

Troubleshooting Digital Resources with Confidence

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My Experience



Objectives

- Review common issues faced by front line staff helping users with electronic resources
- Discuss strategies to address these issues and build confidence and competence
- Share what you are doing in your library to address these issues
- Share how NC LIVE can help

Common Library Staff Challenges:

- Understanding the resource access cycle: identify the source of the issue
- Authentication: what is it, and how does my library do it?
- Electronic resource troubleshooting basics: Error messages & browser basics
- Search strategy: how do I help users get started with a search?
- How do I get help?

Glossary

Browser:

 a program with a graphical user interface for displaying HTML files, used to navigate the World Wide Web.

IP Address:

 a unique string of numbers separated by periods that identifies each computer using the Internet Protocol to communicate over a network.

Electronic resource:

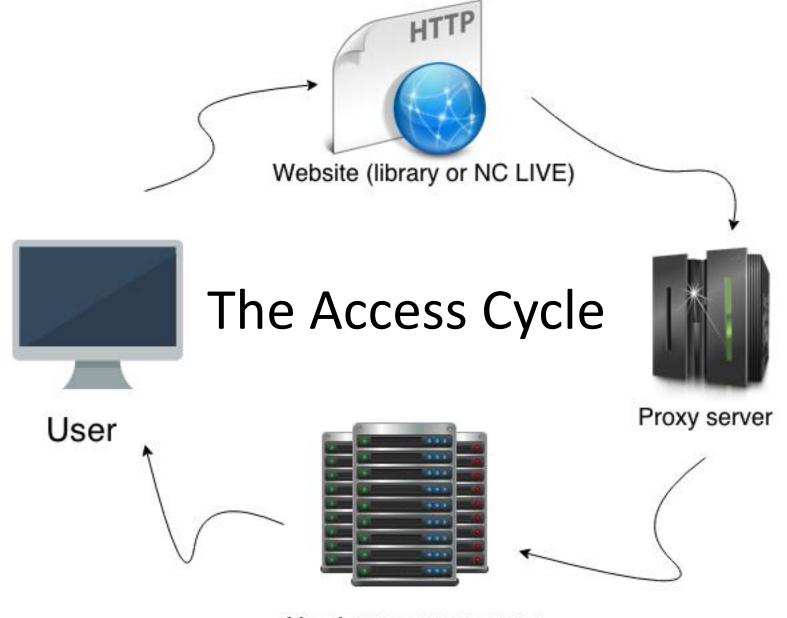
 Databases, tools, etc. licensed by the library for authorized users to access

Proxy or Proxy server:

 Server that functions as an intermediary between a web browser and the Internet.

Authentication:

 the process of determining whether someone or something is, in fact, who or what it is declared to be.



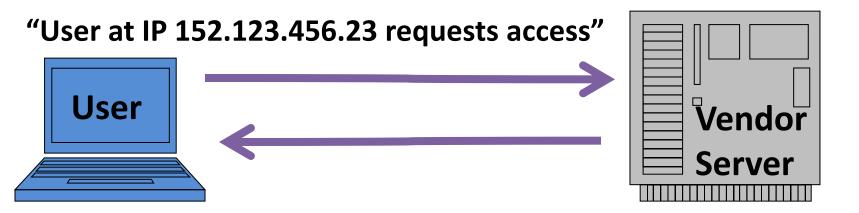
Vendor resource server

Challenge: Authentication

The process by which your patrons access resources that are not on the free web: How do they get to the stuff you paid for?

Vendor server has to recognize user IP Two ways: recognize campus IP, or recognize proxy server-assigned IP

Authentication In the library/on campus:



"IP 152.123.456.23 is authorized library 143, access granted"

Accessing NC LIVE Resources

Inside the Library/On Campus: ProQuest. arrc.ebscohost.com/cars/ ded 🗼 Tutorials | Digital Pr... 💮 NC LIVE staff Drupa **Error Page** Congratulat can: _oqir You found th rches. Step 1: Nine times out and see if that If not, please s Choos me vou search. Pleas library After that, you' Sorry for any in Next The Motologi Moto error cod click here for federated loo NC Trust Pile

Contact Us

Off-Campus Authentication Methods

Local Proxy: All resources have the same login; campus manages proxy server

NC LIVE Proxy: Use NC LIVE password for NC LIVE resources; NC LIVE manages proxy; new password every year

How does a user go through the proxy server?

