

Electronic Journal "Excessive Access" Recent Case

-It happens without any intention!!-

Publishers prohibit "excessive access" to electronic journals, especially mass-downloading with programs or infringement of copyright.

Recently, in spite of that, when using e-journals, some users "unintentionally" made "excessive access". The publisher temporarily shut off access to e-journals from the whole university.

It is speculated that many publishers have the "automatic monitoring system" to watch large-volume access to e-journals for a short period of time. That system shuts off access from the university when it senses a value that exceeds the criterion value.

Remember that there is a case that would be mechanically determined to be "excessive access", even though actively using e-journals with no malice.

We show recent cases where publishers judged "excessive access" and temporarily blocked access to e-journals.

Please pay enough attention to using e-journals, thank you.

When "access shut off" occurs...

If you find a message indicating "excessive use", "access stopped", etc. on the screen and cannot access e-journals, **please stop using it immediately and inform us from the following form.**

Question of EJ/DB

<https://www.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/form/14106?lang=en>

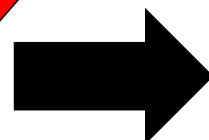
Remember that access from the whole university may be completely blocked if you continue to use it.

**On the back
resent case**

Kyoto University Library Network

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Case. 1

Because the deadline of submitting a paper was nearly imminent, a researcher accessed the publisher's website with colleagues in the laboratory, and they divided downloading e-journals to gather articles for reference.

Even if you access an e-journal **manually** without using a system such as download support software, it may be detected as "excessive access" by the monitoring system of the publisher when the access frequency is extremely high within a certain period of time. Although sensitivity criteria are not made public, it seems to differ depending on the publishers. Sometimes it is judged as "excessive access" by their criterion that considers "such a large number of articles should not be possible to 'read through' while such a short time".
Please be careful not to access e-journals too quickly.

In addition, when **multiple users in Kyoto University** access the same website, the access sources become the common global IP address of Kyoto University, which may be judged as "excessive access" by the same user.

Case. 2

For the purpose of comprehensively checking the articles written about a certain subject, a researcher looked through the HTML format abstracts on the e-journal website in order and searched keywords.

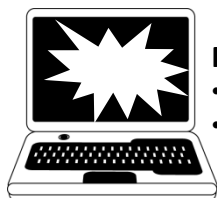
The full text of e-journals are often provided in PDF format on a website, but they are sometimes provided in **HTML** format.

Even if you just access the **abstract** or search instead of the full text, it may be detected as 'download' by the publisher's monitoring system. When you repeat simple tasks such as checking keywords, you tend to increase access frequency inevitably.

Please use e-journals carefully so as not to "excessive access", or use web tools of abstracts / indexes database (Discovery, Web of Science, SciFinder" etc.) instead of the e-journal website.

■ Kyoto University Library Network – E-Journals & E-Books List – Databases

<https://www.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/erdb/13501?lang=en>



Previous incidents judged as "excessive access"

- Accessing the e-journal more than 25 times in 5 minutes
- Accessing the e-journal about 450 times in total for about 2 hours 30 minutes

Case. 3

A student used reference management / dissertation writing support software. This software was equipped with an "electronic journal automatic download function". However he thought that he didn't use that function since he recognized that systematic downloading is prohibited, the functions operated in fact.

Some reference management software have a function to acquire articles automatically by **entering "user's authentication information" (SPS-ID, ECS-ID etc.)** in the setting. Because this functions worked unintentionally, "excessive access" sometimes occurred.

Please be careful when using reference management software and do not set "user authentication information".

Case. 4

A professor was browsing the website of the e-journal in her laboratory. While she was away from her desk temporarily, books stacked on a desk fell on the keyboard.

Because of some goods fallen on the keyboard, the function key was kept pressed and finally the abnormal number access to the e-journal was recorded. Such accident happened several times in the past. Please be careful enough.