

Samlingsbyggandet på svenska forskningsbibliotek

Nuläget och förslag på nationella samarbeten kring fysiska samlingar

Kungliga biblioteket

Demokratis skattkammare

Förslag till en nationell biblioteksstrategi

KUNGLIGA BIBLIOTEKET | NATIONELL BIBLIOTEKSSTRATEGI

Research libraries: "We don't build collections anymore"

"There is a need for a national strategy for physical collections"

Collections and collection building

- Extensive weeding of print collections in HE libraries
 - many short-term weeding decisions
 - losing breadth and depth in collections
- Unsure situation for special libraries, including library closures
- The legal deposit regulates 2 preservation copies, but these are also for use, and might not last

Investigation

”National framework for weeding and preservation”

Inspired by international collaborations

- UK: UK Research Reserve
- USA: consortial solutions
- Norway: national print storage

Showed an interest from libraries to work closer together on maintaining their print collections.

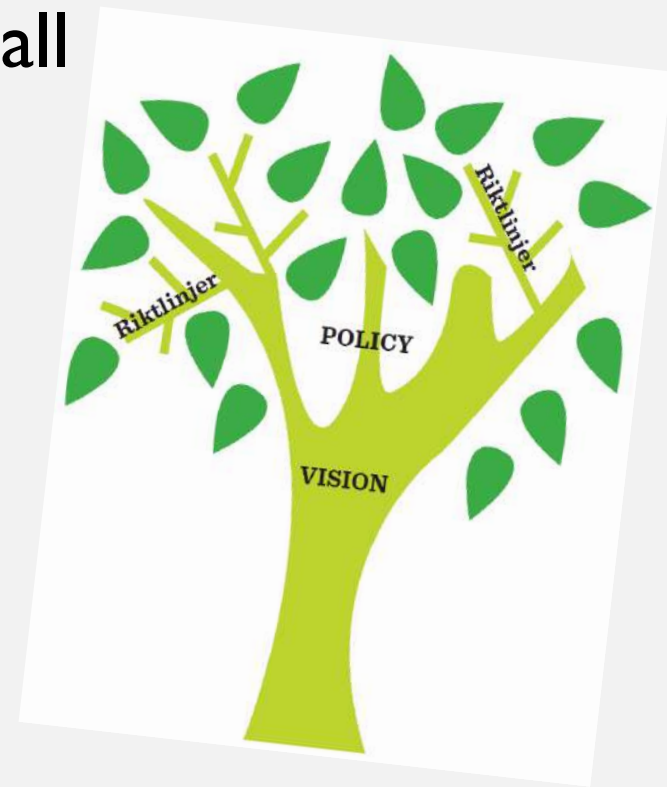
”Everything for everyone, always”



Vision

Research libraries collaborate for the long term and take joint responsibility for saving, preserving and making available material for the needs of today and the future, for all their target groups.

- Collaboration
- Preservation
- Access



Start of the collaboration

- Steering committee
 - The National library
 - 5 university libraries
 - 3 special libraries
- Working group

Letter of intent

“With this letter of intent, libraries want to clarify their **shared responsibility** and the need for **national coordination** to ensure the long-term supply of information in the form of print material.”

“for the **benefit of researchers**, today and tomorrow, and in support of the **democratic society**”

“to find **forms for joint preservation** and for coordinated and transparent weeding”

“**clarifies the common responsibility** and the different roles of libraries in the management of the printed collections”

Letter of intent

The Royal Library (National library)

University libraries:

- Göteborg
- Karlstad
- Lund
- Umeå
- Uppsala
- Södertörn

Special libraries:

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities
- Swedish Parliament
- Swedish National Maritime and Transport Museums



National collection analysis

- National collection analysis using metadata in the national catalogue Libris.
- Analysis similar to a UK analysis from 2016, “Strength in numbers” → “scarcity is common”
- What is “rare” and “common” in a Swedish and international context?



National collection analysis

- Collection overview
 - How many records have few or only one holding?
 - How many records have many holdings?
 - How are collections distributed between library types? (national/research/special libraries)
 - How is the regional distribution?

