Are Ebooks Used Equally Across the Disciplines?

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Increasing Importance of Ebooks

- Duke has acquired over 13,000 titles on the ebrary platform since 2008
- Titles are spread across all LC classes
- Titles have been acquired through:
  - Approval plan
  - Firm orders
  - Demand Driven Acquisitions (DDA)
Assumptions to Test

- Ebooks have greater use by science patrons than humanities patrons
- Science patrons are more interested in downloading chapters
- Humanities patrons are more interested in downloading full titles
Data Used

- Number of user sessions per title
- Number of chapter downloads per title
- Number of full title downloads per title
- Cost per title
- All were mapped against LC class
- Tried to capture usage along with intensity of usage
Title Breakdown
Titles Purchased by Year

![Bar chart showing titles purchased by year. The chart indicates a substantial increase in titles purchased in 2011 compared to previous years.](chart.png)
Titles by LC Class
Usage Results
Titles with Use

- R: 70%
- F: 60%
- N: 50%
- B: 50%
- Q: 40%
- M: 40%
- G: 40%
- E: 40%
- H: 30%
- D: 30%
- P: 30%
- T: 20%
- J: 20%
- L: 10%
Sessions per Title
Page Views per Session

![Bar chart showing page views per session for different letters.]
Sessions per Chapter Download
Sessions per Full Title Download
Usage and Cost Results
Cost per Title

$0 $20 $40 $60 $80 $100 $120 $140

F E M N P D G H J L B R Q T
Cost per Session

[bar chart showing cost per session ranging from $0 to $70]
Cost per Download

- $0
- $100
- $200
- $300
- $400
- $500
- $600
- $700
Results

- Biggest divide between humanities and sciences:
  - Sessions per title
  - Sessions per chapter downloads
  - Cost per download
Results

- R and Q titles: consistent high usage
- E and F titles: good usage and low costs
- T titles: low usage but high downloads
- P titles: low usage but highest full title downloads
- Perhaps platform influenced the results
Sessions per Download by Platform

- ebrary: 4 sessions per download
- EBL: 2 sessions per download
Thank You