

## EJOL. - ELECTRONIC JOURNALS ONLINE LIBRARY

<http://ejol.irb.hr>

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First intention for the EJOL Project - Electronic Journals Online Library (<http://ejol.irb.hr/>) was in 1997 but the project has not begun until 2002 when EJOL was selected as one of the Applied Information Technology Projects and the funds by Ministry of Science and Technology were gained.

Electronic scholarly journals are dispersed on the Internet (different publishers – different servers). Although all major publishers have their own databases (Elsevier, Springer, Wiley,...) well known to the end users, large number of the small publishers and society journals are hidden in depth of the web as well as many Croatian scholarly journals unknown to international scientific community. It is hard to find information about freely available electronic journals that are of great importance. All that inspired us to create electronic journals database and to make them available via single interface.



Figure 1 : EJOL home page

Main goals of the project are:

- access to numerous scientific electronic journals in one place
- gathering of free electronic journals
- making records of scientific print journals financed by MSES in Croatian libraries
- availability of database to Croatian academic community

Database offers detailed bibliographic journal description that such as: title, author, publisher, also including abstracting and indexing information (Current Contents). Peer review journals are particularly stressed out. Bibliographic data are taken from the publisher site thus authenticity is publishers responsibility. Whereas information about journals indexed in Current Contents are important to scientist this information are carefully checked.

Although journal has electronic version accessibility depends on publisher policy. To have users informed about it accessibility level is graphically indicated and beside that library print holding is pointed out.

Table 1. Graphic indicators of accessibility level



**free access** to full text for all users



**free full text archive** for all users



**no access** - subscription is needed or full text is not available at all



**access to full text** just for particular institution



**full text archive** just for particular institution



## print subscription particular institution

The database embrace more than 5,000 journals and their number is growing rapidly. Thirty five libraries participate in the project, and librarians beside administration of accessibility level can add new journals and edit old ones. In order to make the lists of available journals more relevant, journals are sorted according to the scientific fields.

Every library has its own interface, currency of accessibility data are each library responsibility. According to chosen interface depends what symbol will be seen. Different institutions may have different symbols for the same title. fig. 2, 3).

The screenshot displays the library's search interface. At the top, it reads "Sveucilisna knjižnica Rijeka". Below this is a search bar with the text "Pretražite bazu časopisa:" and a search button labeled "Traži". The search term "marine chemistry" is entered in the bar. Below the search bar are links for "Napredno pretraživanje" and "Pomoć pri traženju". A row of six colorful icons (representing different journal categories) is shown, followed by a "Pomoć" link. Below the icons, it says "Izlistavanje po abecedi:" followed by an alphabetical list of letters from A to Z. At the bottom left, it indicates "Broj pronađenih časopisa : 449" and "1 - 15 >> Kraj >>". The footer contains the journal title "Marine chemistry - an international journal for studies of all chemic...", a red hand icon, and links for "info" and "upute za autore".

Figure 2. Accessibility level of Marine chemistry Rijeka university Library interface



Figure 3. Accessibility level of Marine chemistry Rudjer Boskovic Institute Interface

It is possible to browse through scientific fields distributed according to UDC classification scheme and search by title, publisher, ISSN, Croatian and English keywords, title abbreviation, indexing and abstracting databases, level of accessibility. Since recently full text search is possible for some major publishers.

The database is useful for librarians as well as for users. In the near future e-archives and Croatian press will be included in the database. We will dedicate more time to education of users and librarians as well as to promotion of project itself.

Also, we are expecting more Croatian libraries to be actively involved in the project and continuous growth of journals number. Usage statistics according journal title, publisher, scientific field will be available soon.

Application is based on server-side scripting language PHP and MySQL database. Operating system on Intel platform is FreeBSD with Apache as web-server. Data is stored in RAID 5 disk array. Data is backed up daily

Croatian libraries not involved in the project yet are invited to register themselves at project home page.(<http://ejol.irb.hr>)