National collection analysis

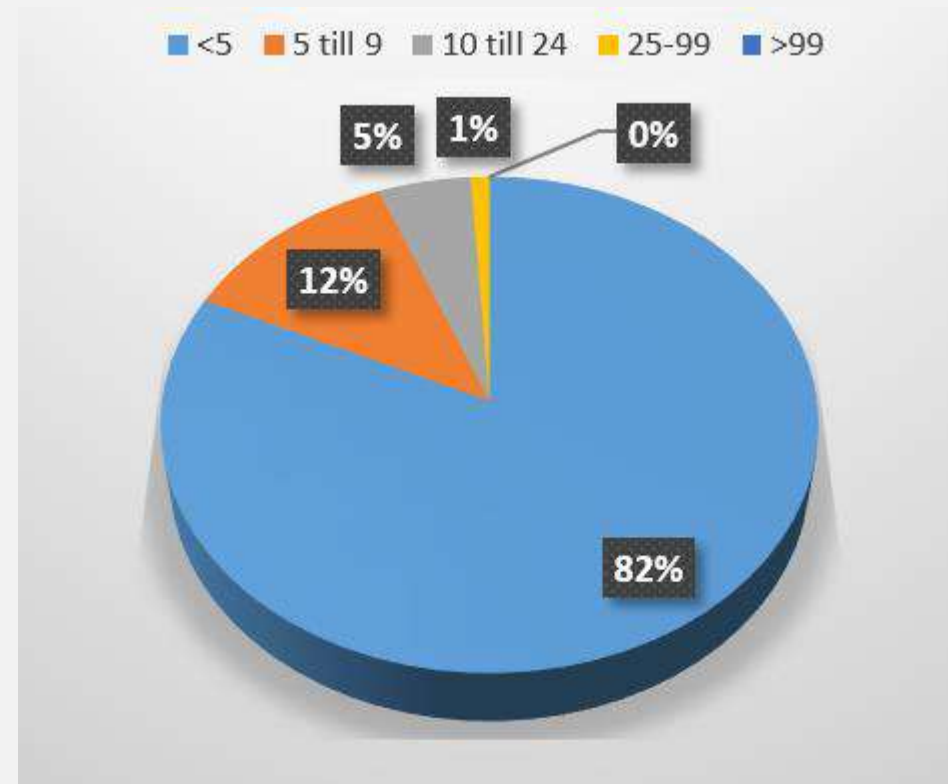
Preliminary results for print journals

Total of 230 000

Less than 5 holdings
for 82% of journal titles

(different journal suites
- even lower overlap)

Next step: start year
and library type

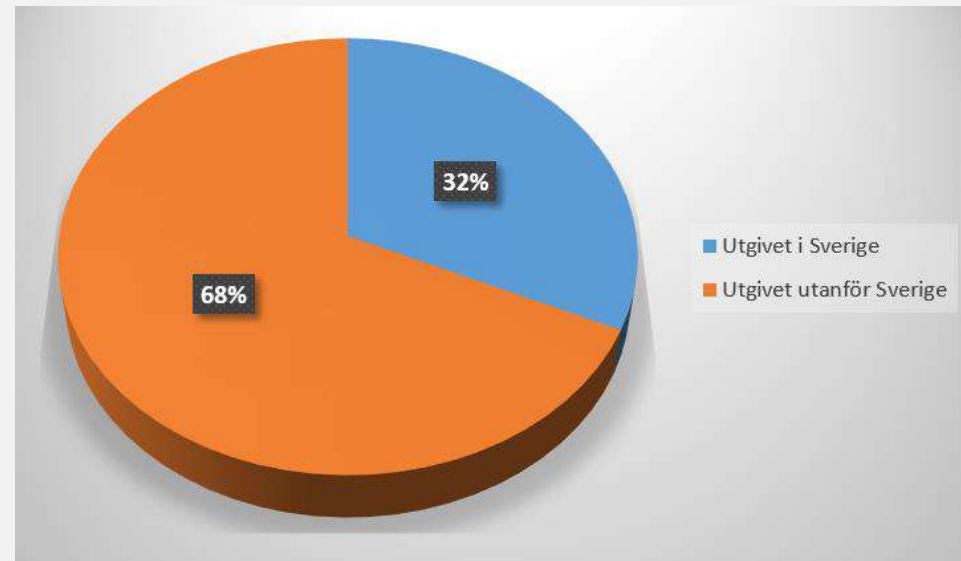


National collection analysis

Preliminary results for print monographs

Total of 3 000 000

Next step: holdings per title, holdings per library type



Next steps

- Collaboration on preservation
 - "Last copy management"
- Collaboration on weeding
 - Weeding of print scientific journals (keep 1-2 copies)
- International collaborations
 - Epico - European Print Initiatives Collaboration

Digitization and shared print

- Synergy effects
- New ways for libraries to work together and share resources
- Shift from local focus to national collaboration and shared infrastructures





Thanks!

Questions?

