

CloudSource OA™

CloudSource OA makes it easy for your library to take advantage of the growing body of scholarly Open Access (OA) content available today. Get access to a comprehensive collection of 3M OA articles and books with analytics and Learning Management Systems (LMS) integration built-in.

What is Open Access Content?

Traditionally, publishers have put access to articles behind paywalls, and libraries have subscribed to these journals via packages or databases that aggregate the content. The cost of these subscriptions has continued to rise at an unsustainable rate for many academic libraries, and they are looking for new ways to meet patron demand. This has fueled a sea-change in how scholarly research (mostly articles, but also textbooks and monographs) are being funded and licensed.

The Public Library of Science (PLoS) defines Open Access content as content with unrestricted access and unrestricted reuse. This movement has surged over the last several years, and now more than 50% of scholarly articles are Open Access.

Percent of papers that are OA
by year of publication



Estimates are that all scholarly content will be Open Access by 2040, if not sooner. [Data Source](#)

OA —The SirsiDynix Approach

CloudSource OA is part of SirsiDynix's mission to make high quality, reliable information available and easily accessible to libraries and their patrons. The next-generation BLUEcloud Library Services Platform was developed specifically to use REST web services to expand the traditional integrated library system (ILS) functionality to offer seamless management of eResources.



eResource Central, the first BLUEcloud application, created a knowledgebase that now delivers eBooks, eVideos, eAudio, eMagazines, and eGovernment documents to discovery and staff applications. These resources were the most technically difficult to integrate given the various readers and digital rights management (DRM) involved.

Digital articles and monographs without DRM present a much lower technical hurdle. With the OA movement gaining steam and widespread acceptance, several services such as Unpaywall offer metadata aggregation of OA content and API update options. The availability of metadata aggregation and BLUEcloud's well-developed web services framework set the stage for expanding BLUEcloud technologies to include article-level metadata, along with eTextbooks and eBooks—all without the restrictions imposed by DRM.

Further, SirsiDynix's business intelligence platform, BLUEcloud Analytics, is an ideal platform for delivering usage statistics for OA content.

The incorporation of OA content into the BLUEcloud LSP represents the perfect marriage of physical and digital resources that a library can offer to users and personifies the vision of BLUEcloud—using “best of breed” technology to expand the mature and stable functionality of the ILS.

What is SirsiDynix CloudSource OA?

We will be piloting the first version of CloudSource OA in Summer 2020, and our initial curation involves a selection of high quality Gold and Hybrid journals, including the English-language journals from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

The resulting collection is currently at about 3M articles, eTextbooks, and eBooks from more than 13,000 journals. These journals are among the top in the field—peer-reviewed, quality publications that were often very expensive to access before they were converted to an OA model. Content from predatory journals, blogs and other non-vetted sources will be excluded. The library will be able to customize the collection based on metadata parameters. For instance, the library can choose to only show items relating to Education, Business, and Technology—skipping the titles on highly specialized medical topics, if desired.

Top Publishers Accessible with CloudSource OA

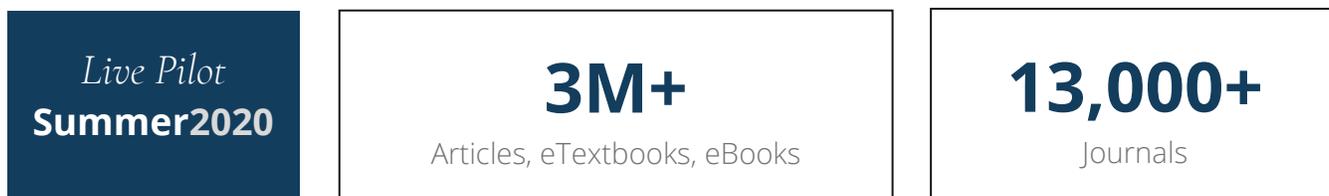


In addition to the curation and aggregation services, CloudSource includes hosting not only the source metadata but also the digital items themselves, with full-text indexing of the items.

CloudSource also provides metadata enhancement to include relevant, authority-controlled headings, abstracts, and multiple links to source data. The result is a robust discovery and direct access to the digital items without broken links or multiple clicks. The consistent display within the UI makes it easy for users to find the article link and open the PDF immediately—without having to provide login credentials.

Since CloudSource OA integrates with Enterprise and BLUEcloud Mobile, the setup is simple and will require very little staff time. For sites using other discovery applications, CloudSource OA offers several integration options, including a CloudSource API and an HTML widget that can be integrated with bento boxes or tabbed displays of result sets. Our development process will also investigate other feeds such as OAI-PMH and KBART.

In addition to the discovery integration, the library will get COUNTER-compliant usage statistics for the OA collection that may prove useful in future proprietary database negotiations.



CloudSource OA components



Content

At launch, CloudSource OA will feature 3M items from reputable publishers. This collection will grow weekly with ongoing additions and updates. Initial collection development will focus on English language journal articles and scholarly books on topics of broad interest. Libraries can curate the collection locally as well as recommend additional items to be indexed.