Proxied links: will work ON and OFF CAMPUS

http://www.nclive.org/cgi-bin/nclsm?rsrc=331

http://library.surry.edu/go.php?c=211213

http://www.nclive.org/cgi-bin/nclsm?URL=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/mhu/

Unproxied links: On campus ONLY

http://site.ebrary.com/lib/mhu/

Authentication Off campus:

Username/password=
"I am an authorized user requesting access"

Server
Password= true "allow access"

For this session this user is from proxy IP
152.123.456.23"

"IP 152.123.456.23 is authorized library 143, access granted"

Off-Campus Authentication

Once a user is through the proxy, it is as if they are in the library--no login pages

Check—is the proxy information in the link?

http://search.proquest.com/

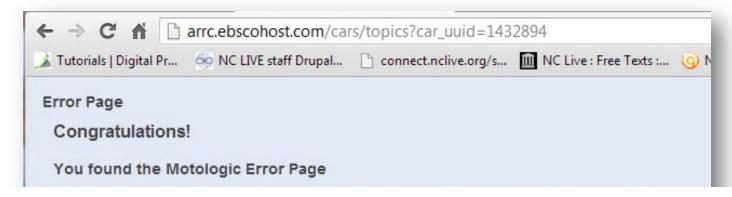
http://search.proquest.com.proxy103.nclive.org/pqcentral

If yes, a login page could mean a vendor is missing an IP

Understand Authentication Basics

- Understand the basics of how access works on your campus
- Know the what to expect for on-campus and off-campus access
- Know how students/faculty access their username password
- Know contacts for campus IT or NC LIVE

Challenge: Basic Troubleshooting



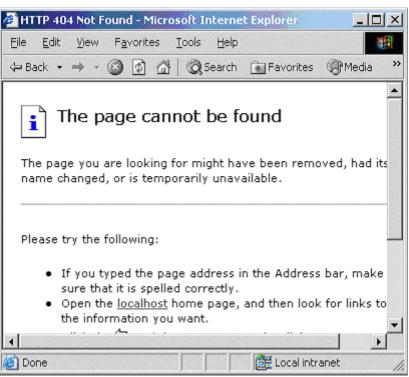
What to do when something goes wrong



Troubleshooting Browsers

- Know the names of common browsers and the basics of using them
- Learn how to clear cache and cookies
- Recognize browser error messages

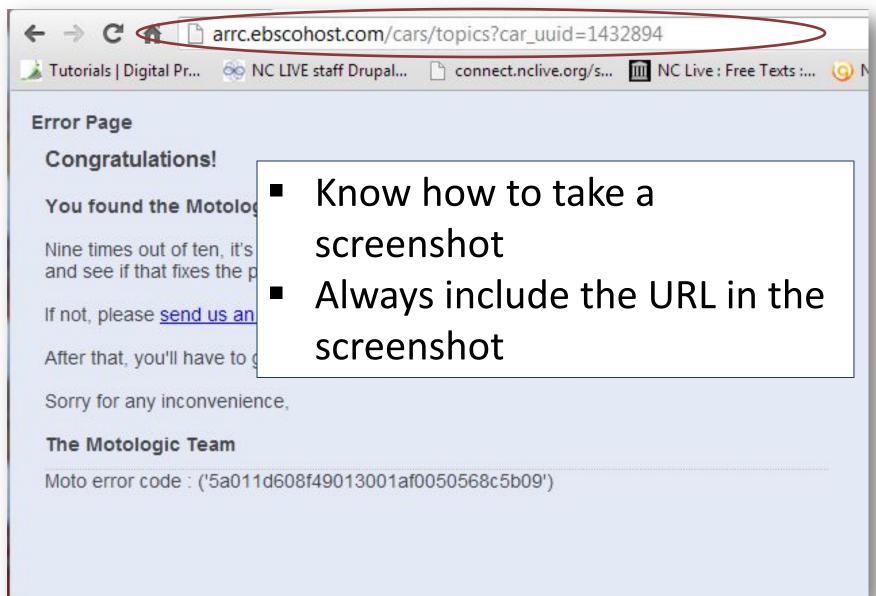




Troubleshooting Resource Errors

- Recognize database and proxy errors
- Know how to document errors

Troubleshooting Resource Errors



Troubleshooting Resource Errors

- Snipping tool (PC)
- <u>Skitch</u>—detailed screenshots with annotation
- Jing—video is worth a million words!!

http://screencast.com/t/OBSGxlgrho

Challenge: Poor Search Strategies

"It says there are no results!"

