Bridging the Gap to the Full Text Using Browser Extensions

Cris Ferguson
Assistant Dean of Libraries
Murray State University
NASIG Conference
Great Ideas Showcase
June 6, 2019
As users often begin their research and searches outside of library resources in databases such as Google, Google Scholar, PubMed, and freely available databases, the challenge for libraries is to make their subscription resources - full text articles, books, and more - visible to patrons. Browser extensions offer a potential solution, particularly when patrons may not be coming from an IP address where access to content can be automatically authenticated.

A growing array of browser extensions have been developed to help researchers find the full text, whether that full text is in an institutional repository, on a publisher’s website, or Open Access.
Browser Extensions

- EZProxy Redirect
  Offered by: ezproxy-db.appspot.com
- LibX
- Unpaywall
- Kopernio
  One click access to a world of research
- Anywhere Access
- Open Access Button
- LEAN Library
  A SAGE Publishing Company
LibX 2.0

- Available for Firefox and Chrome browsers
- Provides an interface for locating library resources
- Browser is implemented and customized at the library level, not by individual users
- Distributed under an open source license - adaptable by the library
- Last updated in 2017

For more information on LibX visit:  
http://libx.org/
https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/handle/10919/36355
https://guides.lib.vt.edu/libx
LibX 2.0 at Virginia Tech

LibX Virginia Tech Edition is a browser extension that provides direct access to Virginia Tech library resources. It features:
EZProxy Extensions

- Work with a library’s EZProxy prefix to authenticate off campus access to paid library resources
- Append an institution’s EZProxy prefix to an URL - enable the user to log into the proxy server without visiting the library website
- Can be set up by the library or an individual user
- Several are freely available

Examples include:


EZProxy Redirect - https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/ezproxy-redirect/gfhnhcbpnnnlefhobdnmhenofhfnfhi?hl=en
EZProxy: Browser bookmarklet

Information about EZproxy, and instructions for creating bookmarks.

Install the bookmarklet

The EZproxy browser bookmarklet adds the library’s EZproxy prefix to a URL. When you are not on the campus network click on the bookmarklet to access licensed library resources that you’ve found via non-UCB sites such as Google, Google Scholar, email links, Twitter, etc.

To take advantage of EZproxy you will need to make sure your browser is configured to:

- Allow pop-up windows.
- Accept third-party cookies.
- Enable javascript.

The browser bookmarklet can be added to iOS, Android and most browsers including Chrome, Safari, Firefox, and IE.

1. Drag the EZproxy UCB bookmarklet link below to your browser’s toolbar.
2. Click on the bookmarklet after you land on a licensed resource that you’ve reached via a non-UCB site.
3. **MAC USERS:**
   - Chrome: It is not possible to install the EZproxy bookmarklet in Chrome on some Mac operating systems (e.g., Mojave and High Sierra). If you must use Chrome as...
Unpaywall

- Open source extension available for Chrome and Firefox
- Focuses on delivering Open Access content - combines data from DOAJ, CrossRef and DOI prefixes
- Extension is available to individual users
- Part of the offerings of Impact Story

For more information and to download the extension visit:
https://unpaywall.org/
https://impactstory.org/
Unpaywall
Open Access Button

- Open source extension available for Chrome and Firefox
- Takes citation information from a website links users to free, legal versions
- If an article isn’t available OA, OAB will ask the authors to share it
- Uses data from CORE, Unpaywall, SHARE, and others
- Supported by Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)

For more information visit: https://openaccessbutton.org/
Kopernio

- Helps users locate the full text of both Open Access and subscription resources (if set up through library)
- Available for Chrome, Firefox, and Opera
- Freely available to individual users
- Offers an institutional level of access that integrates with library subscriptions - Libraries must set up their institution with Kopernio
- Part of the Web of Science Group - Acquired by Clarivate in April 2018

For more information visit: https://kopernio.com/?lang=en
Anywhere Access

● Provides one click access to full text of both Open Access and subscription resources
● Available only as an institutional level solution, not for individuals
● Fee-based
● Part of the Digital Science portfolio of brands along with Readcube, Altmetric, figshare and others

For more information visit:
https://www.anywhereaccess.com/
Three levels of service
- **Access** - to subscribed resources
- **Assist** - targeted messages
- **Alternatives** - access to alternative versions of full text

Available for Chrome, Firefox, IE, Opera, Safari

Available only as an institutional level solution, not for individuals

Fee-based

Acquired by SAGE in September 2018

For more information visit: https://www.leanlibrary.com/
Lean Library
Connecting to e-resources

Off-campus access privileges

Stanford Libraries provide access to thousands of electronic resources: e-journals, e-books, databases, and more. When you are accessing these resources via the Stanford network or using one of the library's search tools, such as SearchWorks, no special steps are needed.

Off-Campus Access

If you are off-campus (or not using the Stanford network), the Lean Library browser extension can help you connect to Stanford Libraries' content using our EZproxy server.

To install Lean Library extension:

1. Visit Lean Library website to download the extension and follow the prompts to add it to your browser.
2. Select Stanford University from the list of institutions.
3. Click Save to save your settings.

The extension will automatically detect when you are on a website that contains licensed content and will prompt you to log in using your Stanford credentials if needed.