Discovery

CloudSource OA features a user-friendly interface with powerful searching facilitated by enhanced item level metadata and full-text indexing. As a hosted solution, it offers quick and direct access to content—eliminating broken links and patron frustration. The platform integrates seamlessly with Enterprise, Enterprise Mobile, and BLUEcloud Mobile and meets WCAG 2.1AA accessibility compliance standards.

The screenshot shows the Enterprise search interface. At the top, the 'enterprise' logo is on the left, and navigation links like 'Log In', 'My Account', 'My Lists', 'Send a Request', 'Library Information', 'Select Language', and accessibility icons are on the right. Below the logo is a search bar with 'CloudSource OA' selected in a dropdown, 'All Fields' in another dropdown, and 'climate change' in the search input. A green 'SEARCH' button and an 'Advanced' link are to the right. Below the search bar, there's a 'Quick Search' section with icons for various search functions. The main content area shows 'Viewing Results for: CloudSource OA' and '301 Results'. On the left, a 'Filters' sidebar is open, showing 'Narrowed by: + Resource Status: Gold' and a list of filters including Author, Publication Date, Resource Type, Resource Version, Open Access License, and Journal Title. The Journal Title filter is expanded, showing a list of journals with counts: Water (13), American Journal of Cli... (11), Environmental Researc... (11), Advances in Climate Ch... (9), and PLOS ONE (6). Two article cards are displayed. The first is 'Climate Change As A Wicked Problem' by FitzGibbon, John Mensah, and Kenneth O., published in SAGE Open in 2012. The second is 'Emergency Managers Confront Climate Change' by Labadie, John R., published in Sustainability in 2011. Both articles are marked as 'GOLD' and have 'View Article' buttons. To the right of each article card are links for 'Text It To Me', 'Permalink', 'BrowZine', 'Cite This', and 'BrowZine'.

Figure: CloudSource OA can be searched as a discrete collection (target) within Enterprise or interfiled with other resources in an "everything" search. Articles are easily accessed, and widgets provide additional actions, such as the ability to add items to citation managers, access the publisher site, view multiple versions of an article, and browse the full journal issues using the BrowZine widget.



Course Support

The CloudSource OA package includes BLUEcloud Course Lists, a full suite of tools to facilitate library and faculty collaboration on affordable learning initiatives. LTI integration with Learning Management Systems makes it easy for the library to meet students and faculty where they spend most of their time—in the LMS course pages.



Analytics

Easily measure and analyze the success of the library's Open Access initiatives with usage statistics delivered to your inbox or to BLUEcloud Analytics.