User error can be just as frustrating as a database error

Learn Basic Search Strategies

- Database keyword not the same as web search
- Basic Boolean: AND OR NOT () *
- Search construction
- Using a basic vs. advanced search box

Resources for Learning More:

- 1. The State Library Train Station: One stop for NC LIVE vendor-provided webinars, State library training days, and other staff development opportunities
- 2. Support pages within databases
- 3. NC LIVE For Library Staff page for links to helpful information

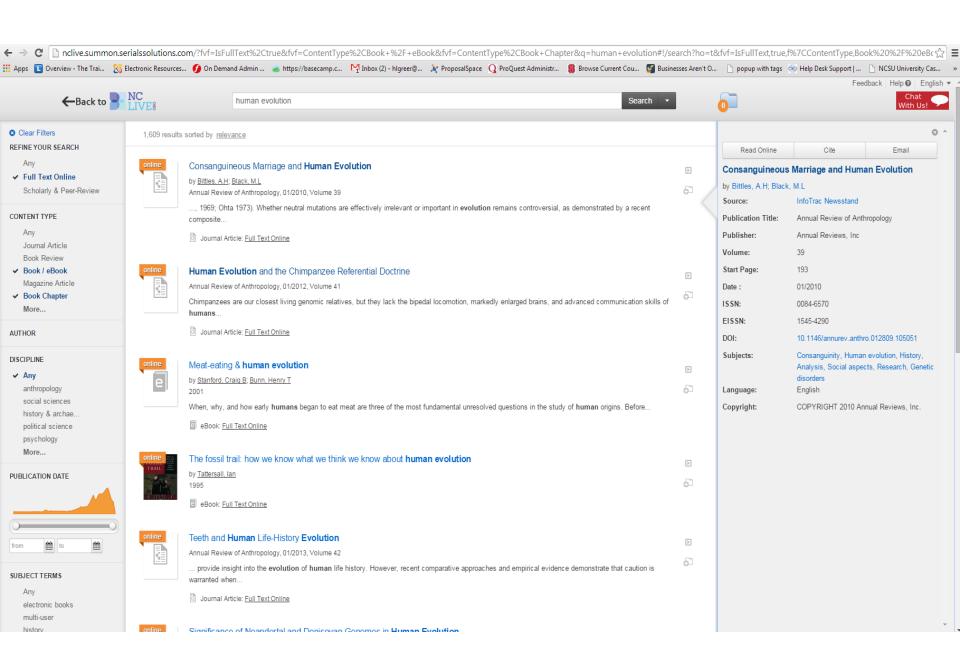
Challenge: Discovery, AKA Search Boxes!

"I clicked on full text and it says there are no results!"

- Metadata errors are common
- Discovery is not as good at "known item search"

Discovery Issue Strategies:

- Use Title Search to try to get to the item
- Try going directly into the database that is listed as the source and try the search again
- Report the issue to your vendor or to NC LIVE

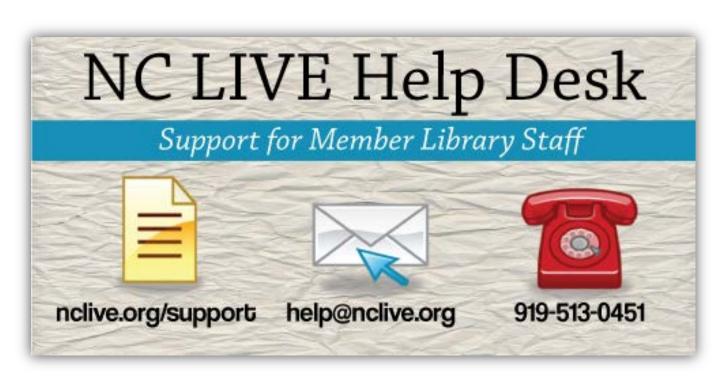


Challenge: Knowing Where to Get Help

Who to contact when something goes wrong?

Have a Procedure for Getting Help

- Know who administers your proxy
- Know who manages you electronic resources
 - OR, know vendor contacts for your resources



Resource List

Clearing cache in Chrome

<u>Troubleshooting in Firefox</u>

Cache and cookies in Internet Explorer

Best practices for webinar participants

Web Junction's Competency Index for the Library Field (2014)

NC LIVE Library Staff Email List

State Library Continuing Education Information Email List

Questions?

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