



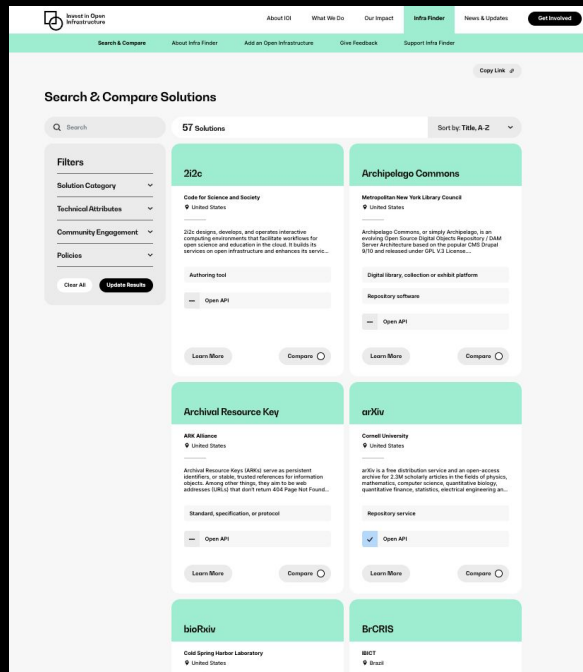
Invest in Open
Infrastructure

Infra Finder

Your Hub for Finding
Open Infrastructure
Services for Research
and Scholarship

OPERAS 2024

Drs. Katherine Skinner, Emmy Tsang,
Lauren Collister





We're on a mission.



Our aim: to increase investment in and adoption of open infrastructure.



Open infrastructure can advance open values, is customizable & can be adapted as needs grow. But its adoption is trailing that of its' competitors.





The problem

Finding the
“right”
infrastructure is a
hard and slow
process

Scattered information across various parts of infrastructure websites and fora

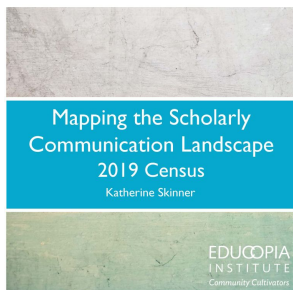
Different requirements and needs for different institutions and stakeholders

Time consuming to pull together comparisons to identify best options



Building blocks

This is neither the first (nor the last!) approach to sense-making for the complex landscape of infrastructure services and standards enabling open research and scholarship. Predecessors include...

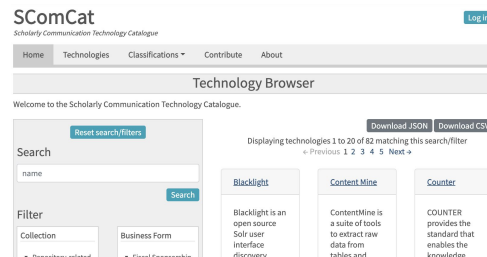


Mike Roy, David Lewis, Katherine Skinner, project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2018.



John W Maxwell, Erik Hanson, Leena Desai, Carmen Tiampo, Kim O'Donnell, Avvai Ketheeswaran, Melody Sun, Emma Walter, Ellen Michelle
Simon Fraser University
July 2019

John W Maxwell, Erik Hanson, Leena Desai, Carmen Tiampo, Avvai Ketheeswaran, Melody Sun, Kim O'Donnell, Emma Walter, Ellen Michelle, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2019.



Catherine Mitchell, Kristin Ratan, Katherine Skinner (with Paul Walk and Sarah Lippincott each doing some heavy lifting!!), funded by Arcadia Fund, 2020.



What do we mean by open infrastructure?

“Open infrastructure” is defined on a spectrum, not as half of a binary.

A service, protocol, standard or software that the academic ecosystem needs in order to perform its functions throughout the research lifecycle.

Criteria we use (always refining!) to zero in on “OI”:

- Meets the definition of [open source software](#);
- Primarily or exclusively distributes openly licensed (open access) content;
- Is free to use by anyone (free of charge or other restrictions);
- Is community-governed and is transparent in its operations and finances;
- Is operated by a non-profit or non-commercial entity;
- Is a service, project, or tool that is designed for wide use.



Additional considerations

We have to start somewhere... this is only a beginning

Prioritized:

- Repository systems
- Preprint systems
- Publishing platforms/tools
- Standards related to the above
- Invitees' perspectives

Deprioritized:

- Hosts and service providers



Infra Finder

The screenshot shows the 'Infra Finder' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'Invest in Open Infrastructure' logo and menu items: 'About IOI', 'What We Do', 'Our Impact', 'Infra Finder' (highlighted), and 'News & Updates'. A 'Get Involved' button is also present. Below the navigation bar is a secondary menu with 'Search & Compare', 'About Infra Finder', 'Add an Open Infrastructure', 'Give Feedback', and 'Support Infra Finder'. The main content area is titled 'Search & Compare Solutions' and features a search bar with '57 Solutions' and a 'Sort by: Title, A-Z' dropdown. On the left, there are filter sections for 'Solution Category', 'Technical Attributes', 'Community Engagement', and 'Policies', along with 'Clear All' and 'Update Results' buttons. Two solution cards are visible: '2i2c' by 'Code for Science and Society' (United States) and 'Archipelago Commons' by 'Metropolitan New York Library Council' (United States). The '2i2c' card is highlighted in green and includes the text 'Authoring tool'. The 'Archipelago Commons' card includes the text 'Digital library, collection or exhibit platform'.

<https://infrafinder.investinopen.org/solutions>



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<https://infrafinder.investinopen.org/solutions>



Infra Finder

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the 'Directory of Open Access Books' entry on the Infra Finder website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: infrafinder.investinopen.org/solutions/directory-of-open-access-books. The website's navigation bar includes links for 'About IOI', 'What We Do', 'Our Impact', 'Infra Finder', and 'News & Updates', along with a 'Get Involved' button. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Search & Compare', 'About Infra Finder', 'Add an Open Infrastructure', 'Give Feedback', and 'Support Infra Finder'. The main content area features a 'Back to Solutions' button, a 'Copy Link' button, and the title 'Directory of Open Access Books'. Below the title, it lists 'DOAB Foundation' and 'Netherlands'. A 'doab' logo is displayed on the right. At the bottom of the main content area, there are buttons for 'Website', 'Pricing Info', and 'Get in Touch'. A footer navigation bar includes links for 'About', 'Mission', 'Technical', 'Community', 'Policies', 'Additional Information', and 'Funding'. The word 'About' is also visible at the bottom of the page.

<https://infrafinder.investinopen.org/solutions>



Infra Finder is created with the community

10+

**User research
sessions**

Refining Infra Finder's utility,
value, and user experience

30+

**Conversations
with providers**

Improving Infra Finder's data
collection and validation
processes and instruments

10

**(Upcoming)
talks and demos**

Online and in-person;
collecting feedback to
improve future releases





This is a
beginning –
not a final
nor the end

Let's continue the
conversation.

Let us know your experience –

what can you not find? What would you like to see?

Want to add your infrastructure?

Express your interest today.

Spread the word! Tell those who are looking for infrastructure services to use Infra Finder.

infrafinder.investinopen.org