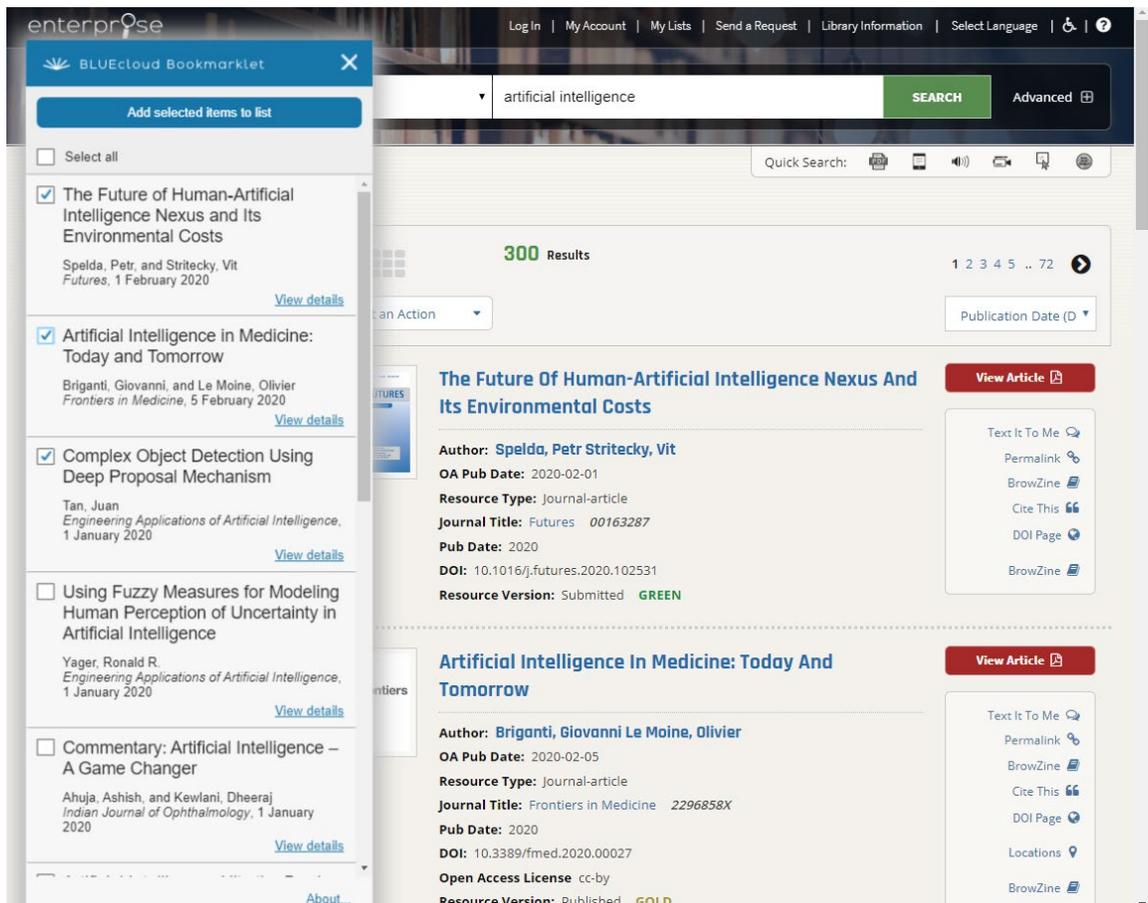


Figure: The BLUEcloud Course Lists browser bookmarklet makes it easy for instructors to use not only CloudSource OA but other familiar tools, such as Google Scholar, YouTube, Amazon, EBSCO Discovery Service, etc. to find and select resources to be included in a course reading list.

Benefits of CloudSource OA

Provide more for less

CloudSource OA gives libraries the tools necessary to deliver top-notch, current research materials while limiting exposure to escalating subscription costs. Drawing on a pool of over 40 million non-fiction articles and books licensed for Open Access, libraries can expand the breadth and depth of their digital collections, track OA usage, and analyze database overlap to develop collection strategies that have greater impact on campus.

Increase library usage and elevate the library's profile on campus.

Making research more efficient is one way libraries can demonstrate value and win the support of influencers on campus. Unlike legacy systems designed to keep content behind a paywall and enforce rights management restrictions, the CloudSource OA platform has been designed to optimize the end-user experience. In a world where content is increasingly open and digital, academic libraries are at risk of being bypassed altogether in favor of the open web services like Google Scholar, ResearchGate and Sci-Hub. While libraries can offer many advantages over these popular research avenues—including privacy protections and content vetting—users often value convenience over security or quality. The CloudSource OA platform saves researchers time and frustration, leading to return visits.

CloudSource OA Highlights

- Instant access to content without login
- Clearly labeled download button
- "Save to list" functionality
- Automated delivery of usage stats
- Citation export
- Links to the item on the publisher site
- BrowZine integration
- Includes BLUEcloud Course Lists

With powerful search capabilities enabled by enhanced metadata and full-text indexing, CloudSource is destined to become a preferred starting point for both novice and experienced researchers.

Promote OA publishing

CloudSource OA makes it easy for the library to highlight OA content and drive its use, which incentivizes future Open Access publishing. While other discovery systems tend to "promote" the OA movement by simply indicating which articles have an available OA version, CloudSource OA highlights open collections, promoting the movement and generating user confidence in the results.

Collaborate with faculty

With BLUEcloud Course Lists, part of the CloudSource OA package, librarians can engage faculty in selecting class materials that will enhance students' learning experiences, utilize library resources, and reduce the need for expensive textbooks. Course Lists provides an end-to-end workflow solution for course content discovery, selection, review, and ultimately export to the institution's LMS. Instructors can build reading lists using the Course Lists web app, which natively searches the CloudSource OA collection, the ILS, and collections from other resources like LC or OCLC. Alternatively, faculty can use a browser bookmarklet (extension) to select list content from almost any website, including Google Scholar, Amazon, YouTube, and even news sources like CNN and The New York Times. Offer faculty this new library service at liaison meetings and measure the impact as OER adoption on campus grows.

Support student success

Access to course materials is one of the primary determinants of student success, yet many students are unable to afford or easily access the required course materials—causing them to delay or never purchase required items. CloudSource OA makes it easier for faculty to choose open educational resources or library licensed content and give students access through the institution's learning management system (LMS), improving academic success and ensuring the library continues to be a fundamental part of the student journey.

What is the CloudSource OA Pilot Program?

The CloudSource OA pilot program is designed to get real-life feedback from library users and to help libraries develop Open Access collections strategies that save significantly on subscription costs.

Pilot customers will have free access to CloudSource OA for the duration of the pilot, which will last at least through June 2021. Upon General Availability of the product, pilot sites will be billed for the coming year at a 50% discount on the on-going subscription rate—the pilot period will be completely free.

We are asking pilot customers to evaluate the quality and coverage of CloudSource. We are particularly interested in ensuring that the coverage is broad enough to satisfy the demands of users without overwhelming them with excessive and non-relevant results. CloudSource development will also include enhancing the Enterprise search experience to accommodate article metadata and provide greater flexibility in managing relevance rankings. The feedback obtained from pilot customers will be crucial to a successful implementation of these improvements.