

NOTEWORTHY

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[404 errors](#) reported by [Nature](#)

More than one-quarter of scholarly articles are not being properly archived and preserved, a study of more than seven million digital publications suggests.

The findings, published in the [Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication](#) on 24 January indicate that systems to preserve papers online have failed to keep pace with the growth of research output.

“Our entire epistemology of science and research relies on the chain of footnotes,” explains author Martin Eve, a researcher in literature, technology and publishing at Birkbeck, University of London. “If you can’t verify what someone else has said at some other point, you’re just trusting to blind faith for artefacts that you can no longer read yourself.”

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