LIFE^3

LIFE^3: Predictive Costing of Digital Preservation

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Humanities Advanced Technology & Information Institute

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What is LIFE?

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What is LIFE?

Life cycle
Information
For
E-Literature

Modeling the costs of preserving digital resources over time

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LIFE stakeholders

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- Medium to large libraries
- Higher Education and other research organisations
- Other memory institutions (i.e. archives and museums)

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The LIFE^2 model

Lifecycle Stage	Creation or Purchase	Acquisition	Ingest	Bit-stream Preservation	Content Preservation	Access
Lifecycle Elements	Digitisation	Selection	Quality Assurance	Repository Admin	Preservation Watch	Access Provision
	....	Submission Agreement	Metadata	Storage Provision	Preservation Planning	Access Control
	....	IPR & Licensing	Deposit	Refreshment	Preservation Action	User Support
	....	Ordering & Invoicing	Holdings Update	Backup	Re-ingest	
		Obtaining	Reference Linking	Inspection	Disposal	
		Check-in				

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LIFE^3: Estimating preservation costs

- **LIFE^3:**
  - Aim: to develop the ability to estimate preservation costs across the digital lifecycle
  - The project is producing:
    - A series of costing models for each stage and element of the digital lifecycle
    - An easy to use web-based costing tool
    - Support to enable easy input of data
    - Integration to facilitate use of the results

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LIFE^3: case studies

- Book digitisation
- E-Journals
- E-Prints
- Manuscript digitisation
- Newspaper digitisation
- Sound Archiving
- Web Archiving
- Small – Medium – Large, Low – Medium – High Quality

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LIFE^3: template approach

- Detailed inputs, specific outputs
- Templates for typical content and organisational profiles
- Auto completion of specific inputs with case study derived data
- Lower barrier of access
- Custom profiles

LIFE^3: model demonstration

- The LIFE^3 model is available as an Excel file, allowing for customization by more technical users
- Quick initial input
- Immediate results
- User has responsibility for refinement to improve confidence

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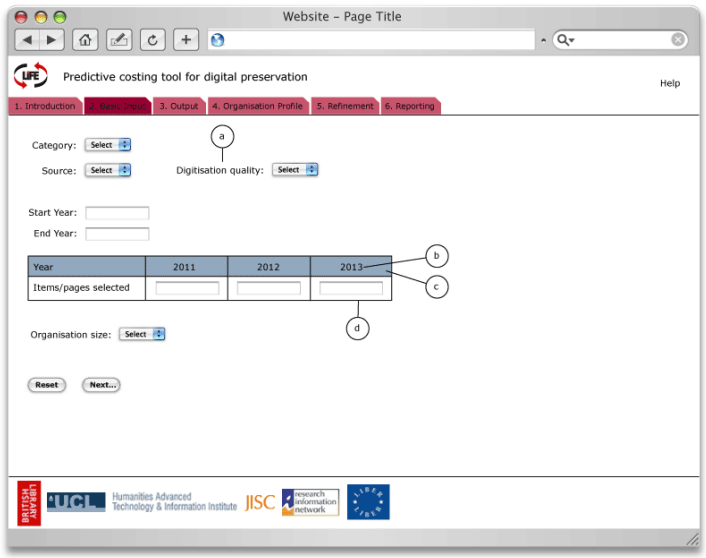
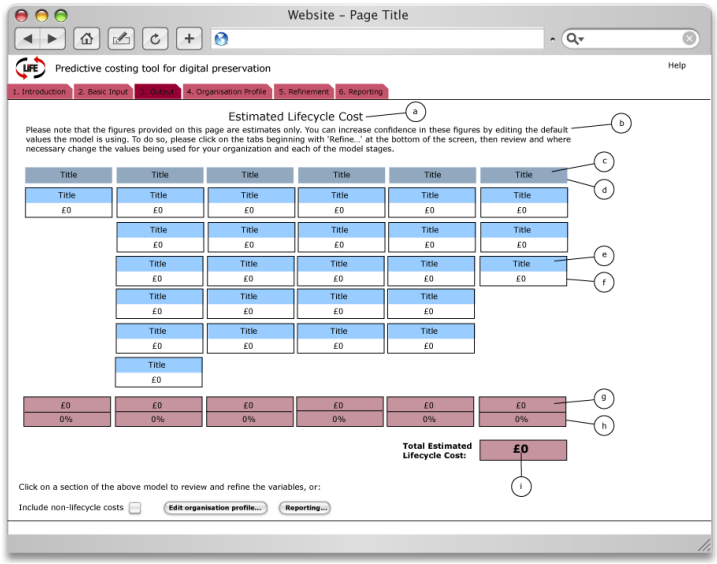
LIFE^3: web-based tool

