

# ExLibris bX

## Scholarly Recommender Service





## About Ex Libris

Ex Libris is a leading provider of automation solutions for academic libraries. Offering the only comprehensive product suite for electronic, digital, and print materials, Ex Libris provides the efficient, user-friendly products that serve the needs of libraries today and will enable them to transition into the future. Ex Libris maintains an impressive customer base serving thousands of sites in more than 70 countries on six continents.

Dedicated to developing creative solutions in close collaboration with our customers, Ex Libris enables academic, national, and research libraries to maximize productivity and efficiency and, at the same time, greatly enhance the user experience. By empowering patrons to discover and obtain the information they need, libraries ensure their position as the bridge to knowledge.

For additional information on Ex Libris Group, see <http://www.exlibrisgroup.com>

## Users Who Viewed This Article Also Viewed...

Web-savvy library users are well acquainted with the highly popular usage-based recommendations found on commercial Web sites ("Customers who bought this item also bought..."). Now Ex Libris is offering a first-of-its-kind service that focuses on the scholarly domain and is based on the actual usage of library resources. The Ex Libris bX scholarly recommender service provides researchers with recommendations for scholarly articles, integrating these recommendations tightly and intuitively into each researcher's search environment.

The bX recommender service derives from work by the renowned researchers Johan Bollen and Herbert Van de Sompel from the Los Alamos National Laboratory.<sup>1</sup> The recommendations are based on an analysis of the multitude of link-clicks carried out by researchers from institutions around the world and captured by each institution's link resolver.

By offering the bX recommender service, your library steps up to serve your patrons with a valuable tool that meets user expectations for up-to-date, Web 2.0-type services and helps researchers focus on articles of potential interest and relevance to their topic.

<sup>1</sup>J. Bollen and H. Van de Sompel, "An architecture for the aggregation and analysis of scholarly usage data," 24 May 2006; available at [http://public.lanl.gov/herbertv/papers/jcd106\\_accepted\\_version.pdf](http://public.lanl.gov/herbertv/papers/jcd106_accepted_version.pdf)

## Make Your Users' Input Count

Institutions that sign up for the bX service can also contribute their usage data anonymously to the service. Although contributing data is not a requirement for using the service, all additional usage data will enhance the quality of the recommendations provided to the subscriber community. Furthermore, the institutions that contribute their usage data to bX can opt to receive recommendations derived from their institution's own usage data in addition to the global recommendations based on the usage data of all participating institutions.

## Quick and Easy Setup

The bX recommendations are offered as an on-demand service, meaning that there is nothing to install or maintain on your network. Once your institution has registered online for the bX service, you can immediately activate bX recommendations in the SFX® menu. Furthermore, the bX API, which returns recommendations in XML, ATOM, and RSS formats, enables you to integrate the service into your other applications.

## Key Benefits for Your Users:

**Added value:** Users are guided to information they need and offered the opportunity to broaden the horizons of their research.

**Fast delivery:** bX recommendations are delivered to your library's system, so users can start receiving recommendations immediately.

**Intuitive presentation:** Users view recommendations in their familiar search environment.

## Key Benefits for Your Library:

**Quick and easy startup:** Launch the service with the click of a mouse—no hardware purchase, installation, maintenance, or administration required.

**Inspiration for your users:** Help your users take advantage of the experience of the global research community.

**Your choice:** Decide where in your library systems bX recommendations should appear.



**Ex Libris USA****Chicago Office**

1350 E Touhy Avenue, Suite 200 E  
Des Plaines, IL 60018  
USA  
Tel: 1 847 296 2200  
Fax: 1 847 296 5636  
Toll Free: 1 800 762 6300  
E-mail: [infousa@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:infousa@exlibrisgroup.com)

**Boston Office**

313 Washington Street, Suite 308  
Newton, MA 02458  
USA  
Tel: 1 617 332 8800  
Fax: 1 617 332 9600  
Toll Free: 1 866 232 0202  
E-mail: [infousa@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:infousa@exlibrisgroup.com)

**Ex Libris UK**

1 The Long Room  
Coppermill Lock, Park Lane  
Harefield, Middlesex, UB9 6JA  
UK  
Tel: 44 1895 824 440  
Fax: 44 1895 824 438  
E-mail: [exlibris@exlibris.co.uk](mailto:exlibris@exlibris.co.uk)

**Ex Libris Germany**

Gasstrasse 18, Haus 2  
D-22761 Hamburg  
Germany  
Tel: 49 40 89 809 0  
Fax: 49 40 89 809 250  
E-mail: [info-de@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:info-de@exlibrisgroup.com)

**Ex Libris France**

Parc d'Affaires SILIC  
24, Rue Saarinen  
BP 20249  
94568 RUNGIS Cedex  
France  
Tel: 33 (0)1 57 02 12 50  
Fax: 33 (0)1 57 02 12 51  
E-mail: [exlibris@exlibris.fr](mailto:exlibris@exlibris.fr)

**Ex Libris Italy**

Lungadige Cangrande 8  
37126 Verona  
Italy  
Tel: 39 045 8344137  
Fax: 39 045 8306028  
E-mail: [info@libris.it](mailto:info@libris.it)

**Ex Libris Scandinavia**

Lautrupbjerg 9  
Denmark  
DK-2750 Ballerup  
Tel: 45 20 71 73 09  
Fax: 45 44 89 43 00  
E-mail: [info-scan@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:info-scan@exlibrisgroup.com)

**Ex Libris Israel**

Malcha Technological Park, Bldg. 8-9  
Jerusalem, 91481  
Israel  
Tel: 972 2 649 9100  
Fax: 972 2 679 8634  
E-mail: [exlibris@exlibris.co.il](mailto:exlibris@exlibris.co.il)

**Ex Libris Australia**

Level 2, 229 Greenhill Road Dulwich  
South Australia 5065  
Australia  
Tel: 61 8 8139 1500  
Fax: 61 8 8331 0851  
E-mail: [exlibris@exlibris.com.au](mailto:exlibris@exlibris.com.au)

**Ex Libris China**

Suite 608, Tengda Plaza  
No. 168 Xiwai Street  
Haidian District  
Beijiing 10004  
China  
Tel: 86 10 8857 5975  
Fax: 86 10 8857 5976  
E-mail: [exlibris@exlibris.com.cn](mailto:exlibris@exlibris.com.cn)

**Ex Libris Korea**

Room 203, 2nd floor  
Hyosung Intellian Officetel  
733 Ahyon-dong  
Mapo-gu, Seoul 121-010  
Tel: 82-70-8254-6543  
Fax: 82-2-313-5440  
[korea@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:korea@exlibrisgroup.com)

**Ex Libris Asia Pacific**

101. Thomson Road  
29-01 United Square  
Singapore 307591  
Tel: 65-6478-2364  
Fax: 65-62580769  
E-mail: [exlibris-asia@exlibrisgroup.com](mailto:exlibris-asia@exlibrisgroup.com)

  
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