Note on Availability of Accessible Versions of 56 Titles Cited by Yochai Benkler in The Wealth of Networks

Meredith Filak

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My name is Meredith Filak. I am submitting these comments in reply to comments by Jane Ginsburg of Columbia University; and by the AAP, IFTA, MPAA, NMPA, and RIAA. The purpose of my reply comments is to provide additional empirical evidence about the benefits of the importation and exportation of accessible-format works.

In an attempt to gauge the availability of specialized books in accessible formats for the blind, I performed a sample study by searching for books cited in the notes of a single book, Yochai Benkler's *The Wealth of Networks: How Social Production Transforms Markets and Freedom.*

Due to the unique issues posed by access to books, I focused exclusively on cited books and did not include journals, websites, or newspaper articles in my research.

I searched for works across the five largest English-language Accessible Books databases in three countries: Recording For the Blind and Dyslexic (RFB&D), the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), and BookShare.Org in the United States; the books database at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB); and the library database at the Royal National Institute of Blind people (RNIB) in the United Kingdom. “Accessible format” was defined as any format allowing the use of assistive technology, and included braille, electronic braille, DAISY, downloadable audio, CD audio, HTML and text formats. All books were checked against all five databases twice; once for title, and once for author, to avoid any possible errors in the databases' titles.

Of 56 books cited in the *Wealth of Networks,* only 11 (19.6%) were available in reading-accessible formats, and only one was available under a global license – *Free Culture* by Lawrence Lessig. In Canada, only two books (including *Free Culture*) were available to reading disabled persons. In the UK, two books (again including *Free Culture*) were available for reading disabled persons. Even in the best scenario—the United States—only 11 books were available through at least one of the three American sources.

The 45 remaining books (80.4%) were unavailable in any of the five leading sources of English language works.

Below is the complete list of cited books. The first table lists those books available through one or more of the five sources, and notes the particular format in which each book was made available. The second table lists those which were only available in an edition or compilation separate from the one cited by Benkler. Finally, I report the titles of the 45 works that were not available from the five leading English-language sources for accessible format books.

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1 The author, Yochai Benkler, has made *The Wealth of Networks* available in a variety of formats and licenses, including the Creative Commons non-commercial attribution license for a PDF version of the original book, but it is not available from any of the five sources in formats specifically designed for accessibility for reading disabled persons.

2 Of these, 2 were found in alternate editions or compilations, different from Benkler's citation.
### Books Available in Accessible Formats

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<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>RFB&amp;D (US)</th>
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<td>Bruce A. Ackerman, <em>Social Justice and the Liberal State</em>, 1980</td>
<td>DA, CD</td>
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<td>Harold Innis, <em>The Bias of Communication</em>, 1951</td>
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<td>Lawrence Lessig, <em>Free Culture</em>, 2004</td>
<td>DA, CD</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>DS (Worldwide)</td>
<td>DA, DS</td>
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<td>Paul Starr, <em>The Creation of the Media</em>, 2004</td>
<td>DA, CD</td>
<td>CD (via RFB&amp;D)</td>
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<td>Michael Walzer, <em>Spheres of Justice</em>, 1983</td>
<td>DA, CD</td>
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**Key:** B – Braille; EB – E-Braille; DS – DAISY; DA – Digital Audio; CD – Compact Disc; HTML – HTML; T – Text

### Books Available in Accessible Formats in Alternate Editions or Compilations

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<tr>
<td>Karl Marx, “Introduction to a Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right,” in <em>Deutsch-Französische Jahrbücher</em>, 1844</td>
<td>DA, CD</td>
<td>2004, via</td>
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### Books Not Available in Accessible Formats

- Anne Alstott and Bruce Ackerman, *The Stakeholder Society*, 1999
- Gleason Archer, *History of Radio to 1926*, 1971
- Peter Bernholz and Gerald Radnitsky (eds), *Economic Imperialism: The Economic Approach Applied Outside the Field of Economics*, 1987
- S.N. Dorogovstev and J.E.F. Mendes, *Evolution of Networks: From Biological Nets to the Internet and WWW*, 2003
- Elizabeth Einstein, *Printing Press as an Agent of Change*, 1979
Maurice Godelier, The Enigma of the Gift, 1999
Mark Granovetter, Getting a Job: A Study of Contacts and Careers, 1974
Jurgen Habermas, Between Facts and Norms, Contributions to Discourse Theory of Law and Democracy, 1996
Duncan Kennedy, Sexy Dressing Etc.: Essays on the Power and Politics of Cultural Identity, 1993
Will Kymlicka, Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights, 1995
Lawrence Lessig, Code and Other Laws of Cyberspace, 1999
Rich Ling and P. Pedersen (eds), Mobile Communications: Re-Negotiation of the Social Sphere, 2005
Glyn Moody, Rebel Code: Inside Linux and the Open Source Revolution, 2001
Richard Nelson (ed), Rate and Direction of Inventive Activity: Economic and Social Factors, 1962
Elinor Ostrom, Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action, 1990
Howard Rheingold, Smart Mobs, The Next Social Revolution, 2002
Herbert Simon, Models of Man Social and Rational: Mathematical Essays on Rational Human Behavior in a Social Setting, 1957
Carol Tenopir and Donald W King, Towards Electronic Journals: Realities for Scientists, Librarians, and Publishers, 2000
Sherry Turkle, Life on the Screen: Identity in the Age of the Internet, 1995
Edna Ullman-Margalit, The Emergence of Norms, 1977
Harold Varmus, E-Biomed: A Proposal for Electronic Publications in the Biomedical Sciences, 1999
Eric von Hippel, Democratizing Innovation, 2005
D.J. Watts, Small Worlds: The Dynamics of Networks Between Order and Randomness, 1999
Steve Weber, The Success of Open Source, 2004