Libero Publisher: Freedom and flexibility for scholarly publishers
Why eLife is building open source technology for publishing
What is eLife?

- A non-profit backed by research funders to drive reform in research communication
- We invest heavily in open-source technology development and innovation on behalf of the community
Helping scientists accelerate discovery by operating a platform for research communication that encourages and recognises the most responsible behaviours in science.
eLife’s motivations

- Leverage the power of web technology to accelerate research and discovery
- Support open-access publishing
- Build a community-owned infrastructure for all kinds of scholarly content providers
What are the main infrastructure options?
Buy an infrastructure
Build your own infrastructure
Buy a proprietary solution

- You risk a **strong dependence** on a single provider
- There is reduced competition for **feature customisations**
- There can be a lack of **transparency**
If you build your own solution

- Requires a **big upfront investment**
- **Maintenance** and keeping up with the standard can be difficult
- Need to keep up with **fast moving technology**
Shared open-source infrastructure
Building an end-to-end solution

Libero Reviewer

Libero Producer

Libero Publisher

Submission → Peer review → Typesetting → Hosting → Publishing

Collaborative Knowledge Foundation
Europe PMC
substance
Hindawi
digirati
Building an end-to-end solution

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Logos:
- Collaborative Knowledge Foundation
- Europe PMC
- substance
- Hindawi
- digirati
Today I will talk about

- A quick *demo of Libero Publisher*'s prototype
- How do we *build open-source* products
- How you *join the conversation* and how you will be *able to use* what we are building
Shared open-source infrastructure is all about collaboration
eLife’s Libero Reviewer collaboration
eLife’s Libero Producer collaboration
eLife’s Libero Publisher collaboration
The International Journal of Publishing Innovation is the fictional online peer-reviewed journal created to demonstrate the Libero platform.
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Author name et al.
How do you build open-source software?
We listen to content providers

- A strong need for **cost-effective solution**
- Desire for a **modern user experience** (UX/UI)
- A need for **more flexible**, modular options
How do we build tools that are easy to use?

- **Workshops:** we run with users and stakeholders
- **Short feedback loops:** we iterate on feedback and adapt our design
- **User tests:** we make sure that our solution works well

We run workshops with users and stakeholders
...to build user interfaces that are intuitive and save time
How can you join the conversation?
Talk to the community

https://libero.pub/join-slack/

Or contact us by email: hello@libero.pub
See our product roadmap

https://elifesci.org/roadmap
Accessing the code now

- Libero Publisher code:  
  https://github.com/libero

- Other products’ code:  
  https://github.com/elifesciences
Visit our product website

- We’re constantly evolving [https://libero.pub](https://libero.pub) with new guides and links to the relevant repositories
Join our events

- Open-source technology in publishing **Community Call**
- Open-source **Community Sprints**
- Subscribe to our **technology and innovation newsletter** and follow us on Twitter: [@eLifeInnovation](https://twitter.com/eLifeInnovation)
I do not have a tech team, can I still use your product?
Options

- Libero Publisher is **developer-friendly** which means you can easily find software professionals to help get you set up

- Will be supported by an ecosystem of **open-source service providers** that can provide turnkey implementations of our platform
Service provider model

Libero Community

- Code base maintenance
- Implementation, customisations & customer service
- Libero Suite users
Which community governance model was adopted?
Governance

- eLife are **Project Leads** supported by a **Steering Committee** and **Special Interest Groups**
- Provides **freedom** and **protection**
- A permissive **MIT free open-source software license**
Benefits of using Libero Publisher
Benefits of a using Libero Publisher

● Future-proof: No one is dependent on any one organisation

● Customer-owned: Your instance of the platform belongs to you; you can change it any time

● Best of both worlds: You can adapt the code, and have plenty of qualified support available
Thank you

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https://elifesci.org/roadmap