- We are currently designing a web-based version of the tool with HATII
- Wider availability
- More accessible: quicker and easier to use





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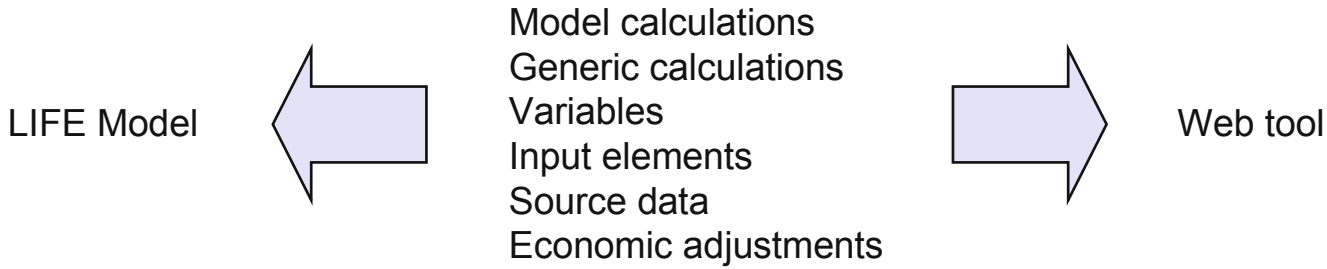
LIFE^3: web-based tool - maintainability

- A specification interface describes the model
- Allows for non-expert maintenance of the tool



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LIFE^3: Issues and trends

- Issues
  - Tools need to be compatible to offer the greatest value
  - Flexibility is required as not all assumptions made about digital preservation 10 years ago are proving true
- Trends
  - With good planning, digital preservation may be more stable than initially anticipated
  - Libraries increasing their focus on access

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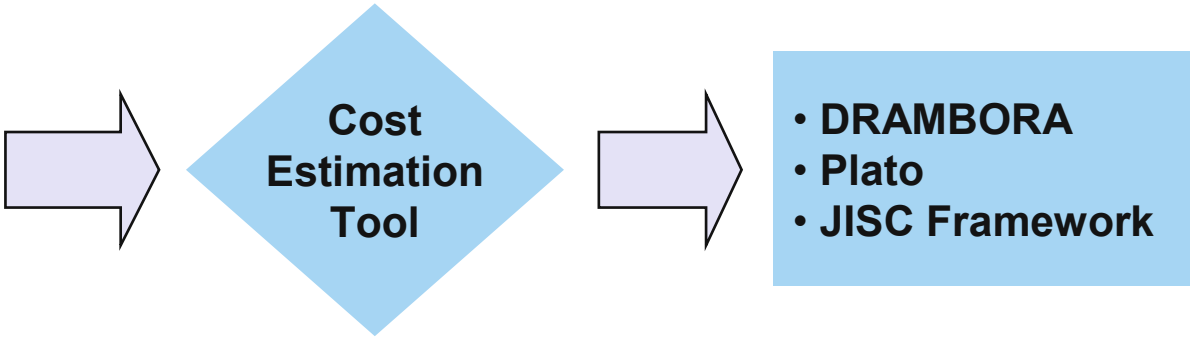
Further work if possible: Integration

- DROID
- Planets Content Profile
- FITS

- DRAMBORA
- Planets Preservation Policy
- Data Audit Framework

- Context



- DRAMBORA
- Plato
- JISC Framework

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The future… LIFE^4?

- Currently working on a LIFE^4 proposal
  - Taking the LIFE from a functioning tool to a sustainable service
  - Promotion, support, maintenance
  - Adding features for collating and integrating new costing data
  - Controlled evaluation with HE/FE sites
  - Internationalisation
  - Possible homes are the OPF, DCC, a new ‘UK costing observatory’
- Opportunities
  - International partners sought for LIFE^4

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Thank you!

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- Questions?